

TRENDS IN THE COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY AND THE MULTIMEDIA PROMOTION FORUM

		1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004		
FIXED	FTTH			●7/94 Association of Broadband-network Business chance & Culture Creation (BBCC) launches the first B-ISDN application experiments in Japan	●7/94 Foundation for MultiMedia Communications (FMCC) initiates "Pilot Model Project for New Generation Communication Network"				8/01 NTT East/West launch rapid installation of optical fiber network in Tokyo follows	●4/00 NTT-ME launches optical Internet services "WAKWAK town"		●3/02 Tokyo Electric Power Co., Inc. (TEPCO) launches FTTH services (OTNet) and Chugoku Information System Service Co., Inc. (CIS) launch FTTH services		●11/02 Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc. launches FTTH services		
	VoIP						●11/95 ITU-T Recommendation H.323				●4/01 VoIP Promotion Council established	●4/02 Yahoo BBI launches commercial VoIP services	●12/02 NEC, NTT Com, KDDI, Sony, Nifty launch pilot VoIP services	●7/03 Internet service providers launch VoIP services		
	ADSL								●9/99 ANIS Net utilizes the cable TV/telephone network to provide a flat rate internet telephone service (5500yen/month)	●11/99 Tokyo Metallic Communications Corp. launches a pilot ADSL service	●7/00 Tokyo Metallic, NTT East/West, eAccess Ltd., ACCA Networks launch ADSL services					
	INTERNET	●7/92 Internet commercial services start in Japan ●7/92 Internet Initiative Japan Inc. (IIJ) established		●7/94 Internet service provided to Prime Minister's Official Residence		●11/95 Windows 95's release in Japan			●9/98/ Internet population in Japan tops 10 million	●7/99 Internet banking services start ●2/99 Mobile internet services start		●5/00 NTT Communications Corp. acquires Verio Inc.	●6/01 Increase in the spread of computer viruses	●3/02 Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) introduces an online electronic application system		
WIRELESS	WIRELESS LAN						●97/6 IEEE802.11	Wireless LAN standard set by IEEE (The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.)			●9/01 Commercial WLAN services start gradually in Japan		●4/02 NTT Group starts WLAN services			
	UWB							02/2 US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) gives approval for commercial use	9/02 Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) consults Information and Communications Council on UWB		●3/04 "UWB Wireless System Committee" publishes its interim report					
	PHS			●4/94 NTT initiates 6-month PHS pilot service for corporate use (Apr.-Sep.)	●6/95 NTT Personal launches commercial PHS services in Tokyo	●7/95 DDI Pocket Inc. launches PHS services nationwide/Astel Tokyo Corporation (ASTEL) launches PHS services	●10/95 NTT Mobile Communications Network, Inc. launches PHS services in Kanto and Hokkaido Area		●9/85 Daimi-Denden Inc. (DDI) and Nippon IDOU Tsushin Corp. (IDO) launch a joint development effort	●5/00 IMT-2000 defined as global standard by International Telecommunication Union (ITU)	●3/02 J-phone launches packet communication services	●4/02 au launches cdma2000 1x service				
	IMT-2000							●5/01 NTT Docomo launches a pilot FOMA service	●9/8/0 au launches cdmaOne service	●10/01 NTT Docomo launches FOMA service	●3/02 J-phone launches "3G pilot service" in the metropolitan area	●4/02 au launches cdma2000 1x service				
	4G									●2/01 Japanese Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) and EU agree to collaborate in preparation of international standardization activities for the 4G	●6/01 Information and Communications Council issues a report on the technical specifications of 4G mobile communication systems, also on the basic concepts of future mobile communications systems "Beyond IMT-2000" that is to come after the next generation system "IMT-2000"	●5/01 Japan and Korea agree to collaborate in the standardization of communication systems	●12/00 NTT DoCoMo, Hewlett-Packard, HP Japan announce to initiate a joint research effort in 4G mobile communications system	●3/02 NTT DoCoMo announces a prototype device of 4G mobile communications system	●5/03 NTT DoCoMo launches a field trial of 4G mobile communications system	
OTHERS	HOME NETWORKING						●97 Echonet Consortium established	●97 NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) releases experimental Home Server system			●03 Digital Home Working Group (DHWG) established	●04 Ubiquitous Open Platform Forum (UOPF) established	●03 Sharp Corporation releases "Galileo Personal Video Recorder"	●04 DHWG reestablished as Digital Living Network Alliance (DLNA)		
	UBIQUITOUS COMPUTING AND NETWORKING		●91 "Ubiquitous Computing" proposed by Mark Weiser (Fuji Xerox Palo Alto Laboratory)								●11/01 Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) organizes a "Study Group on the Future Outlook of Ubiquitous Network Technologies"		●04/ Proposals for policy measures to promote Ubiquitous network society(u-Japan)			
	ECOMMERCE	●90 Early 1990s, major suppliers and transportation companies begin to adopt the VAN system for distribution and procurement purposes. (EDI)		●94 Pizzahut starts to take online orders		●2/95 "Basic Guidelines on the Promotion of an Advanced Information and Telecommunications Society" drawn up by Advanced Information and Telecommunications Society Promotion Headquarters	●8/95 "Basic Government Guidelines of Advanced Information and Communications in the Field of Roads, Traffic and Vehicles" Five governmental bodies decides on the promotion of 11 policy measures and 9 fields of development		●5/97 Rakuten Ichiba (Rakuten Shopping Mall) service begins	●4/00 Electronic Commerce Promotion Council of Japan established	●12/01 Electronic Consumers Contract Act put into effect	●02 Yahoo! Auctions introduces transaction fees				
	ITS				●27/11/92 PHS related forums 1st Forum "Future Prospects of Personal Communications" PHS Forum (Part 1) - 13 fora held so far	●28/10/94 ITS related forums 1st Forum "This is the Multimedia Information Highway of Ministry of Construction" - 25 fora held so far	●30/11/95 Ecommerce related forums 1st Forum "Technologies, Strategies, and the Impacts of Electronic Commerce - Innovation in Economic Activities" - 10 fora held so far	●27/11/95 Internet related forums 1st Forum "Leading Authorities unveil the Strategy and Developments of Internet and PHS" - 30 fora held so far	●19/9/96 4G related forums 1st Forum "Evolution and Strategies of Multimedia Mobile Access Communication (MMAC)" - 7 fora held so far	●18/11/96 IMT-2000 related forums 1st Forum "Evolution and Development Strategies of Next Generation Mobile Communication" - 28 fora held so far	●22/8/97 ADSL related forums 1st Forum "Rapid Progress of the Multimedia and Access Network Developments"(Part 1) - 122 fora held so far	●19/12/97 VoIP related forums 1st Forum "Communications Revolution and IP Telephony" - 11 fora held so far	●26/1/98 Wireless LAN related forums 1st Forum "Commercial Prospects for the 5.8GHz High-Speed Wireless LAN on the Move" - 18 fora held so far	●9/7/98 Home Networking related forums 1st Forum "New Developments and Strategies in Mobile Communication" - 5 fora held so far		
MULTIMEDIA PROMOTION		(** is the number of times in a multimedia promotion forum)		●20/7/93 FTTH related forums 1st Forum "Prospects of New Generation Communication Network Construction" New Generation Communication Network Forum (Part 1) - 14 fora held so far					●11/99 "System Architecture for ITS in Japan" Five governmental bodies map out an outline of the technology and sub-systems composing the ITS	●00 Navigation Systems and other advanced services launched in Japan - The introduction of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)	●1/01 "e-Japan Strategy" adopted to make Japan the world's most advanced IT nation within 5 years	●1/01 "Basic Law on the Formation of an Advanced Information and Telecommunications Network Society (IT Basic Law)"	●9/03 ETC system installed at 882 toll booths nationwide	●3/01 Nonstop Electronic toll collection (ETC) system deployed in Japan	●7/02 "ETC prepaid discount service" introduced	(** is the number of times in a multimedia promotion forum)