Lab - Researching Converged Network Services

Objectives

Part 1: Survey Your Understanding of Convergence

Part 2: Research ISPs Offering Converged Services

Part 3: Research Local ISPs Offering Converged Services

Part 4: Select Best Local ISP Converged Service

Part 5: Research Local Company or Public Institution Using Convergence Technologies

Background / Scenario

Convergence in the context of networking is a term used to describe the process of combining voice, video, and data communications over a common network infrastructure. Converged networks have existed for some time, but were only feasible in large enterprise organizations because of the network infrastructure requirements and complex management required to make them work seamlessly. Technology advances have made convergence readily available to large, medium, and small businesses, as well as for the home consumer.

In Part 1, you will describe your current understanding of convergence and any experience you have with it.

In Part 2, you will research which providers have this service, regardless of geographical location, using the predefined form included in the lab.

In Part 3, you will research which local ISPs in your area offer converged services for end-user consumers, using the predefined form included in the lab.

In Part 4, you will select the ISP you like best for home use and list the reasons why.

In Part 5, you will find a local company or public institution using convergence technologies in their business, using the predefined form included in the lab.

Required Resources

Device with Internet access

Part 1: Survey Your Understanding on Convergence

Step 1: Describe convergence as you understand it and give examples of its use in the home.

Write a definition of convergence and list some examples.

Part 2: Research ISPs Offering Converged Services

In Part 2, you research and find two or three ISPs who offer converged services for the home, regardless of geographical location.

Step 1: Research various ISPs that offer converged services.

List some of the ISPs that you found in your search.

Step 2: Fill in the following form for the ISPs selected.

Internet Service Provider	Product Name of Converged Service

Part 3: Researching Local ISPs Offering Converged Services

In Part 3, you research and find two or three local ISPs who offer converged services for the home in your geographic area.

Step 1: Research various ISPs that offer converged services.

List some of the ISPs that you found in your search.

Step 2: Fill in the following form for the ISPs selected.

Internet Service Provider	Product Name of Converged Service	Cost per Month	Download Speed

Part 4: Select Best Local ISP Converged Service Offering

Select your top choice from the list of local ISPs that you selected and give reasons why you chose that particular one.

Part 5: Research Local Company or Public Institution Using Convergence Technologies

In Part 5, you research and locate a company in your area that currently uses convergence technologies in their business.

Step 1: Research and find a local company using convergence.

In the following table, list the company, industry, and convergence technologies used.

Name of Company	Industry	Convergence Technologies

Reflection

1. What are some of the advantages of using convergence technologies?

2. What are some of the disadvantages of using convergence technologies?