

Software Defined Networks: Impact on Mobile Backhaul

Market Brief
Fourth Quarter, 2012





Software Defined Networks: Impact on Mobile Backhaul

A Market Brief

Published Fourth Quarter, 2012

Version 1.0

Report Number: 4Q2012-08

iGR

12400 W. Hwy 71

Suite 350 PMB 341

Austin TX 78738

Table of Contents

Abstract	1
Executive Summary	2
Figure A: SDN Strengths & Weaknesses.....	2
Methodology	4
Software Defined Networks	5
What are SDNs?	5
Figure 1: High Level View of SDNs	6
Standards and SDN	6
Who are the Players in SDNs?	8
Table 1: Key OEMs in SDNs	8
What is the Current Status of SDN and MBH?	10
What is the Impact of SDN on Current MBH?	10
What are the strengths and weaknesses for SDN and MBH?	12
Figure 2: SDNs SWOT Analysis	12
What is the Outlook for SDNs?	13
Outlook for Next 12 to 24 Months	13
Outlook for Next 24 to 48 Months	13
Definitions	14
General.....	14
Device Types.....	14
Services	15
Network Technology.....	16
About IGR	20
Disclaimer.....	20

Quoting information from an iGillottResearch publication: external — any iGillottResearch information that is to be used in press releases, sales presentations, marketing materials, advertising, or promotional materials requires prior written approval from iGillottResearch. iGillottResearch reserves the right to deny approval of external usage for any reason. Internal-quoting individual sentences and paragraphs for use in your company's internal communications activities does not require permission from iGillottResearch. The use of large portions or the reproduction of any iGillottResearch document in its entirety does require prior written approval and may have some financial implications.

Copyright © 2012 iGillottResearch, Inc. Reproduction is forbidden unless authorized.

FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT IAIN GILLOTT (512) 263-5682.

Abstract

This report provides an introduction to software defined networks (SDN) and their potential impact on mobile backhaul. SDNs represent a transition away from legacy distributed protocols and fixed networks to a network where resources are centrally controlled and transport is allocated across a number of viable alternative networks. The SDN replaces traditional networks that have many disparate types of network elements and protocols that are very challenging to manage.

Key questions addressed:

- What are Software Defined Networks?
- How did SDNs originate?
- Why are mobile operators interested in SDNs?
- What are the benefits of SDNs?
- What are some of the challenges surrounding the implementation of SDNs?
- Who are the major SDNs players?
- What is the prognosis for SDNs adoption?

Who should read this report?

- Mobile operators
- Mobile infrastructure OEMs
- SDN solution vendors
- Mobile backhaul solution providers
- Financial analysts and investors.