Mobile CDNs: Getting Content Even Closer

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A Market Brief

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*iG*R 12400 W. Hwy 71 Suite 350 PMB 341 Austin TX 78738

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Abstract

Content Delivery Networks (CDNs) have been around for years and provide a great deal of utility and costs savings for content owners and network operators — as well as an improved user experience for consumers. Mobile Content Delivery Networks (MCDNs) have begun to evolve in recent years, driven in part by consumer demand for content.

The difference between the traditional CDN and mobile CDN is that in the latter, content (of whatever type) originates and/or terminates over a wireless network — WiFi, 3G or 4G. The mobile CDN, then, will ideally enable local or geographically specific content to have higher availability because of predictive algorithms based on historical trends and access patterns that locate data on predetermined mobile network equipment, depending on the physical location of the end-user. And, of course, the CDN gear is located inside the mobile operator's core network — which, by default, puts cached content that much closer to the mobile users.

Key questions addressed:

- What is a content delivery network?
- What is a mobile content delivery network (MCDN)?
- How does a MCDN function?
- What are the benefits of a MCDN?
- What are some of the challenges surrounding the implementation of a MCDN?
- Who are the major MCDN players?
- What is the prognosis for MCDN adoption?

Who should read this report?

- Mobile operators
- Device OEMs
- Mobile Content Delivery Network solution vendors
- Content providers and distributors
- Financial analysts and investors.