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GROUP REPORT

Multi-access Edge Computing (MEC); Terminology

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Foreword

This Group Report (GR) has been produced by ETSI Industry Specification Group (ISG) Multi-access Edge Computing (MEC).

Modal verbs terminology

In the present document "**should**", "**should not**", "**may**", "**need not**", "**will**", "**will not**", "**can**" and "**cannot**" are to be interpreted as described in clause 3.2 of the ETSI Drafting Rules (Verbal forms for the expression of provisions).

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1 Scope

The present document provides a glossary of terms relating to the conceptual, architectural and functional elements within the scope of work on Multi-access Edge Computing.

The purpose of this glossary is to ensure that all terminology defined in the present document is used in a consistent way by all ETSI MEC deliverables as well as in wider industry discussions on Multi-access Edge Computing.

2 References

2.1 Normative references

Normative references are not applicable in the present document.

2.2 Informative references

References are either specific (identified by date of publication and/or edition number or version number) or non-specific. For specific references, only the cited version applies. For non-specific references, the latest version of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

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The following referenced documents are not necessary for the application of the present document but they assist the user with regard to a particular subject area.

[i.1]   ETSI GR NFV 003: "Network Functions Virtualisation (NFV); Terminology for Main Concepts in NFV".

[i.2]   ETSI TS 123 002: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+) (GSM); Universal Mobile Telecommunications System (UMTS); LTE; Network architecture (3GPP TS 23.002)".

3 Definition of terms, symbols and abbreviations

3.1 Terms

A

access provider: entity providing a user of some network with access from the user's device to that network

aggregation point: location in a physical network deployment intermediate between the core network and a number of homogeneous or heterogeneous network termination points (base station, cable modems, WLAN access points, etc.) which can act as a location for a MEC host

application context: set of reference data about an application instance that is used to identify it, enable lifecycle management operations and associate it with its device application

application descriptor: descriptor provided by the application provider which describes the application rules and requirements of a MEC application

application package: bundle of files provided by an application provider, to on-boarded into a MEC system and used by the MEC system for application instantiation, including package metadata (application descriptor, manifest) and artifacts (software image(s), e.g. VM image or container images, and optionally other files), or URIs to artifacts

application provider: entity that manages and distributes software-based services and solutions to customers

application rules and requirements: rules and requirements associated to MEC applications, such as required resources, maximum latency, required or useful services, traffic rules, DNS rules, mobility support, etc.

B

Void.

C

client application: application software running on a device (e.g. UE, laptop with internet connectivity) in order to utilize functionality provided by one or more specific MEC application(s)

content provider: entity (e.g. a web server, or a content distribution network) that provides content to consumers

D

device application: application running in the device that has the capability to interact with the MEC system via the user application lifecycle management proxy

E - H

Void.

I

infrastructure provider: entity that provides components into the network infrastructure ranging from compute elements and/or platforms to a software component (i.e. software component examples include security, virtualisation, controller, etc.)

J - K

Void.

L

lawful interception: action (based on the law), performed by a network operator/service provider/access provider, of making available certain information and providing that information to a law enforcement monitoring facility

lifecycle management: set of functions required to manage the instantiation, maintenance and termination of a MEC application instance

M

MEC application: virtualised software application that can be instantiated and run on virtualisation infrastructure of the MEC system and can potentially provide and/or consume MEC services

MEC federation: federated model of MEC systems enabling shared usage of MEC services and applications

MEC host: entity that contains a MEC platform and a virtualisation infrastructure which provides compute, storage and network resources to MEC applications

MEC host level management: components which handle the management of the MEC specific functionality of a particular MEC platform, MEC host and the MEC applications running on it

MEC management: MEC system level management and MEC host level management

MEC platform: collection of functionality that is required to run MEC applications on a specific MEC host virtualisation infrastructure and to enable them to provide and consume MEC services, and that can provide itself a number of MEC services