

Net cell phone could slash customer bills

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The advent of cell phones that connect to broadband Internet could allow consumers to slash monthly bills, likely to the consternation of mobile providers.

PC World reported from the Consumer Electronics Show this week that the capability to connect to Voice over Internet Protocol using WiFi will allow consumers to bypass more expensive standard cell service and its overruns and roaming charges.

UTStarcom used the Las Vegas show to preview its GF200 phone, the first that will allow consumers to use a single wireless phone to handle both cell and VoIP calls.

PC World pointed out that the GF200 and similar models will most likely gain a foothold in Europe before it gains any distribution cooperation from American cell providers.

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