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## **MEF to bring new class of service norms in Jan '12**

*The latest Metro Ethernet Forum (MEF) 23.1 standards for class of service will be rolled out in January 2012 to enable new applications such mobile backhaul multiple class of service, wholesale Ethernet access services and standardize the service delivery for number of applications*

**Pankaj Maru**

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PHUKET, THAILAND: [Metro Ethernet Forum](#) (MEF), the Carrier Ethernet industry defining body is all set to roll out new class of service specifications, phase II.

[MEF 23.1](#)- the new class of service specification for the Carrier Ethernet industry will come into effect from January next year. Nan Chen, MEF president informed this on the sidelines of the recently concluded NetEvents APAC Press & Analyst Summit in Phuket, Thailand.

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According to Chen, these new norms will impact on the enablement of new applications such as mobile backhaul multiple classes of service, wholesale Ethernet access services and standardization of service delivery for various applications

“This has the potential to create a paradigm shift in the beleaguered [mobile backhaul](#) market giving it a profitable roadmap for the future,” Chen said.

For the wholesale Ethernet access services, he added, “This greatly simplifies buying and selling of wholesale services and may well open the floodgates for many service providers to reach many millions of new Carrier Ethernet customers globally.”

These norms will add functionalities such as classes of service, qualified quality of service (QoS) measurement, common terminology, class of service performance objectives (CoSP) and others.

“It will help operators provide greater revenues and utilized bandwidth, spectrum and infrastructure,” Chen explained.

Further, according to Chen, delivering the bandwidth in the 4G-LTE circles is the single biggest challenge for the industry and it is very expensive. “About 40 per cent is spent on just the backhaul, by mobile operators as operational expenditure,” he noted.

Beside, MEF is working on new project like carrier ethernet as ethernet cloud carrier that is aimed at cloud providers and cloud consumers. Overall, MEF has more than 175 members worldwide that includes service providers, mobile operators, telecom equipment vendors and other organizations.

In India, MEF has 17 members that include Reliance Communications (RCom), Tata Communications and other. Also it has 45 equipment manufactures as its members.

(The author was hosted by NetEvents APAC Press & Analyst Summit in Phuket, Thailand)

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