

The Virtual Networks Group

A reality check for SDN in progress towards 5G network virtualisation

8th September 2020

This SIG is championed by **Julie Bradford** of **Real Wireless**, **Mark England** of **Cambridge Consultants**, **Andrew Palmer** of **CGI** and **Justin Paul** of **Ericsson Digital Services**

AGENDA

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- 15:00** Introduction to CW, UK5G & Virtual Networks Group, **Justin Paul, Virtual Networks SIG Champion**
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- 15:10** **Software Defined Networking (SDN) overview**
Amit Ghadge, Director Product Manager, **Parallel Wireless**
Amit will provide a short overview of SDN. What is SDN? What are its advantages? And what are its use cases?
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- Session chaired by SIG champion, Julie Bradford, Real Wireless**
- 15:15** **The journey to becoming a software defined telco**
Fahim Sabir, Director Architecture & Development, Network On Demand, **Colt Technology Services**
This talk will look at Colt's journey to now in introducing and harnessing the value of Software-Defined Network technologies and what we've learnt along the way, as well as how we plan to evolve.
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- 15:30** **SDN/VNF in the 'Real World'**
Oliver Cantor, Associate Director – Verizon Global Products, **Verizon Business Group**
Verizon have invested heavily over the last 5+ years in SDN/NFV technologies and implemented these services for many of the largest global companies in the world. But what is the reality at ground level? This talk will look at some real-world challenges with SDN/NFV such as: is there one single Orchestration device/platform out there? Why are there so many SDWAN vendors? Does the holy grail of 'Zero-Touch Provisioning' really exist? and many more...
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- 15:45** **Who cares about virtual networks?**
Matt Pooley, Practice Lead – Virtualisation, **STL Partners**
Network operators are deploying SDN, as well as other telco cloud tech: NFV, automation, and so on. But, to date, we have seen little of the agility, flexibility and efficiency that virtualisation promised. Some are asking "who cares?" We will explore why SDN and telco cloud still matter, why they haven't delivered and what needs to change. And – with operators investing heavily in 5G – why now is the time to act.
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- 16:00** Panel session with all speakers chaired by **SIG champion, Julie Bradford, Real Wireless**
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- 16:15** **Event wrap up and networking in Remo**
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- 16:30** **Event closes**
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With the permission of the speakers, presentations will be loaded to the CW website the week following the event

Profile of organisers

Cambridge Wireless (CW)

CW is the leading international community for companies involved in the research, development and application of wireless and mobile, internet, semiconductor and software technologies. With over 400 members from major network operators and device manufacturers to innovative start-ups and universities, CW stimulates debate and collaboration, harnesses and shares knowledge, and helps to build connections between academia and industry. CW's 19 Special Interest Groups (SIGs) provide its members with a dynamic forum where they can network with their peers, track the latest technology trends and business developments and position their organisations in key market sectors. CW also organises major conferences and start-up competitions along with other high-quality industry networking events and dinners. With headquarters at the heart of Cambridge, UK, CW partners with other

international industry clusters and organisations to extend its reach and remain at the forefront of global developments and business opportunities. cambridgewireless.co.uk

UK5G

UK5G is the new national innovation network dedicated to the promotion of research, collaboration and the commercial application of 5G in the UK. UK5G is a 'network of networks' to facilitate and encourage the engagement and coordination of organisations working on 5G activities across the UK. It will enhance links between ongoing research and development and other activities being undertaken by organisations across telecoms and other sectors, as well as the testbeds and trials that will be funded through the UK Government's 5G Testbeds and Trials Programme. It will facilitate the joining up of businesses, large and small, academic institutions and the public sector throughout the UK. UK5G is independent and impartial. A senior national advisory board will advise the Government's 5G Testbeds and Trials Programme, providing expert feedback from industry, identifying their priorities and advising on future areas of focus. UK5G will be a focal point for international engagement into the UK's 5G eco-system - encouraging international participation and investment. uk5g.org

Profile of SIG Champions

Julie Bradford, Managing Consultant, Real Wireless

Julie Bradford received her 1st class MEng degree in Electronic Engineering with Business Management from the University of York UK, 2002, and a Postgraduate Certificate in Business Management with a distinction from Bath University UK. She works at Real Wireless in techno-economic analysis to quantify coverage, capacity and user experience in wireless networks. Most recently Julie has been part of the Real Wireless team providing the commercial and socio-economic assessment of 5G network architectures within the European Commission 5G NORMA and 5G MoNArch projects. Previously, she was Communications Engineer at QinetiQ UK, consultant at PA Consulting UK, and Senior Systems Engineer for Airvana UK. real-wireless.com

Mark England, Associate Director, Cambridge Consultants

Mark England has spent three decades architecting, designing, and implementing a wide variety of wired and wireless communications products, services, systems and protocols; from short range point to point systems to those which operate on a global scale. Mark joined Cambridge Consultants in 2000, and for the past 17 years he has been providing leading edge design, development and consultancy services to a wide range of clients.

cambridgeconsultants.com

Andrew Palmer, Consulting Director, CGI

Andrew has more than 30 years of experience in IT, Telecoms and TV and Media, having worked in various roles for IBM, AT&T, Ericsson, Motorola and Arris. Andrew's present role is to leverage existing CGI capabilities that match the needs of our clients in the Telecoms sector, as well as building new capabilities that will support the emerging and changing needs of our client base. Andrew has proven experience in developing and delivering complex SI and Services solutions that meet both business and technology needs. Andrew has co-authored "UK Telecoms For Dummies", an essential guide to the complicated UK Telecoms sector as well as articles for publications such as the Cambridge Wireless Journal including "How do we build the new world of 5g?". He frequently speaks at conferences and provides media commentary on industry topics like 5G, IoT and Smart Cities, as well as being a member of the Digital Policy Alliance's Smart Society Working Group, techUK Spectrum Policy Forum and the Cambridge Wireless Virtual Networks Special Interest Group. cgi-group.co.uk

Justin Paul, Senior Marketing Manager, Ericsson Digital Services

Justin has over twenty years' experience in technology marketing in the telecoms and software industries. Prior to joining Ericsson Digital Services he worked for Zeetta Networks, Huawei Technologies in NFV/SDN Marketing and Amdocs where he led the launch of their NFV Portfolio which now forms a major part of the ONAP (Open Network Automation Platform). During his career he has been responsible for the launch and go-to-market for a number of leading-edge technologies including 3G, IPTV, LTE, NFV and 5G. A TED-trained conference speaker he has presented at a number of major international conferences including Layer 123 SDN and Openflow Congress, LTE Asia and SCTE. A CIM qualified marketer he runs a Bristol-based Digital Marketing knowledge-sharing group. www.ericsson.com

Profile of speakers

Oliver Cantor, Associate Director – Verizon Global Products, Verizon Business Group

Oliver Cantor has worked for Verizon for more than 21 years and currently works across Verizon's Enterprise portfolio (LTE/5G, Network/SDN, Security/Zero-Trust & Advanced Comms). Today he concentrates on advising

Enterprise customers on Digital Transformation, Application Enablement and Agile working practices. Oliver speaks for Verizon at industry events on Digital Transformation and Product Strategy. Previous positions at Verizon include Head of Engineering & Planning for Voice/VoIP networks in Europe, and Head of Access Products – Verizon Business Group. Recent examples of industry events where Oliver has spoken include TM-Forum, SDN World Congress, DevOps Enterprise Summit, ONUG (Open Networking User Group). Before joining Verizon, Oliver worked for Ericsson as a Group Manager in software development, designing, coding and testing digital telephone exchange systems.

Amit Ghadge, Director Product Manager, Parallel Wireless

A Telecom industry professional with 20+ years of experience in various domains like Telecom and Datacom domain, and in different roles like Engineering, Product Management and Product Owner. Amit has worked with well-known Telecom/Datacom vendors like Parallel Wireless, Cisco, Starent, Huawei & CoSystems. As a Product Manager Amit has managed 5G Packet Core Solution, OpenRAN RIC, CUPS Gateway, LTE EPC Gateway products like GGSN, PGW, SGW & SAE-GW. He has witnessed several different evolutions of Mobile Packet Core solution and has several US Patents in Mobility.

Matt Pooley, Practice Lead – Virtualisation, STL Partners

Matt leads STL Partners' consulting and research activity around network virtualisation. He works with leading operators and tech companies across the globe on understanding the telco cloud opportunity, strategies and routes to deployment. His particular interest is how NFV has delivered (or not!) on its grand promises. Matt speaks regularly at industry events, and has authored research on topics as broad as innovation, network experience, and SD-WAN deployment models.

Fahim Sabir, Director Architecture and Development, Network On Demand, Colt Technology Services Ltd

Fahim Sabir is responsible for Colt's delivery of next generation connectivity service platforms, specializing in SDN and NFV technologies. He has almost two decades experience in telecoms, managed IT and network services, and cloud computing, focusing on the architecture, development and operation of complex platforms, with a keen interest in orchestration, automation and interoperability.