

As such, there should be more discussion, including the introduction of a floating car data system.

With respect to center-based DRGS, the usefulness has been verified. Specifically, the system can provide drivers with a sense of security that they can take the fastest route whenever there is any traffic congestion on their route. It can also provide an estimated time to destination and reduce the burden on drivers of the need to search for alternative routes. Such a sense of security ultimately supports safe driving.

Success in any country will depend on the following three points:

- 1) Nationwide deployment
- 2) Inexpensive unit cost to be paid by users (less than 50,000 yen; about US \$500.00)
- 3) Monthly maintenance cost equal to regular phone charges

When these requirements are satisfied and taking into account growing driver needs, DRGS will become widely popular.

#### REFERENCES

1. Universal Traffic Management Society of Japan, (UTMS), Field Trials, 1996

#### CONTACT

Tsuneo Shiga is a General Manager of the Electronics Division at Toyota Motor Corporation. He works at 1, Toyota-cho, Toyota, Aichi, Japan and can be contacted at Tel: +81 - 566 - 23 - 9300 Fax; +81 - 566 - 23 - 5705.

#### ABSTRACT

The global market for mobile information and content (C<sup>s</sup>) delivery is becoming increasingly demanding ubiquitous services available anywhere. Examples include WAP Internet Browsers and mobile devices such as the Palm

This paper will explore the challenges as Mobile Information enters the vehicle world. For example, how can a machine interface be designed to "connect to the internet?" How will standards for vehicle hardware and software cost and product development be affected? What opportunities for future wide area network vehicles? How will information services be delivered? And what kind of media will be used when?

#### INTRODUCTION

The global market for mobile information is growing. Consumers are discovering new ways to get any information, anytime, anywhere, at home, on portable devices,

One of the impacts of this is that everything that can go on a chip will. Furthermore, the silicon industry will continue to follow Moore's Law, doubling capability every eighteen months. The value and usefulness of information will grow exponentially with the number of users.



Figure 1: Infotronics Cockpit

This paper explores the special opportunities and challenges as Mobile Information is brought into the vehicle world. For example, what is the overall end-to-end solution required to provide content to consumers in vehicles and how are information (bits) and value (dollars) exchanged? How will the human-machine interface (HMI) in the vehicle be designed to allow drivers to use the information without being distracted? How will we deploy common, open standards for infotronics hardware and software to enable universal connectivity and reduce development cost and cycle time? What are the opportunities for future wideband wireless connectivity? How will information networks be designed, and what kind of information content will be available?

**THE END TO END SOLUTION**

When consumers think about infotronics in vehicles they immediately focus on the hardware such as shown in Figure 1: full color displays, audio systems, controls, and

portal, and content originators. A schematic of this end-to-end solution is shown in Figure 2.

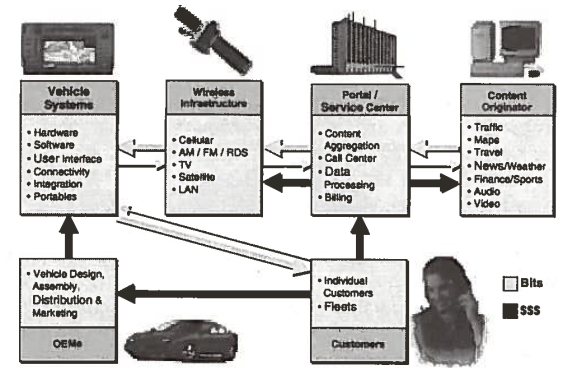


Figure 2: The End to End Solution

In addition to the critical four steps mentioned above, the role of vehicle OEMs and customers is shown in the context of the overall value chain. For example, as shown in the narrow arrows in Figure 2, customers request information from the vehicle system, but the request actually passes through the wireless infrastructure to the service center where information is obtained from content originators and then aggregated and processed. The bits are then transmitted on the wireless link to the vehicle and passed onto the customer through the HMI devices in the vehicle. In return for the information, the customer pays the service center a monthly subscription fee, a pay-per-use fee, and/or agrees to view or listen to advertising. The value (or dollars) the customer pays the service portal is indicated by the vertical arrow. In addition, the customer must also pay the vehicle OEM for the vehicle and its infotronics hardware/software systems.

The success of this end-to-end solution actually depends more on the success of the infotronics business model than on the technology. We all believe that the technology works. We must now show that customers

Starting at the left-hand side of the Figure 2, let us now look at each

**VEHICLE SYSTEMS AND SOFTWARE**

**VEHICLE SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE**

In order to make provision for the information, we will have to architecture of the vehicle electronic information systems must be an upgrade path for functional demands from customers over

The required flexibility calls for system certain degree of openness. The system needs to support various communication/reception systems, playback and audio components, for interaction with the system further likely to be distributed in packaging constraints, hence requires buses to share information between. In our terminology, this new system is called the Mobile Multimedia. See Figure 3.

Of course, access between the "proprietary side" has to be restricted to guarantee that no misuse of information jeopardize the performance of the control system. This requires an firewall in the MMM computing platform.

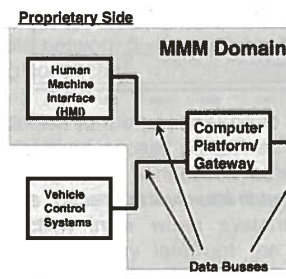


Figure 3: Vehicle Systems and

**OPEN STANDARDS**

platform would enable us to create unique services that are tightly coupled with the vehicle itself, such as remote diagnostics and preventive maintenance. Other value-added services that could emanate from a secure platform include the possibility for an OEM to make upgrades to the software of the vehicle, and to offer temporary features like for instance increased engine power or dynamic gear-shift pattern while pulling a trailer.

The Open System Gateway Initiative (OSGi) consortium is promoting a standard for such a secure platform. In our opinion, the automotive industry should as far as possible avoid making their own standards and instead join forces with other industry branches to leverage broad efforts. After all, we have to realize that today our annual volumes are small in comparison to those of telecom, data communication and computing and consumer electronics.

### HUMAN MACHINE INTERFACE

The Human Machine Interface (HMI) is extremely important for safe and convenient interaction with the user and hence a key to successful introduction of mobile information services. In this section we provide a summary of some options at hand for designing a good HMI for interacting with mobile information services. We distinguish between the driver and a passenger using a service, as these cases have different implications on safety.

Technologies for interaction with the driver will include different combinations of flat panel displays, head-up displays, voice recognition/speech synthesis, steering wheel controls, and other means for interfacing that have already been employed over the past years. These technologies are constantly being upgraded to more and more improved performance, and will in the future provide the basis for intelligent HMI systems.

In addition, we believe that we will see an accelerated development of customized (to be adapted to your preferences) and context-sensitive (to be adapted to the traffic situation) HMI management software.

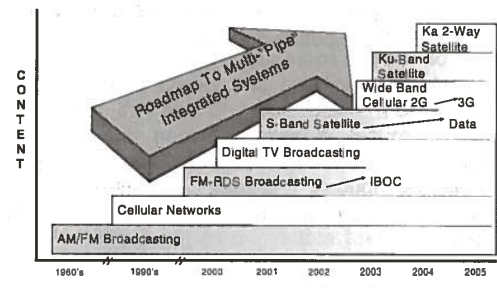
Interaction with passengers will be more straightforward. Rear Seat Audio/Video systems are already entering the market, and they will continue to grow in capability. Short-range wireless links like Bluetooth™ will also enable passengers to have their own interaction devices and even their own audio channels, through use of wireless headsets, as means for interacting with their services of choice.

Another aspect of the HMI in the future will be to identify

sophisticated voice-recognition algorithms and even biometrics sensors may in a few years time be viable alternatives for our industry. Whatever technology we choose, it is clear that we in some way will need to make provision for secure identification of the user/users.

### WIRELESS INFRASTRUCTURE

As shown in *Figure 2*, mobile information systems employ one or more wireless "pipes" to transmit information to and from vehicles. Figure 5 shows how these "pipes" are being rolled out over time. For many years now we have received broadcast information via AM/FM radio, but customer's information experience in vehicles really began to change in the 1980s when the first generation of cellular networks were introduced, launching the opportunities for easy bi-directional communication. This experience was augmented in the 1990s with second generation digital cellular systems. FM-RDS broadcasting in the late 1990s in the US, and even earlier in Europe, brought the advent of new information services such as traffic information, news headlines, and paging. Now in the early 2000's, new broadcast systems such as digital TV broadcasting in Europe, DVB, and S-Band Satellite broadcasting, like XM and Sirius radio in North America, offer a very broad choice of digital quality audio and eventually video



information

Figure 5: Wireless Infrastructure Rollout

Mobile phones have grown in popularity to a level where we will soon see the number of mobile users exceed the users of stationary systems. This trend will continue and in the future the stationary line users of today will use only personal wireless devices for telephone communication. The wireless communication today is mainly normal voice communication but will soon and

(digital) systems for mobile telephony. We are experiencing the introduction of the Third Generation as well as the introduction of Ku band satellite services in the next five years. With these broad bandwidth services, information can be singlecast to individual customers in response to specific

The major impact of this evolution is that the Information Society will go "mobile". Productivity and entertainment. The Universal Mobile Telephone System will provide increased bandwidth for true high speed data rates up to 2 Mbit per second, although 100 kbit per second will be the maximum under normal net-load conditions.

To further improve the Megabit per second will see the use of Digital Media with higher data rates than the mobile services described above. The combination of point-to-point communication with an interactive channel with high throughput and low price.

Not only increased bandwidth is being provided by the Mobile Information Society Networks - Always Connected" step that will be taken before the introduction of the Third Generation systems. The Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) already is introduced and in the next few years Radio Services (GPRS) will very

This technology will enable high speed data allocation of multiple channels to individual users. The benefit is the feature of not needing a physical connection before starting to send data, basically eliminate the time needed to establish a remote network giving the user the feeling of being connected.

In addition to the physical radio access, standardized access protocols, and the mobile environment. A connection between a mobile device and its base station can hardly be established in a wired system. Problems with the ongoing connection may interrupt the service being delivered. In response to this, the Wireless Application Protocol, WAP, protocol has a designated session suspension and re-establishment mechanism with minor overhead. Further, it is designed to work even with today's limitations in bandwidth and



increases the requirements on the Content Originator since the content must be presented in different ways on different platforms. This feature could also be added by the Portal/Service Center.

A key issue from the Portal/Service Center point of view will be to continuously identify customers' requirements and to rapidly adopt or build new services that fulfil these requirements. This is required in order to provide an automotive tailor-made portfolio services.

**CONTENT AND SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

There is a huge opportunity to add value to customers in the Mobile Information Society in general. Even the vehicle-related infotronics information services are growing very rapidly. A partial list of content and services is shown in *Table 2* below. Today's focus is primarily on safety, security, and concierge services via telematics systems using a GPS receiver and an embedded cellular phone in the vehicle. But the list grows very quickly to include 100-channel satellite digital radio broadcast, traffic information, and a huge portfolio of e-mail, internet access, electronic commerce as well as position-based commerce transactions. Ultimately, infotronics services will provide very high value content such as audio and video entertainment on demand.

**Content and Services**

- Safety, Security, and Concierge Services
- Satellite Digital Audio Radio Services
- Real Time, Dynamic Traffic Information
- Turn-by-Turn Navigation
- Advertising and Electronic "Coupons"
- Wireless Airtime
- E-Mail
- Internet Access and Internet Purchases
- Fuel, Tolls, Retail Kiosk Purchases
- Parking
- Dealer Services
- Remote Diagnostics and Maintenance
- Financial Transactions (Stock Purchases, Transfers)
- Audio On-Demand (Music, Books on Tape, "Talk Radio")
- Video On-Demand (Movies, "MTV", News and Sports Clips)

*Table 2: Infotronics Content and Service Opportunities*

To understand what content/services we need to provide to our customers, we must look at the driver and his/her passengers separately. Driver-related content/services for increased productivity mainly applies to business

being able to verbally fill-in travel expense reports on the way home rather than doing it the next morning in the office.

Safe driving should always be the highest priority and neither entertainment nor productivity features should never distract the driver. Productivity improvements and entertainment features should therefore primarily be based on audible services.

Passenger-related content/services regarding productivity will be basically everything mentioned above for the driver, but in addition also services based upon visual presentations on advanced displays and more sophisticated interactive tools. This will include normal office services, data retrieval, watching news/stocks, training/education as well as general HTML internet browsing and watching terrestrial or satellite television.

More sophisticated entertainment facilities for passengers could be a big help in travelling with children when they have access to video, interactive games, "movie-on-demand", chatting etc. The chatting services may in fact be the driving force in the whole mobile data-communication market. This is the situation within the GSM market today, where teenagers are using Short Message Service (SMS), a simple "store and forward" mechanism for messages no longer than 160 characters. The unexpected success of SMS has influenced the design of the service platform for UMTS to include an evolved version of SMS, called MMS, Multimedia Message Service. This will enable users to chat with others and to attach pictures as well as audio and video clips.

Also a third category of services can be identified for direct support and maintenance of the vehicle itself, consequently adding value to the owner. Features like Remote Diagnostics, Remote Software upgrades, stolen vehicle tracking, and so on will deliver significant value.

In summary, our office systems and tools as well as our living-room entertainment features will go mobile together with a realistic implementation of the "Smart Car".

**CONCLUSION**

Availability of technology is not going to be the main issue going forward in the mobile information society. The main issue is proper integration to ensure safety and acceptance by the customers.

We can foresee a strong impact of the mobile information revolution. Smart phones will lead the market, and

hand-held and carry-on products outside the car.

If this challenge will not be met, the market will most likely occur. Mobile devices in the vehicle and manufacturers' devices will continue to improve as well as the HMI of the devices. The limited integration with the vehicle is a significant safety issue. The pressure on manufacturers and telematics service providers "the customer" will be more difficult. Other players in the mobile information "vehicle" market.

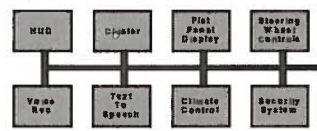
Providing a well-integrated Mobile Information Society every vehicle would be a challenge. However, the platform could have a high degree of functionality and hence many use scenarios. Examples range from simple data transfer via Bluetooth™ can transform the vehicle, to full-fledged Mobile Information Society with multiple user interfaces, many possibilities for remote management and can fulfill the goal of delivering Services to the vehicle users.

**CONTACT**

Hasse Johansson  
(hasse.johansson@mecel.se) A  
(anders.eliasson@mecel.se)

Mecel AB, Sweden

**PROPRIETARY SIDE**



Human Machine Interface (HMI)