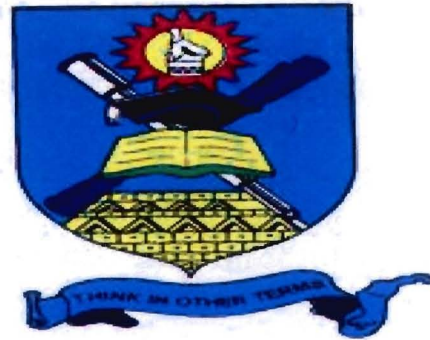


NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

**AN ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF NETWORK
CONVERGENCE IN ZIMBABWE TELECOMMUNICATIONS – A
CASE OF TELONE**

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Abstract

In the 70/80s, telecommunication systems had to separate voice transmission from Data transmission as well as video and video streaming networks. It has been realized now with the revolution of the Internet Protocol (IP) and Next Generation (NGN) systems that the industry could save money by converging their networks so as to deliver voice, data and video onto one platform (multimedia). Over the past several years, the telecommunication industry has had some amazing changes as the industry has switched over to a digital and more efficient systems, Fendick, Kumar, & Lakshman, (2002). The industry has changed automation systems, workflow processes, and introduced a network convergence platform in order to reduce system overhead and many other costs as systems had to be developed in order to meet the demand of the changes, Moyer, & Umar, (2001).

Voice over IP technology is fueling the rapid growth on network convergence and we are seeing the successful deployment of converged networks within enterprises. The purpose of the research is to examine the effects to the communication Industry and the community that are brought about by converging communication networks. The researcher tries to answer the several questions raised in the research questions and finally, why are all of these questions valid? It's evident that the industry has changed, and the effects of these changes are debatable.