

Bridging the Gap: Taking Tomorrow's Network into Today"

In recent years, major advances in ICTs, combined with the rapid growth of global networks such as the Internet, have transformed businesses and markets. Learning and knowledge-sharing have empowered individuals and communities with new means of communication, and created significant wealth and economic growth in many countries. This revolution also means that there is no longer any need to be physically located near urban areas where most information and production is generated. Constraints of time and distance have been eliminated.

The next goal is to realize a ubiquitous network society, in which people can access and exchange all information freely, at any time, from anywhere, and from any appliance using broadband and mobile technologies, as well as intelligent home appliances and RFID tags that can access networks. Progress will not be linear and needs many different elements to fall into place; for this reason, substantial differences are observed in the strategies adopted by the players in the Italian telecommunication market.

This presentation will provide an overview of the Italian path towards the realization of a Ubiquitous Network Society and will discuss Italy's future migration towards Next Generation Networks.