

Telecom Industry News

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In CSP News...

[Deutsche Telekom has launched the the first Global, Enterprise Network powered by the Next Generation Enterprise Network Alliance \(ngena\)](#), offering its corporate customers rapidly deployable network connections and services. All ngena partners share their networks and connect them to a global, highly standardized network

that is based on state-of-the-art technology that is managed by software. As such, multinational corporate customers can roll out corporate networks and data connections as virtual private networks much faster than before.



[SK Telecom's 5G self-driving car had a successful test run](#), traveling 26 kilometers in real traffic conditions at a speed of up to 80 kilometers. The vehicle demonstration took place on the Gyeongbu Expressway, the most heavily traveled expressway in Korea from Seoul Service Area to Suwon-Shingal Interchange. Its software has been designed to not exceed that speed in accordance to the government regulation on test-driving of autonomous vehicles. SK Telecom's Vehicle Tech Lab has been working closely with Seoul National University, Nvidia and LG Electronics to develop the self-driving technologies, such as AI, sensors, communication and route determination/tracing.

[BT announced the launch of BT Agile Connect](#), a new software-defined wide area network (SD-WAN) service created for large organizations seeking greater control and understanding of their infrastructure and traffic flows. Agile Connect is built on technologies from BT and Nuage Networks from Nokia, while benefiting from the security and resiliency of BT's global network infrastructure. Agile Connect equipment is currently live within the networks of several large global organizations and is now ready for volume deployment for existing and new customers.

In other BT news, [its EE subsidiary announced that it has signed a new renewable electricity deal](#) with energy supplier npower — getting BT closer to its goal to purchase 100 percent renewable electricity for its operations by 2020, where markets allow. Last year, BT sourced 82 percent of its electricity renewably. The deal, which runs until 2021, will see electricity generated from green sources such as wind farms and solar plants power EE's operations, including over 500 retail locations. As part of the contract, npower will supply EE with 680 gigawatts of renewable electricity all of which will be certified to provide assurance of its renewable status. BT, including EE, recently announced its ambition to reduce its carbon emissions by 87% by 2030, setting itself on a path to help limit global warming to 1.5°C by the end of the century.

[Telenor Group and Cisco announced their support to launch "WorkingGroupTwo" \(WG2\)](#), a new business entity that will offer mobile operators a cloud solutions platform designed to radically increase product innovation and reduce time to the market. The launch of the WG2 platform will help accelerate the pace of product innovation in order to stay relevant for customers. Using the platform, mobile operators will be able to quickly launch new services across IoT and other industry verticals, and better position their business to sell to enterprise customers.

[Orange Polska has chosen Comarch](#) as its OSS software vendor to support Orange's OSS4TTH project. Comarch will be responsible for the migration of Orange's physical, logical and service inventory data. It will also facilitate the integration of the solution with Orange's BSS domain,

network infrastructure and service delivery platforms via a managed API in line with the TM Forum's Open API recommendation. The project will streamline the technology tools that support Orange's FTTH project, transforming and automating its network management and service delivery processes. The business case for the project assumes reduction of TCO in the OSS domain. It will also enable improvement of business operations KPIs and will allow for increased flexibility in the deployment of new services, technologies and processes in the GPON access network domain.

[Orange and EBV Elektronik will combine strengths to launch "Live Booster"](#), a program to ease and accelerate adoption of cellular connectivity for object makers. Orange will deliver a range of modules with integrated prepaid connectivity, available through a single distributor to simplify path to market for object makers. The program will deliver a range of modules pre-packaged with cellular connectivity and distributed through a single global distributor to address the current complexity of integrating cellular connectivity facing object makers. The program is part of Orange's Essentials2020 strategy to diversify and succeed in the field of connected objects.

Mobile and Wireless News

[Ericsson introduced AIR 3246 for Massive Multiple Input Multiple Output \(Massive MIMO\)](#), designed to complement Ericsson's global 5G radio offering. AIR 3246 supports both 4G/LTE and 5G NR (New Radio) technologies and is Ericsson's first 5G NR radio for frequency division duplex (FDD). This launch will enable operators — especially those in metropolitan areas — to bring 5G to subscribers using today's mid-band spectrum and boost capacity in their LTE networks. The platform includes three previously launched time division duplex (TDD) radios capable of supporting 5G and Massive MIMO, as well as core, transport, digital support and security elements. The company has the most complete 5G portfolio in the industry, serving the needs of the first movers in 5G.

[Kerlink announced its expansion into India](#) with the creation of a subsidiary that will coordinate the company's partnership with Tata Communications and the emerging IoT ecosystem to deploy the world's largest LoRaWAN™ network. The rollout, which will bring a cost-and-energy-efficient IoT network to more than 400 million people in nearly 2,000 cities and communities across India, will include more than 10,000 Kerlink Wirnet™ iBTS Compact stations. The subsidiary, Kerlink IoT Solutions India Private Ltd., is based in Chennai, India.

[Openwave Mobility announced that it has deployed an NFV-based mobile data traffic management solution for Zain](#) Saudi Arabia (Zain KSA). The virtualized solution enables Zain KSA to manage and monetize encrypted data including streaming videos for an enhanced QoE. Encrypted data from OTTs is "darkening" mobile networks. This is preventing operators from being able to gain insight on network traffic to manage QoE. In some parts of the world, over 60 percent of data is encrypted and this could reach 80% before the end of 2017. The solution accommodates the sharp rise in HTTPS and QUIC traffic, and eases congestion for an improved QoE.

AI/Robotics and Digital Transformation News

[Globetouch and CloudMinds Technology announced a partnership](#) to provide connectivity for robots and other artificial intelligence (AI) initiatives. Together, the companies will develop cloud-based applications and platforms designed to control robots with rapid motions to further the development of autonomous driving, factory robots, shipping port sorting robots and other AI initiatives.

[Microsoft welcomed more than 25,000 business customers to its annual IT event](#), Microsoft Ignite in Orlando, FL, where the company showcased how it is infusing cloud, AI and mixed reality across its products to help customers visualize and create the future of business. Microsoft also shared how quantum computers could help solve some of our planet's biggest challenges. News spanned Microsoft's commercial businesses — Office 365, Windows 10, Microsoft Azure, Dynamics 365 and

Microsoft AI — with a focus on how the company is empowering people and organizations to succeed in a rapidly evolving workplace, and enabling customers to harness data, AI, hybrid and cloud technologies to evolve business process and innovate for the future.

Standards News

[ETSI will host an NFV Plugtest](#) for further multi-party interoperability testing. The event will be held at its location in Sophia Antipolis, France, January 15-19. Representatives from vendors and several open source communities will evaluate the level of interoperability of their implementations and confirm that they adhere to the NFV specifications defined by ETSI (including ETSI Open Source MANO, OPNFV, OpenStack and Open Baton).

DevOps News

[Espial announced the introduction of its fifth-generation RDK-based STB client solution.](#) The Espial G4 STB Client is designed to enable DevOps and harness ongoing RDK innovations. The RDK-based STB streamlines and automates development in an attempt to improve time to market, accelerate feature velocity, and support the richest video service capabilities on the market, including OTT apps. This approach allows operators to seamlessly incorporate the Espial G4 STB Client into their DevOps model to accelerate service velocity with continuous integration.

Research News

With its new study, [Mobile Roaming: Regulations, Opportunities & Emerging Sectors 2017-2022](#), [Juniper Research](#) found that operator revenues from international mobile data roaming will grow at an average annual growth rate of 8 percent, reaching \$31bn in 2022, compared to \$21bn in 2017. This is despite a global fall in data revenues by 11 percent in 2017 – including a 46 percent decline in Western Europe as a result of operators increasingly offering RLAH (Roam Like at Home) packages around the world. RLAH enables users to use their monthly voice, data, and messaging allowance while roaming without incurring additional charges. The study also found that the introduction of unlimited roaming data plans in the US, Europe, and Far East will significantly drive usage by mobile roamers, leading to average data usage exceeding 1GB by the end of 2020.

Big Data News

[NETSCOUT launched its nGenius Business Analytics solution](#) for in-depth subscriber analytics powered by Adaptive Service Intelligence (ASI) smart data technology, which delivers insights to mobile, fixed, and multiple system cable operators. The solution is designed to help operators dynamically respond to customer needs and to identify new opportunities in their business. In addition, nGenius Business Analytics provides open industry standard mechanisms to ensure that customers can easily export NETSCOUT's smart data into their data lakes and to third-party analytic platforms.

[Huawei and Brocade jointly released a high-performance active-active storage network solution](#) that runs on Huawei OceanStor Dorado V3 AFAs designed for a solid state disk (SSD). Incorporating Brocade Gen-6 fiber switches with new-generation 32G ASIC processing chips means the solution offers high bandwidth and low latency to accelerate data analysis for enterprises of all types. Accelerating storage and network resources before bottlenecks appear in the storage and network is critical to users being able to quickly obtain analysis reports. Another key consideration for administrators at enterprise data centers is implementing a reliable offsite or intra-city DR scheme for critical data.

[Nokia has expanded its private wireless network portfolio](#) of access and core technologies to support the digital transformation of industries and enterprises. New small cells, Wi-Fi® connectivity, Multi-access Edge Computing and Cloud Packet Core capabilities will allow

businesses to manage and operate their own private wireless networks as they transform operations. New features on the industry-first Nokia Flexi Zone Citizen Band Radio Service (CBRS) small cells will allow companies in the United States to leverage 3.5 GHz CBRS shared spectrum as it becomes available. These features offer compatibility with Spectrum Access Servers, which monitor and assign usage of available CBRS shared spectrum to ensure enterprises are using available spectrum in compliance with FCC regulations.

Network Management News

[Uniserver is partnering with Cisco](#) to help drive its network innovation to achieve greater programmability and accelerate provisioning for its data center network fabric. Uniserver has deployed Cisco Virtual Topology System (VTS), a standards-based, open software-overlay management and provisioning system that will bring sophisticated network provisioning for virtual and physical infrastructures. This capability has enabled Uniserver to reduce the time to deploy new services with high scalability and flexibility.

Regulatory News

[The First Responder Network Authority \(FirstNet\) delivered official notice of State Plans to governors](#). Governors will have 90 days — until Dec. 28 2017 — to decide whether to accept the FirstNet/AT&T plan for deploying the nationwide public safety broadband network or initiate the process to have the state take on the responsibility for deploying its own Radio Access Network (RAN) that must be interoperable with the FirstNet network. This key milestone follows delivery of updated State Plans to the states and territories last week. FirstNet and AT&T initially [released build-out plans](#) in June 2017 — 3 months ahead of schedule — and have since consulted with the states, territories, and the District of Columbia to refine those plans based on the feedback received. So far, 24 governors have opted in.

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