

Product Description

PD-TS-030

Issue 1.0

Date January, 2006

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T-MEC, Travsys-Message Exchange Centre

Product Identity

Order code: 010016

T-MEC

Outline Description

The earliest possibility of airlines to communicate with and between each other is by means of messages. The airlines created a message exchange network and the operators used teletype machines. Later on the teletype machines changed into computers and automatic message switching equipment. The airline community is calling these message IATA messages or type-b messages.

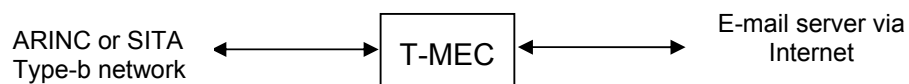
Nowadays, airlines are still exchanging many messages between computers as well as between individuals or departments.

Network providers have also developed special software to received and send these messages on a computer workstation.

Since the early days of the airline teletype machines till today's modern messaging systems many things have changes.

However, the airline messaging is not keeping pace with this new technology.

The Travsys T-MEC solution is creating the bridge between the traditional airline messaging and the modern e-mail systems using the Internet.



The T-MEC system consists of several objects which can interact with each other. T-MEC is based on the Travsys CSPNT system and objects concept.

Communication objects:

- MATIP
- X.25
- TCP/IP

Message delivery objects

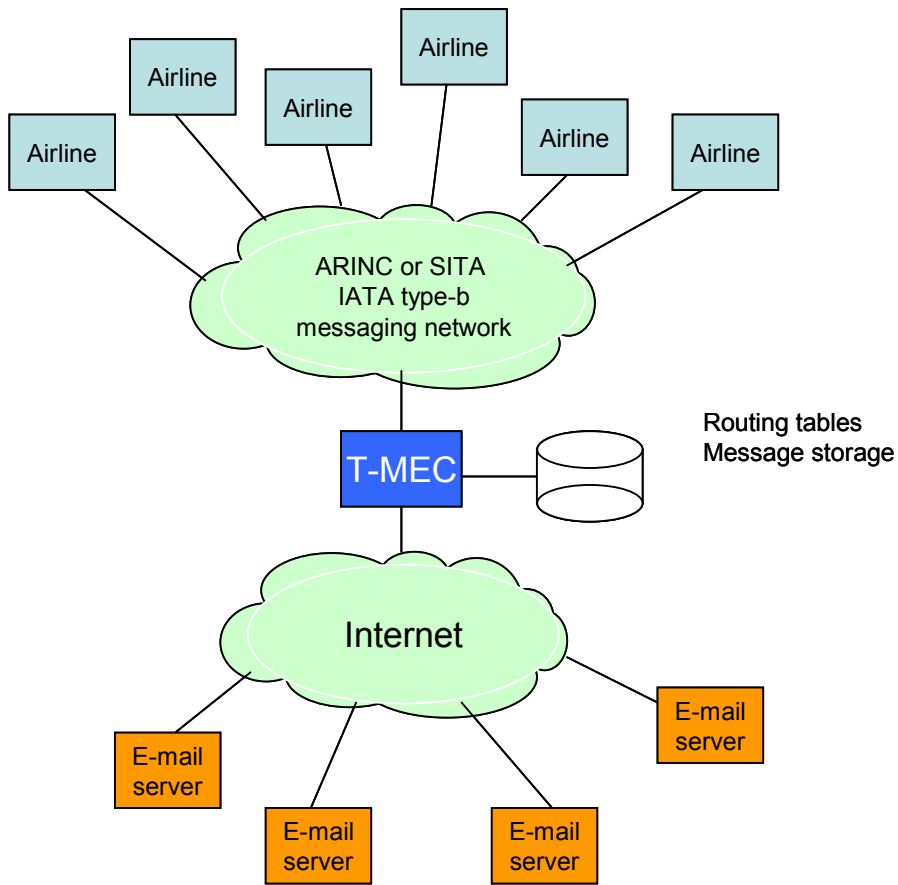
- BATAP
- MQ-Series
- SMTP

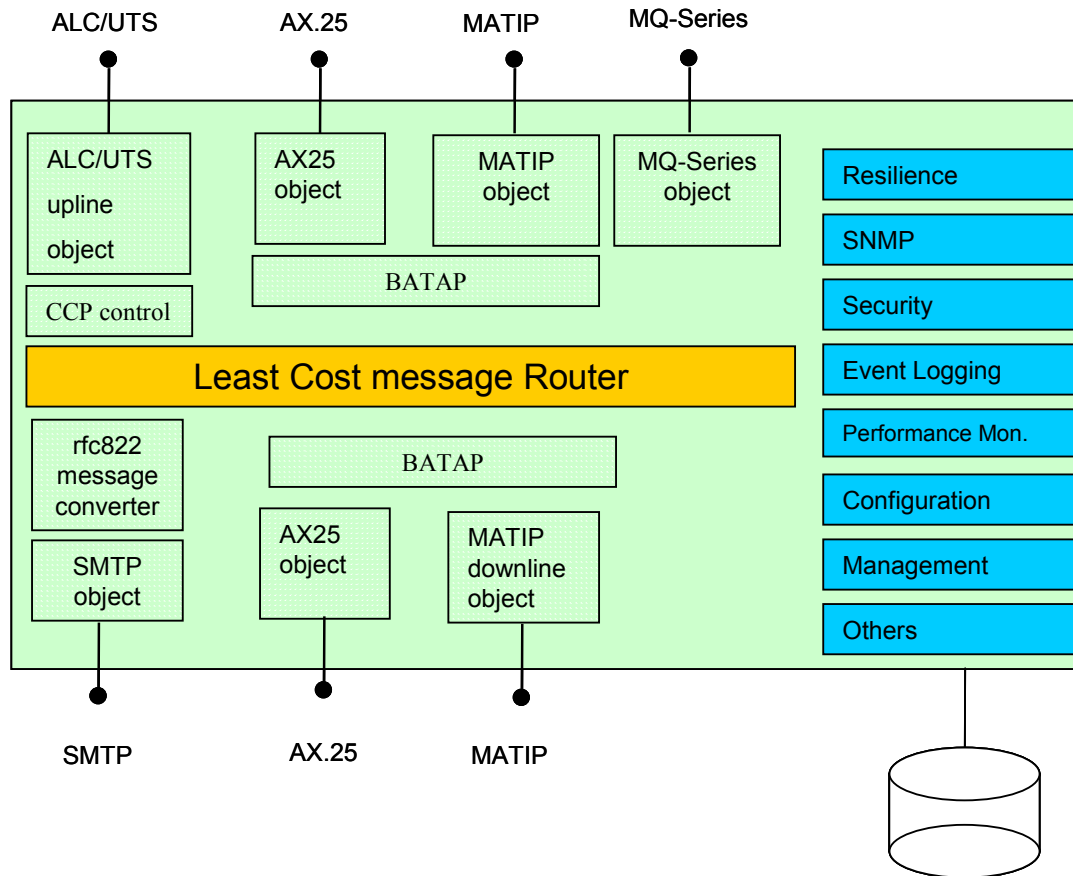
Message formatter objects

- Rfc822 or e-mail message formatter
- ALC message handler

Router Object

- Least Cost Router





The “Communication Objects” are the lower layer of communication method used at a particular location. However MATIP is a layer on top of TCP/IP, it is mentioned as a separate communication method because of the well known usage within the airline community.

On top of the communication layer is always a message delivery object. A message delivery object is ensuring that the message is accepted by the other party connected by the communication layer.

An X.25 communication layer, together with a BATAP message delivery object, can connect to the SITA messaging network.

Or a TCP/IP communication layer, together with the MQ-Series object, can connect to the ARINC Messaging network.

Or a TCP/IP communication layer, together with an SMTP message delivery object, can connect to the internet by sending and receiving e-mail or rfc822 messages.

Message formatters

If a message is sent from one messaging system to another messaging system, a Message Formatter is required.

A Message Formatter is transferring the data of the header from one format into the other format. This is mainly in relation to the address and other header details.

Sometimes messages have to be transferred between a type-A mainframe link like ALC and a messaging network like Internet e-mail. In that case an ALC message formatter is required. The ALC formatter is airline specific and requires tailoring for each airline.

Message routing

The heart of the T-MEC system is the Least Cost Router (LCR). The LCR routes the messages based on the configuration and rules from one object to another object.

The routing table can contain specific addresses or wild card addresses.

The T-MEC can be used in many ways.

Travsys provides a service to convert IATA messages by individual addresses to e-mail messages. This enables the user to send and receive IATA messages from its e-mail client like Outlook. If an organization has its own SMTP server, it is also possible to implement the T-MEC as a local sub-domain to the airline's mail server. This is increasing the message delivery performance.

The T-MEC can also be used as a filter between the airline's Host-To-Host messaging interface and the messaging network. A pair of T-MEC servers is required in this case. Messages addressed to another airline can be routed via the T-MEC to servers at the other airline. No mainframe changes are required.

The T-MEC is sold as a service.

Deliverables are depending on the type of service required. If for instance an in-house T-MEC is needed to connect to a sub-domain of the SMTP Server, a T-MEC system is delivered for this purpose.

Pre-requisites

No hardware is delivered as part of the T-MEC service. If hardware is needed like an X.25 communication board or a PC to operate the T-MEC in-house system, these have to be purchased or supplied by the company using the system.

Hardware and Software Prerequisites

- Pentium IV PC, 128MB RAM, 80GB Hard Disk
- Windows XP or later
- X.25 board if needed

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