As companies make the switch to all-IP networks, they will need to review their plans for migrating their critical fax communications to their new IP network. There are both technology infrastructure considerations as well as significant business benefits driving the transition from traditional, hardware-based (i.e. physical server-based fax systems) to internet-based fax (i.e. virtual server-based systems). Specific to FoIP, the following benefits are being realized by companies worldwide:

**Centralize and Virtualize**

Instead of deploying servers and hardware-based fax cards at remote locations (where IT skills are typically absent and maintenance is difficult to provide), the distributed nature of FoIP processing can deliver services to all locations from one central data center. With FoIP, you can maintain a point of presence at remote offices by operating a centralized fax server. The need for physical fax cards is eliminated. This will afford companies significant savings on annual maintenance, infrastructure, training and related operational expenses. A remote employee in Europe can use the company’s fax server in the U.S. just as easily as if it were located in their local office. This provides an excellent economy of scale and maximizes usage of your resources and prevents the deployment of rarely used fax servers at sparsely populated remote offices.

**Lower PBX Maintenance Fees**

With an IP-based fax solution, companies can dramatically reduce the maintenance costs of PBX station ports that are typically much higher than the maintenance costs of routers.

**Implement Least-Cost Routing**

Leveraging an organization’s corporate intranet and redirecting faxes over a corporate network can reduce or eliminate traditional toll charges on many external and international communications. When an internal fax is being sent from one corporate location to another, simply redirecting that fax over the intranet can avoid outbound and inbound fax-related charges. Sending faxes over IP networks enables companies to make fax calls essentially free of the public switched telephone network (PSTN) charges. If it cost $0.05 per page in telecom charges to send a fax over long-distance lines, the cost savings add up quickly.

Increasingly, forward-thinking enterprises are seeking to deploy new networks that support voice, video, and data on a single, unified (or converged) IP network. One of the key factors leading organizations to IP networks is the ability to send and receive fax transmissions cost-effectively and efficiently. This is now known as fax over internet protocol (“FoIP”) or in some cases, “internet fax.”

**The Compelling Move to FoIP**

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Fax over IP
Centralize and Virtualize Your Fax Communications

Leverage VoIP
Fax over IP (FoIP) is proving to be a very cost-effective routing capability for organizations with multiple offices. By integrating with the VoIP network, fax communications become part of the LAN/WAN-based VoIP network that is already in place. Assuming the organization is using VoIP corporate-wide with local gateways in each office, it is possible to route a fax with an Australian-based phone number that originates in the U.S. office to the organization’s local VoIP gateway in an Australian office (for example) for reduced toll costs and local delivery. In addition, local phone numbers can be used to receive local fax communications and then these can be routed to the correct corporate fax recipient regardless of their current location in the VoIP infrastructure, also eliminating forwarding and toll call expenses.

Maintain Reliability and Security
When well-designed and implemented, FoIP has the ability to provide immediate failover and redundancy and aid in recovery in the event of a disaster. This also means that messages in the process of being delivered, in the event of a failure, will be delivered upon successful failover and not lost. In addition FoIP adds an extra level of secure fax communications by providing the ability to deliver confidential and sensitive information directly to the appropriate recipient or a secure storage area or even provide the ability to "hold" a fax on an MFP (before printing) and only release the fax during standard business hours or when retrieved by the intended recipient. This helps ensure the integrity of internal control procedures and communications that are sensitive to regulatory compliance.
Omtool offers reliable, versatile, real-time T.38 fax-over-IP capabilities – in a host-based software-only solution that delivers the same high performance that companies have come to expect from traditional fax boards. The Omtool fax solution is available in a variety of options from 2 to 60 channels and is suitable for a variety of computer-based fax applications such as fax servers, fax document management, and compliance systems.

- **Reliable, real-time IP Fax** - Omtool’s fax solution delivers highly reliable faxing over VoIP networks using the T.38 real-time fax-over-IP protocol. Omtool and Dialogic are recognized as having the best T.30 available on the market today as the result of nearly 20-years experience developing and supporting intelligent fax technology deployed in a wide variety of enterprise and service provider networks worldwide.

- **Range of Configurations Available** - The software-based FoIP is available in 2, 4, 8, 12, 24, 30, 48 and 60 channels. To add more channels as their needs grow, customers can install a software license upgrade.

- **Interoperability with industry leading T.38 Gateways** - The software-based FoIP has been tested and certified with the market-leading T.38 gateways from Cisco, Alcatel, Avaya, 3Com, Aastra Technologies, AudioCodes, Broadsoft, Granstream, Linksys, Mitel, Multi-Tech, Nortel, Patton, Quintum, ShoreTel, and Siemens to ensure maximum interoperability.

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**Verification Process for FoIP Requirements**

Please verify your system’s interoperability via www.dialogic.com/interoperability/fax.html. Be sure to check back often for updates.

**Signaling**

- SIP (RFC 3261)
- H.323 (version 4)

**System Density**

- Support from 2 to 120 ports in a Single Server

**Minimum Requirements**

- Dual core processor 2 GHz
- 4GB of RAM
- RAID 5W with 100 GB of disk space
- MS Windows 2008 64-bit or Windows 2012 64-bit. Pentium 4/2.66 GHz

Once you verify your system meets the above minimum requirements and is listed on the approved interoperability list, please work with your account representative to fill out Omtool’s required FoIP questionnaire to determine complete FoIP system compatibility.
About AccuRoute Document Capture and Fax

Included with every AccuRoute document capture and workflow platform, organizations can utilize a full-featured, enterprise fax system with high performance, flexibility, and scalability, as well as full integration with the advanced routing capabilities of AccuRoute document capture.

Because enterprise fax is an integrated part of the AccuRoute platform, companies can benefit from significant cost savings through the consolidation of scan and fax machines. Further, to achieve compliance with regulatory requirements, corporate record retention policies, or HIPAA guidelines, AccuRoute can enable the system to send faxes only to authorized recipients, thereby eliminating the possibility of confidential information being sent inadvertently to an incorrect fax number.

It’s evident that increasingly forward-thinking enterprises are seeking to deploy new networks to support voice, video, and data on a single, unified IP network. AccuRoute Fax is compatible with the latest Voice-over-IP (VoIP) and Fax-over-IP (FoIP) technology. AccuRoute Fax may also be configured to support outbound routing through cloud-based fax services.

AccuRoute Fax directly integrates with the newest generations of multi-function printers (MFPs) across the enterprise. AccuRoute Fax fully works with the embedded software on MFPs, allowing you to easily send faxes directly from the MFP device — with all of the manageability, usability, and cost-effectiveness of a centralized digital fax infrastructure.

In addition, with your MFP fleet as the fax onramp, AccuRoute Fax can capture user identity to establish an audit trail and provide email notifications. AccuRoute Fax enhances document communication processes by digitizing fax transmissions. There’s no need to print out documents, take them to the fax machine for transmission and then discard them.

With AccuRoute Fax you can:

- Send faxes directly from the MFP
- Deliver directly to desktop applications through our powerful integration capabilities
- Reduce or eliminate the costs of dedicated fax lines
- Use least cost routing to send internal-bound faxes directly to the destination/MFP without the assistance of a fax service provider or associated charges
- Capitalize on Voice-over-IP (VoIP) and Fax-over-IP (FoIP)
- Digitize fax transmissions and make faxes available at the point of delivery
- Fax-enable individual desktops and key business systems to minimize manual, paper faxing
- Accelerate business processes, reduce response times, and improve productivity
- Authenticate/identify users and capture inbound and outbound fax transmissions to support company information and retention policies, compliance requirements, and risk-mitigation policies
- Define fax numbers and destinations right from the desktop using the easy-to-use AccuRoute Web Client
- Save time and eliminate redundancy by batching large volumes of documents and scanning several Intelligent Routing Sheets simultaneously

Omtool, Ltd.

Your trusted partner for document process automation solutions. For more information, please visit our website or contact one of our solutions specialists:

www.omtool.com