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Convergent Charging through BSS OSS by [James Blee](#)

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It goes without saying that the telecom industry has developed a lot over the years, not only with better and enhanced technologies but also with increasing population. The number of users has increased at a rapid rate and as a result the client base is gradually expanding each day. With an evolving industry like this, a great man power is required to carry all major internal works like billing and others. The advent of bss oss has been a boon for this industry as it now takes care of all major issues like maintaining a client database, accurate billing services, ensuring no connectivity problem and keeping the system away from software bugs.

Convergent charging is one such billing system that has been implemented by the telecom industry for the common management of all users and service providers. It involves two categories of payment procedures: prepaid and postpaid.

â€¢ Prepaid is that system of billing where the user pays the service providers before availing the services of the amount that he or she has paid.

â€¢ In the case of postpaid, the user is sent a bill at the end of the month for the total usage and services availed by him in the entire month.

The enormity and complex nature of the telecom industry make it impossible to carry forward the work related to billing, manually. Convergent charging has solved the problem to a large extent and other than that it has made the whole procedure more accurate. Now the customers are no longer the victims of errors and mismanagement. This billing procedure follows a definite pattern and therefore, it does not take into account the number of people.

This system has even been incorporated in broadband, television, fixed line and mobile. There is an inter-relationship between convergent billing and BSS OSS because both of them form the backbone of the telecom industry; the former takes care of the billing process while the latter is responsible for better network.

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