What is SIP?

Let’s back up for a moment and first define VoIP. VoIP, or Voice over Internet Protocol, is a buzzword these days. Instead of traditional switched network, it uses an IP network like the internet to transmit voice calls. With more VoIP service providers coming up each month, VoIP will change the way you think about telephony.

Simply stated, SIP, the session initiation protocol, is the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) protocol for voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) as well as other text and multimedia sessions, like instant messaging, video, online games and other services.

SIP is an application-layer control (signaling) protocol for creating, modifying, and terminating sessions with one or more participants. These sessions include Internet telephone calls, multimedia distribution, and multimedia conferences.

SIP is limited to only the setup, modification and termination of sessions. It serves four major purposes

1. SIP allows for the establishment of user location (i.e. translating from a user's name to their current network address).
2. SIP provides for feature negotiation so that all of the participants in a session can agree on the features to be supported among them.
3. SIP is a mechanism for call management - for example adding, dropping, or transferring participants.
4. SIP allows for changing features of a session while it is in progress.

All other key functions are accomplished using other protocols.

Yes! This does indeed mean that

1. SIP is not a session description protocol, and that
2. SIP does not do conference control.
3. SIP is not a resource reservation protocol and it has nothing to do with quality of service (QoS).

SIP can work in a framework with other protocols to make sure these roles are played out - but SIP does not do them. SIP can function with SOAP, HTTP, XML, VXML , WSDL, UDDI, SDP and others. Everyone has a role to play!

Improve your bottom line

* Converge voice and data on the same network so you don't pay for separate access
* Reduce operating costs with only one communications network to manage Count on clear calls and a reliable connection
* Trust your traffic to the Spectrum Business network which is privately-managed and constantly monitored to ensure performance, security and optimization (your calls will not travel on the open Internet)
* Redirect calls automatically with disaster recovery
* Professional customer service team dedicated to Spectrum Business customers and support from local technicians 24/7/365

Keep things simple

* Get simple pricing for the call paths and features you need and a bill that's easy to understand
* Look forward to a smooth install and interoperability with an IP-PBX that is certified\*

Grow your business efficiently

* Add or remove call paths easily to handle growth efficiently
* Get call paths in packs of 4 instead of 23 (as with PRIs), allowing you to grow your network with your business
* Lay the foundation for unified communications

Grow your business efficiently

1. First, we'll verify that your IP-PBX is certified\* to work with the Charter Network.
2. Next, we'll work with you to determine the number of concurrent call paths and DIDs you'll need.
3. Finally, simply pick the long-distance package that makes the most sense for your business.