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Experience, Learn, and Connect at Network X

By: [Evan Kirchheimer](#)

Infrastructure divestiture. Public cloud. Digital transformation. Changing regulation. 6G. Enterprise. The splinternet. Questions are swirling the minds of service provider industry leaders more than ever. What does the successful service provider of the future look like? Is it a national utility, an agile partner in B2B, an owner of a significant network infrastructure, or a brand delivering a distinct customer experience? Are your suppliers your future competitors?



With some service providers re-fashioning themselves as techcos, and others leaning further into their network heritage, what's clear is that market and technology development across fixed, mobile and cloud are converging to enable several strategic options for the service providers of today. There will never be one right answer to the questions above—but answering them in a way that is relevant to your stakeholders and customers requires an unprecedented amount of emerging tech and service awareness.

Introducing Network X

As the industry undergoes a dramatic transformation, Informa's Network X event will bring together the entire ecosystem of cloud providers, fixed and mobile network vendors, software players and integrators to enable telcos to make the most educated and informed choices. Taking place from October 18 to 20 in Amsterdam, the event's agenda has been carefully curated by the industry, for the industry, to spark powerful debates and connections. Network X is the new home of the long-running 5G World and Broadband World Forum, which will be joined by the newly launched Telco Cloud, designed to cover the full spectrum of the telecom ecosystem.

“Whilst competition is vital for the sector, so is collaboration and knowledge sharing so I’m keen to hear what my industry peers and other commentators have to say on these crucial issues – all of which will undoubtedly shape the market going forward and separate the winners from the losers.”
Jarlath Finnegan, CEO, Giganet and speaker at Network X

As the industry hub event for service providers, Network X will engage and connect all communications industry stakeholders, so that telcos will discuss, debate, and get ready to face the challenges and opportunities of the future network.

The future network

Future networks won’t only be faster with better latency performance, but also promise to be cheaper to run, more intelligent, automated and offer new ways to deliver services out of the cloud. The future network will be:

Increasingly converged

The convergence and development of fixed line and mobile infrastructures is advancing, whether that’s from copper to fiber or from 4G to 5G. Service providers need to understand how new open technologies and system architectures can help reduce the total cost of ownership (TCO) and introduce new network features.

Light physical infrastructure, cloud-heavy software architecture

Telcos have begun to move core network functions to cloud-first infrastructures, where operators can more simply operate their networks, therefore service providers are actively exploring more flexible virtual infrastructure, which can help them drive greater automation, enhance customer experience, and reduce their total cost of ownership (TCO).

New (extended) services

The creation of new software platforms will extend the telco service portfolio. Many telcos will work with the hyperscalers and system integrators to sell and manage new industrial applications that take advantage of ultra-low network latencies and the application of machine learning at the network edge.

Supported by leading telco brands including Light Reading and Telecoms.com, the agenda has also been shaped by the Network X Founding Partners and Omdia, the home of unparalleled, world-class telecoms research and consultancy. From research the analysts at Omdia have undertaken, telcos report that they are:

- Increasingly making shared infrastructure decisions across fixed and mobile domains
- Planning on migrating workload to the cloud in the next three years
- Seeing cloud as being the most important technology in improving agility, reducing cost and reducing TCO of the network (over a third of telcos surveyed)

- Evaluating open architectures in their vendor selection
- Seeing hyperscalers as the most important partners (52 percent of telcos surveyed)

Meet the Founding Partners

The Network X Founding Partners Committee, listed below, has provided members' expertise to help shape the agenda that is aimed at all levels of the operators—executives, influencers and technologists, enabling them to take away actionable insights, approaches, and best practices.

- **Antoinetta Mastroianni**, Chief Digital & IT Officer, Proximus
- **Babak Fouladi**, CTO, KPN
- **Howard Watson**, CTO, BT
- **Victor Bahl**, CTO, Microsoft Azure
- **Stafaan Vanhastel**, CTO, Fixed Networks, Nokia
- **Adrian Scrase**, CTO, ETSI
- **Yusurf Kirac**, CTO, Turk Telecom

What's on at Network X?

There is a huge amount of content on offer at Network X, which is categorized into four main themes:

Broadband World Forum will comprehensively cover the strategic opportunities for service providers across next-gen PON rollout, services, in-home connectivity, the connected smart home and more.

5G World includes end-to-end coverage of the 5G-enabled opportunities, which will bring you insights, case studies, standards and the experts who are involved in these new business models and approaches on the day-to-day.

"I believe in the power of partnerships to explore this potential to the fullest, and this is where Network X can play a critical role."

Antoinetta Mastroianni, Chief Digital & IT Officer, Proximus

Telco Cloud, covering cost savings, network agility, and new services for revenue generation, which directly correlates with the 5G and fiber service opportunities for service providers, but can only be realized with financing, multivendor interoperability and by plugging the skills shortage.

Universal Content, which will focus on the major themes reshaping our industry, from the overarching technology trends and the impact on telcos to horizontal services and technologies that cut across wireless and wireline.

The agenda

Network X has a packed three-day agenda with formats and sessions to suit every level across Broadband World Forum, 5G World, Telco Cloud and the universal Network X themes.

There are plenty of other activities and formats to keep you entertained, designed to facilitate learning and put you in the room with decision-makers you want to network with as well as a full social agenda for you to get involved in around the conference.

In addition, we also have the Network X Awards, recognizing achievement, innovation, and excellence across the telco industry! Taking place at the historic Zuiderkerk, this glamorous setting is black-tie only and with a sit-down meal and drinks.

Join us at Network X!

Network X offers the chance to experience, learn and connect with the telco industry. The conference program combines three events under one roof, as well as overarching telco super themes. With over 350 expert speakers and 300 exhibitors, you will be alongside telco and tech giants, start-ups, and innovators. There are multiple pass types to suit all attendees and we're offering 15 percent off to *Pipeline* readers. [Visit our website](#) for more information on the event and to book your pass today using discount code PIPE15. See you in Amsterdam!