Ribbon Billing

Powerful and seamless real-time capture and correlation of event usage data across any type of network.

Launching New Revenue Streams While Reducing Costs

Service providers need to increase revenue and attract new subscribers by rapidly launching attractive technologies and services. At the same time, they must still leverage and cost control the substantial investment in their current infrastructure. That calls for a convergent, multi-service mediation solution that ensures real-time, rich, accurate data and platform independent integration.

Ribbon Billing is the Convergent Solution that Meets those Needs

Deployed by some of the world’s most advanced and successful service providers, Ribbon Billing correlates information from application servers and network elements to resolve billing issues ahead of the OSS/BSS.

With Ribbon Billing, service providers have the tools to reliably collect, mediate and control the flow of usage data - up to billions of records a day - with the ability to deploy and monetize such interactive functions as real-time rating, pre-paid balance checking, online ordering and subscriber account status.

Be Faster to Market

Ribbon Billing was developed with business needs in mind: tools for fast, efficient deployment, the ability to easily add new data formats; a web-based user interface that’s easy to learn and use. Your team won’t waste precious time and resources bringing the new solution online and you will deploy a powerful mediation system that integrates with legacy systems while reaching out to feature rich NGNs (Next Generation Networks).

Ribbon Billing: Real-Time, Real Value

Ribbon Billing is driven by one of the industry’s most powerful event data mediation engines. This highly reliable and scalable platform supports real-time protocols and event processing to sustain the active billing applications required in today’s networks. This provides you with the ability to support real-time applications without additional costs: real-time authorization, charging and settlement for such services as pre-paid and postpaid music, games, movies, and other emerging services. Ribbon Billing also lengthens technology investments by supporting traditional circuit switches, dynamic event processing and billing, and IMS and NGN devices - all on a common platform.

Flexibility and Scalability Extend the Value of Mediation

Designed to collect events from any type of network element and distribute data to any type of downstream system, Ribbon Billing is not limited to billing data. Routinely, Ribbon Billing collects event usage data for downstream billing, performance, maintenance, and security, eCommerce and fraud data. The solution also supports a long list of data formats and communication protocols.

Conduct valuable Business Process Modeling: installed with Ribbon Billing is a flexible business rules engine that allows the mediation system to be easily configured to accept new data sources and formats as your network evolves. Tools are provided to allow you to promptly add new network elements and new data formats to the system.
Ribbon Billing is a scalable solution. As volume increases, service providers often add processors and storage to existing systems or deploy larger, faster hardware. The solution is designed to accommodate this increase with specific modules. These distribute usage events between one another using secure connections and can be deployed on one or several different hosts to balance changing loads. Ribbon Billing grows as you grow.

**Minimize Revenue Loss, Maximize Revenue Opportunities**
Whether you are launching new IMS-based services or looking to maximize revenue on existing solutions to generate additional streams of revenue, you still need to insure that all usage is tracked and billed. Ribbon Billing ensures you will be faster to market and faster to generate billable revenue with powerful data capture and extensive data validation processes.

**Vigorous Reporting for Better Management**
Ribbon Billing provides complete end-to-end auditing capabilities to ensure accuracy of data and assurance of revenue - consistent with Sarbanes-Oxley requirements.

The system provides web-based reporting and monitoring with audit information stored in a relational database for greatly enhanced flexibility of monitoring and reporting. It also allows for user configurable reports and alarms, including communication failures, data validation warnings, rules processing errors, duplicate or missing blocks or records, excessive CPU load, disk capacity threshold errors, and system volume reports.

Integrated usage data from multiple streams is available in a variety of formats - including XML - for a variety of uses including: customer analysis; fraud monitoring; usage and content billing; and capacity forecasting and management.

**Unmasking Phantom Traffic to Reveal Billable Usage**
Calls that terminate at the local exchange switch - which create CDRs (Call Data Records) that don’t contain the information necessary for billing - are known as Phantom Traffic. It’s another usage stream that eats away at potential revenue and hurts profitability - and one that’s expected to grow with VoIP and wireless traffic. Ribbon Billing includes the Phantom Traffic Identifier to isolate and categorize suspected Phantom Traffic by using the CDRs to categorize the incoming trunk groups.

Separated traffic can be viewed and sent to a downstream process for investigation and correction, then re-entered into the data stream for billing or validation. The software creates statistical reports that compare the suspected Phantom Traffic against total traffic and audits the CDRs from the time they are recognized until they are properly dispersed.

**Platform Independence Saves Costs; Stretches your Investment**
Designed to operate on Ribbon’s AdvancedTCA® and Rack Mountable Server, Ribbon Billing can be configured to meet a wide variety of requirements: from small, single server configurations to large multi-site, multi-computer, multi-processor systems supporting terabytes of storage.

Additionally, the Ribbon Billing solution is compliant with tomorrow’s standards as well as today’s fixed and mobile specifications. From IMS networks offering new services such as IPTV using Charging Gateway functionality to traditional equipment yielding two-way file transfer to and from a variety of network elements, service providers can count on Ribbon Billing to interact reliably. This reduces operating costs and improves the ability to support existing and legacy networks as well as provide a reliable pathway to IMS and NGNs.
**Multi-Vendor and Multi-System**

Ribbon Billing, processes information from Ribbon’s market-leading network elements, such as the C-series, A-series and S-series product lines as well as elements from other providers. This way you can benefit from your existing investments while expanding to new attractive services, IMS and the next generation applications.

**Built on Ribbon’s Heritage of Reliability**

Ribbon Billing, part of the Ribbon unified solution, brings forward Ribbon’s track record of impeccable design and execution. Once configured, Ribbon Billing operates virtually unattended. It generates informational and alarm messages to inform you of any required actions while status logs and displays allow you to monitor and diagnose any potential issues. Customers have the option of deploying Ribbon Billing as a load balanced cluster that allows for failover redundancy utilizing High-Availability software, or a simplex cost effective solution.

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### Ribbon Billing Specifications

**Functions**

- **Real time collection** - event stream processing from end to end
- **Filtering** - events and CDRs guided to different processing flows
- **Aggregation** - reduction of data flow to following systems

**Deployable** on VMware

**Correlation** - numerous events combined to generate one event usage record

**Enhancement** - events and CDRs enhanced with external reference data

**Formatting** - generation of industry standard and proprietary formats

**Distribution** - events and CDRs sent to multiple destinations

**Security** - IPsec, IKE, SFTP, SSH, TCP wrappers

**Redundancy** - full redundancy with HA software provides sub-second fail-over and ensures 99.9999% availability

**Scalable** - solutions available for single network element, low subscriber solutions, or multimode, billions of daily usage events

**Auditing** - Events and CDRs are audited by file and/or time boundary; audits are written as XML files for local persistence and can be viewed via the web interface

**CIS Compliance** - Complies with the Center for Internet Security (CIS) Distribution Linux v1.1.0 – 12-26.2017 specification

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Contact Us

We are here to help. Let us know if you are interested in a quote or if you have any questions.