EFFICIENT DELIVERY OF GLOBAL NFV-BASED NETWORK SERVICES FOR ENTERPRISES ALL OVER THE WORLD
ngena, THE NEXT GENERATION ENTERPRISE NETWORK ALLIANCE
THE BUSINESS NEED

The number and reach of global enterprises is rising continuously and they demand comprehensive and worldwide reliable connectivity. Telecommunications service providers across the world are facing the difficult task of meeting the constantly growing needs of such clients with their current offers.

In order to address this challenge, leading international telecommunications service providers joined ngena, an alliance based on the principle of sharing network assets between partners globally. Combining an innovative business model with an advanced service delivery platform based on software defined networks (SDN), network function virtualization (NFV), ngena will also broaden its VPN service offer with further value added services.

This approach is revolutionary and will shake up today’s VPN service delivery methods, which are based on legacy networks that involve extensive manual processes.

As a result of this cooperation, ngena members will provide their multinational customers with global hybrid VPN services which are highly standardized and uniform among all ngena members, thus ensuring a consistent service experience. The aim is that ngena will provide a global business network that is innovative, highly standardized, quicker and easier to deploy, of the highest security standards, more stable and less complex than any other solution available on the market.

From the IT perspective, ngena needs high-performance systems that are flexible in responding to fast changes as well as supporting and unifying BSS/OSS processes across the alliance. Therefore, the company was looking for one solution combining billing, CRM, self-service, order management, fault management, service fulfillment and assurance.

Comarch’s BSS/OSS solution met all those requirements, and was selected to help ngena to facilitate the management of NFV/SDN networks and automate key processes such as selling, ordering and launching VPN services globally.

IMPLEMENTED SOLUTIONS:

- Comprehensive BSS/OSS solution consisting of the following modules:
  - Comarch CRM for Telecoms
  - Self-service Portals
  - Comarch Customer Order Management
  - Comarch Convergent Billing
  - ITSM Service Desk
  - Comarch Performance Management
  - Comarch Service Fulfillment
  - Comarch Service Assurance

GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE

- Worldwide
THE CHALLENGE

Launching VPN services in a very short timeframe is one of ngena’s differentiating assets. In order to meet this goal, ngena was looking for a comprehensive system that would enable the sale and delivery of services within less than 12 months from the project start. This was a challenging timeline given the scope and level of innovation of this project. The company needed a trusted BSS/OSS provider that would not only be able to adjust the solution to the alliance’s sophisticated needs, but also to act as a partner and complete the implementation on time.

A brand new alliance based on a new business model required a greenfield approach that would best utilize the wide range of possibilities, a challenge that Comarch was happy to take up.

THE APPROACH

The contract between ngena and Comarch was signed in June 2016, and the project is still ongoing. The project is being implemented using the agile approach, and subsequent phases will be completed pursuant to the current agreements between Comarch and ngena. Comarch BSS/OSS platform is expected to be integrated with modules provided by Cisco, the ngena technology partner for the global SDN platform with end to end orchestration and NFV-based services.

THE SOLUTION

The chosen solution is based on a catalog-driven approach, with the fulfillment, assurance and billing processes steered by rules defined in the common product/service catalog and service inventory, spanning all the layers (customers, products, services and resources).

The implemented Comarch BSS/OSS platform consists of the following modules:

- **CRM for Telecoms** - enables a 360-degree customer view in real time, and automates sales, marketing and customer care processes.

- **Self-service Portals** - (both GUI and API) enable alliance partners to take responsibility for the plan, build and run phases of a customer solution, from the initial design and quotation process to the order and fulfillment status, up to the ready for service notification per site. Additionally, these portals enable alliance partners to get a real-time and transparent view of enterprises’ running VPN services to support their daily service operations responsibility.
- **Customer Order Management** - allows easy management of service orders during the fulfillment process.

- **Convergent Billing** - enables ngena to charge for any service type in real time, and facilitates the development of new business models in cooperation with partners.

- **ITSM Service Desk** - a comprehensive solution organizing the work of engineers responsible for incidents and problem handling as well as change management. It is a bridge between the customer perspective expressed in Customer Trouble Tickets served by Comarch CRM and the service/resource perspective provided by the OSS modules such as Fault Management, Performance Management and Service Impact Analysis. It guarantees short mean time to repair and improved customer experience.

- **Performance Management** - is the module responsible for gathering, aggregating, processing and monitoring raw data from the resources. It is rigorously integrated with other assurance modules to support efficient analytics of the current state of the network.

- **Service Fulfillment**, built around a central product and service catalog, automates and accelerates the service delivery process, reducing time to market.

- **Service Assurance** allows early detection of network problems and enables ngena to predict and calculate customer service impact.

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![Figure 1. Proposed Architecture of Comarch BSS/OSS Solution](image-url)
EXPECTED RESULTS

The implemented system will allow the efficient and timely delivery of global VPN services for enterprises all over the world. **Comarch’s BSS/OSS solution is expected to support all of ngena’s key processes**, such as sales, customer and partner management, service assurance, and network inventory management. Moreover, the new platform will encompass a wide range of BSS/OSS functionalities, allowing a shorter time to market for enterprise services and the simplification of processes related to global provisioning. This will additionally improve ngena’s alliance partners’ competitive position.

WHY COMARCH?

“Considering the comprehensiveness of the solution and its complexity, as well as our ambitious timeframes, we were looking for an experienced and reliable BSS/OSS provider. Comarch has cooperated with various large telco operators, including the Deutsche Telekom group, on various projects over the past 10 years, and that trust was an important factor behind choosing them to be a partner in this strategically important project. Comarch has demonstrated an understanding of our demands and we engaged in truly collaborative solution development. Their dynamic approach and their ability to listen to our technical and business needs, as well as to adjust the development to best support our goals, convinces us we made the right decision.”

Dr. Marcus Hacke, Founder & Managing Director
ngena GmbH
ABOUT COMARCH

Comarch is a provider of complete IT solutions for telecoms. Since 1993 the company has helped CSPs on 4 continents optimize costs, increase business efficiency and transform BSS/OSS operations. Comarch solutions combine rich out-of-the-box functionalities with high configurability and are complemented with a wide range of services. The company’s flexible approach to projects and a variety of deployment models help telecoms make networks smarter, improve customer experience and quickly launch digital services, such as cloud and M2M. This strategy has earned Comarch the trust and loyalty of its clients, including the world’s leading CSPs: Vodafone, T-Mobile, Telefónica, E-Plus, KPN and MTS.

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