

About this report

This report addresses the critical issue, for mobile network operators (MNOs), of whether Open RAN can deliver total cost of ownership (TCO) savings compared to integrated RAN, or whether it needs to be justified in other ways, or delayed until cost implications are clearer.

The report outlines an approach to TCO assessment based on a unique model and provides recommendations for operators about realistic TCO efficiency targets and enablers. This report also provides recommendations for vendors about building MNO confidence.

The report is based on:

- an Open RAN TCO model developed by Analysys Mason
- a survey of 75 operators interested in deploying Open RAN
- interviews with vendors, early adopters and alliances.

The model and survey give the report a high value and high level of unique analysis about a topic where many clients are searching for answers.



KEY QUESTIONS ANSWERED IN THIS REPORT

- Can Open RAN reduce capex and opex, compared to integrated RAN, in the first 3 years of roll-out, or will TCO gains be longer term?
- What are the main enablers of a near-term TCO reduction case?
- How far are these enablers in place, and what does the industry still need to do to deliver them and build MNO confidence?
- What aspects of Open RAN will be the most challenging in TCO terms? Is it realistic to deploy Open RAN, and make near-term savings, even if aspects such as mMIMO remain expensive in the first phase?



WHO SHOULD READ THIS REPORT

- Executives in CTO and CFO offices within operators considering Open RAN deployments.
- Network/RAN strategy teams that are evaluating Open RAN TCO, deployment models and architecture.
- Decision makers and business strategists within Open RAN and network cloud software and hardware vendors.
- Investors and financial institutions looking to understand the financial impact of Open RAN.







Executive summary

Research overview

Operators are cautious about Open RAN TCO benefits

TCO reduction is achievable with certain enablers in place

Industry must address TCO challenges in extreme architectures

Appendix

Questions asked for this report

About the authors and Analysys Mason



Our research programmes



Consumer Services

Fixed Broadband Services
Mobile Services
Fixed-Mobile Convergence
Smart Devices
Future Comms
Video, Gaming and Entertainment



Networks

Next-Generation Wireless Networks Wireless Infrastructure Strategies Fibre Infrastructure Strategies Operator Investment Strategies Telecoms Strategy and Forecast Transport Network Strategies



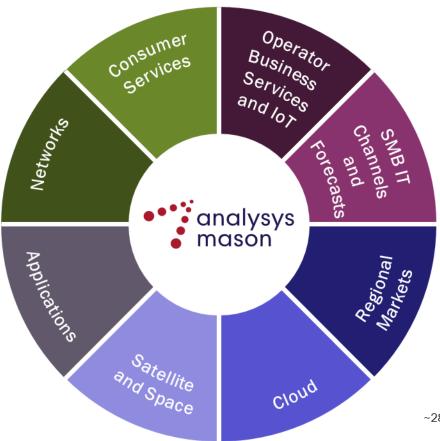
Applications

Network Automation and Orchestration Customer Engagement Monetisation Platforms Digital Experience Automated Assurance Service Design and Orchestration Telecoms Software Market Shares



Satellite and Space

Satellite Communications
Space Applications and Infrastructure





Operator Business Services and IoT



Enterprise Services SME Services IoT Services Private Networks

SMB IT Channels and Forecasts



Cyber Security SMB Technology Forecaster

Regional Markets



Global Telecoms Data and
Financial KPIs
Americas
Asia-Pacific
Middle East and Africa
European Core Forecasts
European Telecoms Market Matrix
European Country Reports

Cloud



Cloud Infrastructure Strategies
Data, AI and Development Platforms
Edge and Media Platforms
Multi-Cloud Networking

DataHub



~2800 forecast and 280+ historical metrics Regional results and worldwide totals Operator historical data



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