MEC: *U.S. Enterprise Spending on the New Small Cell Market, 2017-2026*

Market Study
Fourth Quarter, 2017

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A Market Study

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*iG*R
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Abstract

Multi-access edge computing (MEC) emerged on the wireless industry stage several years ago. It has the potential to be as disruptive a technology as anything that is being discussed today – 5G New Radio, NFV/SDN, C-RAN, etc. In fact, MEC is quite likely to help realize the promise of 5G.

Simply put, MEC marries a radio with a data center. Today, that radio is LTE, but it could also be Wi-Fi, 5G New Radio or some combination of them all. The server component is a secure, virtualized platform which network owners can "open up" to third parties – content providers, application developers, etc.

In so doing, the network owner allows content to be placed at the "edge" – i.e., very close to the end consumer of that content. That content can be anything – streaming video, augmented reality, location-based services, connected vehicle, Internet of Things (IoT) applications.

By putting content and applications at the edge, the network owner can realize operational and cost efficiencies while introducing new services, reducing network latency and, ultimately, improving the end consumer's quality of experience.

In this report, *iG*R models enterprise spending on MEC-based solutions for the U.S. market.

Key questions addressed in this market study include:

- What is MEC?
- How does MEC work?
- How does MEC relate to other edge computing initiatives, such as OpenFog, CORD Project, Open Edge Computing (OEC), Open Compute, and EdgeX Foundry?
- What can be done with MEC?
- What are some of the perceived benefits and issues related to MEC?
- What are some of the perceived negatives and issues related to indoor small cells?
- What are the key drivers for implementing MEC?
- How much enterprise spending is likely to occur on MEC-based solutions?

Who should read this report?

- Mobile operators
- Infrastructure OEMs
- Computing infrastructure OEMs
- Small cell product and solution vendors
- Backhaul service providers and equipment OEMs
- Financial analysts and investors.

MEC: *Western European Enterprise Spending on the New Small Cell Market, 2017-2026*

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