Key TCO considerations for economically viable Open RAN

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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.

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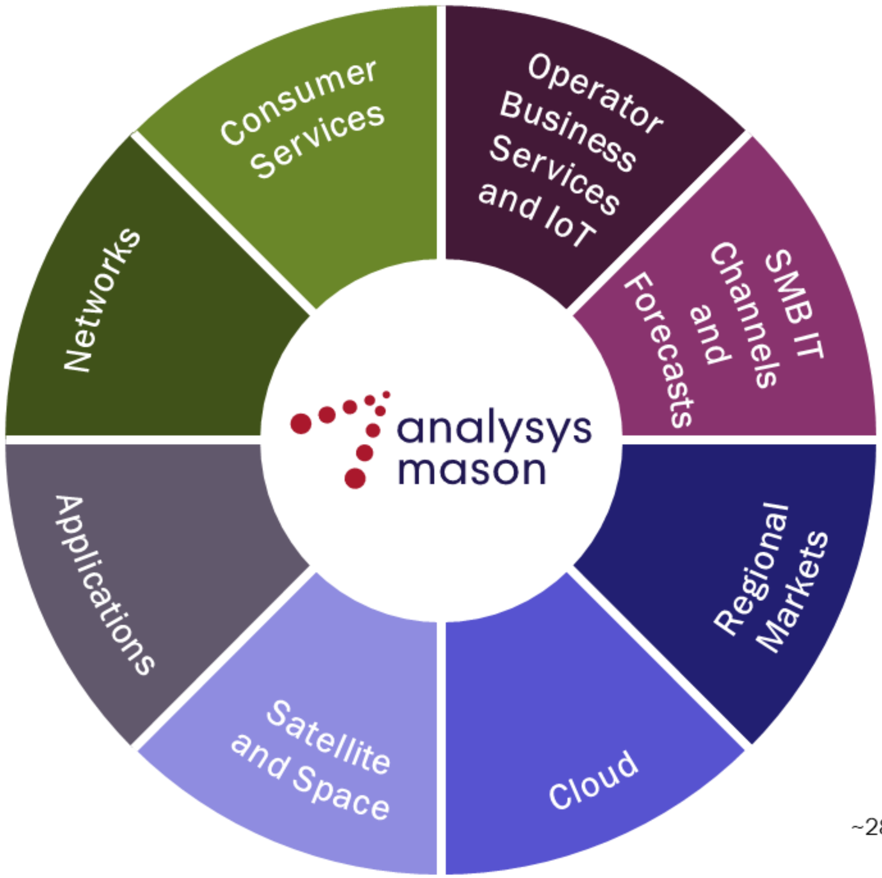

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