LF
NETWORKING

LFN Developer & Testing Forum
ONAP – the Next 5 Years

Transforming ONAP

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ONAP was created over 5 years ago, with a very ambitious vision to create a commonly acknowledged open-source automation platform for the telecom community:

- Initiated and endorsed by many CSPs
- Gained rapid support from vendors

Although not realizing the full vision, ONAP has accomplished a lot:

- First open-source community in Telecom Management
- Operators and Vendors working together
- Delivering valuable software to the community
- Providing an environment for collaboration on use cases
- Establishing a reference architecture for modern management systems and providing a vocabulary for such systems

However, we believe that ONAP is not adopting rapidly enough to changing circumstances.
ONAP Overview – Three Aspects

**Functional Architecture**
- Overall Automation Platform architecture
- Expectations of functional and non-functional scope
- Can be viewed as requirements

**Technology Source/Realization**
- Open-source code
- Environment for Use Case collaboration

**Component & Interface Definition**
- Defines the components in terms of interfaces and capabilities (capabilities often expressed in code).
- Component implementation may or may not use the open-source technology.
ONAP Challenges

— The value is in the components that ONAP produces, not so much in the “Platform”
  — Most users take components from ONAP and integrate it with their own platform
  — The new Nephio project seems to continue this component trend

— ONAP is structured to deliver a platform
  — Puts a heavy burden on the community and require wide involvement from LF staff
  — Results in complex/sizeable project management and long lead-times and a perception of a heavy monolith
  — Cost of engagement is high, both regarding membership fee and own work

— ONAP contributions have become skewed
  — Code contribution has decreased and effort is in a small number of projects
  — Several projects are dormant or unsupported
  — Getting volunteers for some key positions is proving increasingly difficult

— Focus in ONAP is moving away from where the real value is

— Successful open-source projects tend to focus on a limited set of specific use cases. ONAP is too multi-faceted
  — In contrast O&M open-source in general is popular, flourishing, and heavily used and new initiatives pop up
    — Nephio, Camara
**Proposed work for a release, trend**

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• Since ~Honolulu:

• Most use cases/features presented are continuation -> the scope of the proposed work is fairly well known and little (if any) cross-uc alignment required

• Low attendance to reviews; usually REQ officer(s), the involved community members, the ones waiting to present their uc/feature on the same call

• For continuation use cases the more relevant questions tend to be on architecture implications -> ARC review

➢ A question to the community: could we consider streamlining our release proposed work review?
Opportunities for ONAP

— Expands on its position as the reference platform architecture for Network Automation systems
  — Increased alignment with SDOs and other open-source projects
  — Certification

— Provides reference implementations for the application of technologies that standards organizations are not suited to describe

— Delivers valuable components for the reference architecture to the Telecom Management and wider community

— Supplies an ecosystem that allows the community to trial Network Automation applications for their domains

— Provides common support for component development and community trials
  — Build environment
  — Guidelines on security, APIs, logging, metrics that components can use
  — Support for trial environments based on community needs