



SIP Trunking

SIP OR PRI: WHICH IS RIGHT FOR YOUR BUSINESS?

OVERVIEW:

As businesses face unprecedented new challenges, technologies like SIP can help transition workforces to work from home easily, securely, and without significant costs.

If scaling your business is essential, then SIP is the clear winner for you. Don't take our word for it, though. Take a look at the difference between the two types of connections and decide for yourself which one works best with your budget and also provides the best customer experience.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) is a network technology used for real-time sessions that include voice, video, messaging, and mobile phone calling over LTE (VoLTE) applications. Each channel is a trunk, thus the name SIP Trunking, and its capacity is based on the size of your internet connection. All you need is a SIP device and an internet connection.

Primary Rate Interface (PRI) is a connection made through a physical line or circuit, a cable containing two pairs of copper wires. It has been in use since the 80s and is based on T-carrier (T1) transmission in the US, Canada, and Japan, while E1 is standard in Europe and Australia. Each T1 line has 23 bearer channels and one data channel. Expansion requires adding 23 new channels at a time. With SIP, you can add one trunk at a time, so you aren't paying for services not yet needed.

SIP has a ton of flexibility. It can be handed off to your PBX, to analog, or to your on-premise VoIP system.



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THE TABLE BELOW SHOWS THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS:

Feature	SIP Trunks	PRI
Max Number of Trunks (Calls)	No Limit (Limited only by the PBX)	23 Trunks (calls per PRI)
Independent DID Outage Forward	Each DID can be forwarded to a different number during an outage	Limited to 5 DID Numbers by most providers.
Auto Forward During Outage	Yes	No
Integrate with Cloud Services	Yes	No
Ring Multiple Sites same time	Yes	No
Trunk Growth Ability	Easily add trunks any time in any grouping.	More than 23 trunks requires additional PRI's
Share Trunks Across Sites	Yes	No
Audio Codec(s)	G.711, GSM	Same quality as G.711
Time to Scale	Same Day	Typically weeks
QoS (Quality of Service)	Based on bandwidth and managed by SBC, firewall, and switches.	Dedicated line for voice so QoS is not needed.
Points of Failure	Site Hardware, Internet Outage, Provider Outage.	Site hardware, Copper/Coax cable cuts, provider issues, signaling issues.