

Company Overview

- Founded 2006, privately held
- Originally provided audio-only services
- Added web conferencing in 2009
- Focus on education\distance learning market
- 12 employees
- Contributor to FUSF since Intercall order

Web and Tele Conferencir x BigBlueButton - Generi x

e31.genericconf.com/client/BigBlueButton.html

Generic Conferencing, LLC English Shortcut Help ?

Users

Status	Name	Media
	Robert Smith (you)	
	Michael Young	
	Chris Williams	
	Lisa Jones	

Presentation: default

Welcome!
To get started quickly, click an image below to watch a tutorial video.

Moderator/Presenter

Viewer

You control the audio and can make anyone (including yourself) the presenter.

Status	Name	Media
Current presenter	Fred Deane (you)	
	Susan MacTavish	
	Tara McDevitt	

Click to make this user the presenter.

Click to mute/unmute this user's microphone

Click to lock this user's microphone (user can't mute/unmute)

(launch [test applet](#) for testing desktop sharing)

You can view, chat, and listen. If enabled, you can also and share your webcam...

A green checkmark appears when you have joined the audio bridge. Click to join/leave the audio.

Chat

Public Options

12:14

Welcome to the Generic Conferencing, LLC meeting!

See the bar at the top for dial-in phone numbers and your personal PIN code.

This server is running [BigBlueButton 0.81](#).

Send

Webcams

Robert Smith

1/1 100% 400%

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Default

Bundle vs. Integrated

- Bundle = combination of stand-alone services sold together
- Integrated = single service, inseparable
- Can you have an online meeting without audio? No. This makes the online meeting an Integrated Information service. No one would buy an online meeting service that did not have an audio portion

Bundle vs. Integrated

- Can you use one portion of an integrated service without using other portions? Yes.
- The fact that you can use an alternative audio service does not mean an online meeting is not an integrated service
- Product is functionally integrated from the user's perspective

Generic Conferencing – Typical Customer

- College in Texas uses our service for online classes
 - Fixed yearly subscription cost
-
- Most students connect via Internet, using their PC microphone\headset\webcam
 - A telephone number (214-555-XXXX) is available as an alternative method of connecting to the class
 - This is a request of the college for times when student Internet is down or otherwise unavailable

Generic Conferencing – Typical Customer

- Oil and Gas business uses our service for online meetings
 - Per minute charge – varies depending on connection method
-
- Some connect via PC
 - Some connect via Smartphone App
 - Some connect via 1-800 number
 - Some connect via local number (214-555-XXXX)
 - Some connect via International number (+44 or +61)

Generic Conferencing – Typical Customer

- Oil and Gas business uses our service for online meetings
 - Per minute charge – varies depending on connection method
-
- Per minute charge needed as our costs vary based on the underlying cost of the call
 - Service is still an integrated information service
 - The way it is billed does not change the nature of the service

Commission Precedent

“[t]he information service classification applies regardless of whether the subscribers use all of the functions and capabilities provided as part of the service (e.g., e-mail or web-hosting), and whether every wireline broadband Internet service provider offers each function and capability that could be included in that service.”

- WebEx:
 - audio features were not offered separately
 - the customers did not perceive it as a separate service but instead as integrated into the whole product offering, and
 - even if the customer chose not to use the audio function (or use only the audio function) that does not alter its classification as an information service

Commission Precedent

USAC's classification also ignores the fact that customers using the audio portion of WebEx that was subject to reclassification are engaged in PSTN-to-computer communications.

- To date, the Commission has refused to classify computer-to-phone services as telecommunications or information services.
- Although the Commission has imposed USF contribution obligations on interconnected VoIP services, conferencing calling services are one-way and do not satisfy the definition of interconnected VoIP.
- Because WebEx is not “functionally identical” to InterCall or MeetingOne, USAC's classification decision is not supported by the Commission's audio bridging precedent either

Industry Perspective

To the Online Meeting Industry, the answer to “is this an information service?” is “obviously, yes.”

If the Commission finds otherwise...

...we need clear direction.

Compliance Needs

- Clear definition of what makes a product assessable
- Clear definition of how to separate the assessable portions
- Safe Harbor
- How to determine jurisdiction
- No “similarly situated” vagueness
 - We have no idea what “similarly situated” means or what makes a company “similarly situated”