

Skype to offer WiFi-capable cell phones

July 20 2006

Skype has teamed up with its hardware providers on a menu of cell phones that can accommodate Skype's Internet calling system via WiFi.

The phones will allow Skype subscribers to use cell phones to place Internet calls without using a personal computer.

"We want to give people the freedom to move around while talking and have access to Skype wherever they are," said Stefan Oberg, general manager of hardware for Skype.

The devices will provide automatic synchronization with Skype accounts and will support common WiFi encryption.

The phones will come from Belkin, Edge-Core, Netgear and SMC. They will be available in the third quarter.

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Citation: Skype to offer WiFi-capable cell phones (2006, July 20) retrieved 4 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2006-07-skype-wifi-capable-cell.html>

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