

AUDIOCODES APPLICATION NOTE

Integrating Analog Devices into Microsoft Teams and Skype for Business Environments



As the communications market shifts towards all-IP and cloud solutions, large enterprises across all industries are looking to replace their legacy communications equipment with IP-based unified communications (UC) platforms such as Microsoft Teams and Skype for Business. There is a wide range of possible configurations for deploying unified communications in large enterprises, whether the selected solution is deployed on-premises or based in the cloud. Solutions such as Microsoft Teams and Skype for Business deliver a rich communications experience providing standard PBX voice functions, as well as voice and video conferencing, instant messaging and on-line collaboration.

3 Reasons for Holding on to Analog Devices When Migrating to UC

One issue facing enterprises as they move their communications infrastructure to IP is what to do with the company's legacy analog phones and fax machines. Is it better to retain existing analog phones or replace them all with IP phones that can connect directly to the on-premises or hosted UC platform?

Today's IP phones offer much in the way of UC functionality, combining traditional office desk phone features with full UC integration including directory access and presence notification. However, there are 3 reasons why organizations with a large install base of analog devices might resist the temptation to undertake a wholesale clear-out in favor of IP phones:

- In certain vertical markets with established facilities and with many analog phones already deployed (such as hospitality, education and government), the switch to IP phones could be very costly due to the infrastructure changes involved in such a migration.
- The added features and functionality offered by IP phones may not be relevant for sections of the organization's analog phone users.
- Other legacy analog communications devices may need to be integrated into the new infrastructure. Fax machines, elevator phone and alarm systems may still be critical to business operations and will need to be kept in place even when the bulk of the communications setup has moved over to IP.

Integrating Legacy Analog Phones into Microsoft Teams and Skype for Business UC Environments

As in any VoIP environment, the way to connect analog devices is through the use of a media gateway or analog telephony adapter (ATA) that converts the analog voice streams to IP packets and vice versa. **AudioCodes MediaPack 1xx and 2xx series ATAs** deliver seamless connectivity for analog devices in Microsoft UC environments and are certified for Direct Routing in Microsoft Teams. They enable organizations to maximize their investment in analog device deployments and maintain regulatory compliance, for instance, in manufacturing and production sites where emergency phones are required.

For more details about the MediaPack 1xx and 2xx series, visit the [AudioCodes website](#).



Cost-Effective UC Connectivity for Large Deployments of Analog Devices

Connecting large numbers of analog devices to Microsoft Teams and Skype for Business environments requires some special consideration. Analog gateways supporting 24 or even 48 ports are not uncommon but at a large enterprise location with potentially several hundred devices, it would be much more efficient to deploy a single, high-density platform to provide the necessary connectivity.

This is where a high-density analog media gateway comes into play. Such a device enables enterprises to migrate to IP-based communications without having to replace essential analog devices and make major infrastructure changes. Furthermore, by offering support for a large number of devices on a single platform, management and operations are made simpler.

AudioCodes MediaPack 1288 is a high-density analog gateway, perfectly suited for supporting institutions with large numbers of legacy analog phones looking to migrate to all-IP communications infrastructure. The MediaPack 1288 supports up to 288 analog ports in a single, compact 3U device. The MediaPack 1288 is a member of AudioCodes MediaPack family of analog gateways and telephony adapters. Based on AudioCodes' field-proven voice processing technology, the MediaPack gateways deliver high voice quality and enable seamless integration of legacy analog devices with virtually any SIP-based IP-PBX, softswitch or unified communications platform.

The MediaPack 1288 connects up to 288 analog devices seamlessly to Microsoft Teams and Skype for Business environments, enabling enterprises to benefit from the full UC experience while holding on to their critical legacy analog devices.

[Visit the AudioCodes website](#) to learn more about the **MediaPack 1288**.



AudioCodes One Voice for Microsoft 365

The MediaPack 1xx, 2xx and 1288 are part of AudioCodes' One Voice for Microsoft 365 offering of products, solutions and professional services for Microsoft unified communications environments, including Microsoft Teams and Skype for Business.

AudioCodes' One Voice for Microsoft 365 portfolio includes AudioCodes' Microsoft-qualified end-to-end voice elements, wide-ranging professional services and extensive expertise to enhance Microsoft Teams and Skype for Business voice implementations. These products and services are suitable for all Microsoft-approved unified communications architectures, including on-premises and Phone System.

Among the products included in the One Voice offering are:

- [Session border controllers \(SBCs\)](#) – for seamless connectivity with SIP trunks and IP-PBXs
- [Digital and analog media gateways](#) – for integration with legacy telephony equipment and PSTN
- [Room Experience suite](#) - designed to deliver a superior meeting room experience, including **Meeting Insights** meeting recording and productivity solution
- [IP phones](#) – offering ease of use, high voice quality and reliability
- [User Management Pack™ 365](#) - simplified user lifecycle management and onboarding automation for Microsoft Teams, Skype for Business, SharePoint and OneDrive across different deployment topologies including cloud, server, hosted or hybrid
- [Management tools](#) – enabling centralized management and monitoring of SIP-based voice networks

AudioCodes Live

AudioCodes' products and services are available via the AudioCodes Live subscription-based service. AudioCodes Live is designed to enable partners and service providers to diversify their cloud-based communications offerings with minimal upfront investment and a rapid time to market.



About AudioCodes

AudioCodes Ltd. (NASDAQ, TASE: AUDC) is a leading vendor of advanced voice networking and media processing solutions for the digital workplace. AudioCodes enables enterprises and service providers to build and operate all-IP voice networks for unified communications, contact centers, and hosted business services. AudioCodes offers a broad range of innovative products, solutions and services that are used by large multi-national enterprises and leading tier-1 operators around the world.

For more information on AudioCodes, visit <http://www.audiocodes.com>

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