

Broadband Forum unveils new ground-breaking CloudCO capabilities

Leading service providers and vendors demonstrated support of richer and more effective service offerings

Fremont, California, 28 October 2021 - A cutting-edge <u>Broadband Forum demonstration</u> has showcased how operators can utilize industry standards and existing investments to achieve a virtualized infrastructure that enables zero touch provisioning, service activation and session steering within a multi-vendor and white box environment.

Bringing together leading service providers, vendors and interoperability labs at this year's Broadband World Forum, the Cloud Central Office (CloudCO) project enables dynamic use cases, including multi-vendor service creation and activation and a truly virtualized disaggregated multi-vendor network.

In a world-first, the demonstration also presented a new gaming session steering application, demonstrating how operators can use CloudCO to detect a change in user traffic type, check network conditions against defined service levels and reprogram session steering to meet them and preserve the user experience.

"Dynamic session steering brings numerous benefits to a service provider's business, allowing them to provide new and competitive service offerings with assurance capabilities that can seamlessly act on the network in a timely manner to ensure the assurance objectives of the service being offered," said Tim Carey, Chairman of the Broadband Forum's OB-BAA open source project.

The CloudCO project recasts the Central Office hosting infrastructure to utilize Software Defined Networking (SDN), Network Functions Virtualization (NFV) and cloud technologies. Key components include disaggregated control plane functions in the Access and Edge networks, dynamic session steering as well as subscriber session steering, a Broadband Access Abstraction (BAA) layer with disaggregated control and management plane functions. The flagship architecture brings network and services agility, automation and orchestration and a unified vision of interoperable and streamlined service deployments.



Supporting this year's CloudCO demonstration was consulting and system integrator Reply, and service providers BT, TIM, and Vodafone, alongside engineers from Altice Labs, Capgemini Engineering, Broadcom, EANTC, Nokia, ufiSpace, VMware, and the University of New Hampshire – InterOperability Laboratory (UNH-IOL).

"This year's CloudCO demonstration continues to highlight the great work across many of the Broadband Forum working groups, including Access and Transport Architecture (ATA) as well as the formidable work within the OB-BAA," said Craig Thomas, Vice President Strategic Marketing and Business Development at Broadband Forum. "The demonstration emphasizes the importance of a truly virtualized disaggregated multi-vendor network, and how operators can take full advantage of all of the open source benefits by leveraging specification standards."

If you are interested in a private live virtual demonstration of the Broadband Forum CloudCO and OB-BAA demo, please contact the BBF on info@broadband-forum.org.

For more information about Broadband Forum, please see: https://www.broadband-forum.org/.

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About the Broadband Forum

Broadband Forum is the communications industry's leading open standards development organization focused on accelerating broadband innovation, standards, and ecosystem development. Our members' passion – delivering on the promise of broadband by enabling smarter and faster broadband networks and a thriving broadband ecosystem.

Broadband Forum is an open, non-profit industry organization composed of the industry's leading broadband operators, vendors, thought leaders who are shaping the future of broadband, and observers who closely track our progress. Its work to date has been the foundation for broadband's global proliferation and innovation. For example, the Forum's flagship TR-069 CPE WAN Management Protocol has nearly 1 billion installations worldwide.

Broadband Forum's projects span across 5G, Connected Home, Cloud, and Access. Its working groups collaborate to define best practices for global networks, enable new revenue-generating service and content delivery, establish technology migration strategies, and engineer critical device, service & development management tools in the home and business IP networking infrastructure. We develop multi-service broadband packet networking specifications addressing architecture, device and service management, software data models, interoperability and certification in the broadband market.

Our free technical reports and white papers can be found at https://www.broadband-forum.org/.

