CLAIMS:

1. A method of routing an incoming call in a network environment including a circuit-switched (CS) network and an Internet Protocol (IP) multimedia subsystem (IMS) network, said incoming call being directed to a user equipment (UE) device disposed in said network environment, comprising:

determining whether said UE device is IMS service-capable;

determining whether at least one policy criterion is applicable with respect to said incoming call; and

terminating said incoming call to a domain based on said determinations, wherein said determinations are effectuated at a network node associated with said IMS network.

2. The method of routing an incoming call as recited in claim 1, wherein said at least one policy criterion comprises a user-based policy criterion.

3. The method of routing an incoming call as recited in claim 1, wherein said at least one policy criterion comprises an operator-based policy criterion.

4. The method of routing an incoming call as recited in claim 1, wherein said at least one policy criterion is stored in a database external to said network node.

5. The method of routing an incoming call as recited in claim 1, wherein said at least one policy criterion is stored in a database internal to said network node.

6. The method of routing an incoming call as recited in claim 1, further including determining whether an IMS service is to be invoked with respect to said incoming call.

7. The method of routing an incoming call as recited in claim 1, wherein said incoming call is terminated to a CS domain based on said determinations.

8. The method of routing an incoming call as recited in claim 1, wherein said incoming call is terminated to an IMS domain based on said determinations.

9. The method of routing an incoming call as recited in claim 1, further including determining where said UE device is located.

10. A system for routing an incoming call in a network environment including a circuit-switched (CS) network and an Internet Protocol (IP) multimedia subsystem (IMS) network, said incoming call being directed to a user equipment (UE) device disposed in said network environment, comprising:

means for determining whether said UE device is IMS service capable;

means for determining whether at least one policy criterion is applicable with respect to said incoming call; and

means for terminating said incoming call to a domain based on said determinations, wherein said determinations are effectuated at a network node associated with said IMS network.

11. The system for routing an incoming call as recited in claim 10, wherein said at least one policy criterion comprises a user-based policy criterion.

12. The system for routing an incoming call as recited in claim 10, wherein said at least one policy criterion comprises an operator-based policy criterion.

13. The system for routing an incoming call as recited in claim 10, wherein said at least one policy criterion is stored in a database external to said network node.

14. The system for routing an incoming call as recited in claim 10, wherein said at least one policy criterion is stored in a database internal to said network node.

15. The system for routing an incoming call as recited in claim 10, further including means for determining whether an IMS service is to be invoked with respect to said incoming call.

16. The system for routing an incoming call as recited in claim 10, wherein said incoming call is terminated to a CS domain based on said determinations.

17. The system for routing an incoming call as recited in claim 10, wherein said incoming call is terminated to an IMS domain based on said determinations.

18. The system for routing an incoming call as recited in claim 10, further including means for obtaining location information with respect to said UE device's location.

19. The system for routing an incoming call as recited in claim 10, further including means for resolving policy conflicts if more than one policy criterion are determined to be applicable with respect to said incoming call.

20. The system for routing an incoming call as recited in claim 10, further including means for applying a calling line identity (CLI)-based routing policy criterion with respect to said incoming call.

What is claimed is:

1. A method, practiced by a Network Domain Selection (NeDS) network entity in an Internet Protocol (IP) multimedia subsystem (IMS), of routing an incoming call, comprising:

receiving a message from a Home Subscriber Server (HSS), the message being a notification message generated to inform the NeDS network entity, wherein the message indicates that a User Equipment (UE) has attached to a network;

starting a timer upon receipt of the message, the timer having a pre-determined expiry period, wherein the NeDS network entity determines that the UE supports a given IMS service if a third party registration message is received before the timer reaches its predetermined expiry period; and

on receiving the incoming call, consulting a database to determine a terminating network, wherein the terminating network supports the given IMS service if the NeDS network entity has determined that the UE supports the given IMS service.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising terminating the incoming call to a domain based on the determinations, wherein the determinations are effectuated at a network node associated with an IMS network.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the database is a wireless access network database.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the database is located in a Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) Home Subscriber Service (HSS).

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the database is located in the NeDS network entity.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein a database entry indicates at least one of the attach state of a UE and the PDP activation state of a UE and wherein the database entry is made based on operation of a presence user agent.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the given IMS service is Voice Call Continuity (VCC).

8. The method of claim 1 further comprising informing the UE device to switch to another network that supports the given IMS service if a current network on which the UE

device is registered does not support the given IMS service.

9. The method of claim 1 further comprising informing the UE device that the given IMS service will not be performed if no network is found that supports the given IMS service.

10. The method of claim 1 further comprising determining whether an IMS service is to be invoked with respect to the incoming call.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein the incoming call is terminated to a CS domain based on the determinations.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein the incoming call is terminated to an IMS domain based on the determinations.

13. The method of claim 1 further including determining where the UE device is located.

14. A Network Domain Selection (NeDS) network node in an Internet Protocol (IP) multimedia subsystem (IMS) network, comprising:

an interface for communicating with a database;

a component configured to receive a message from a Home Subscriber Server (HSS), the message being a notification message generated to inform the NeDS network entity, wherein the message indicates that a User Equipment (UE) has attached to a network;

a component configured to start a timer upon receipt of the message, the timer having a pre-determined expiry period, wherein the NeDS network entity determines that the UE supports a given IMS service if a third party registration message is received before the timer reaches its predetermined expiry period; and

a component configured, on receiving the incoming call, to consult a database to determine a terminating network, wherein the terminating network supports the given IMS service if the NeDS network entity has determined that the UE supports the given IMS service, the components comprising one of firmware and software stored in a non-transitory storage.

15. The network node of claim 14 further comprising a component configured to

terminate the incoming call to a domain based on the determinations, wherein the determinations are effectuated at a network node associated with an IMS network.

16. The network node of claim 14 wherein the database is a wireless access network database.

17. The network node of claim 14 wherein the database is located in a Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) Home Subscriber Service (HSS).

18. The network node of claim 14 wherein the database is located in the NeDS network entity.

19. The network node of claim 14 wherein a database entry indicates at least one of the attach state of a UE and the PDP activation state of a UE and wherein the database entry is made based on operation of a presence user agent.

20. The network node of claim 14 wherein the given IMS service is Voice Call Continuity (VCC).

21. The network node of claim 14 further comprising a component configured to inform the UE device to switch to another network that supports the IMS service if a current network on which the UE device is registered does not support the given IMS service.

22. The network node of claim 14 further comprising a component configured to inform the UE device that the given IMS service will not be performed if no network is found that supports the given IMS service.