

SDN FEATURE NEWS

# ADARA Networks, CALIENT Technologies Plan Big New SDN Demonstrations

By Steve Anderson / March 14, 2016

Two similar advances, network functions virtualization (NFV) and software-defined networking (SDN), have come forth in recent years to deliver a lot of new value for the data center and beyond, leading to plenty of development in these fields. Recently, ADARA Networks and CALIENT Technologies dropped word on plans to show off several demonstrations at an upcoming industry event.



The demonstrations are built around a multi-vendor and multi-domain source for SDN-based transport packet optical integration (TPOI) solutions. Since ADARA is a major force in cloud computing and SDN software, and CALIENT is well-known in pure-photonic optical circuit switching (OCS), the duo is joined by ON Lab, a leader in the SDN Open Network Operating System (ONOS) initiative, to produce the new SDN-TPOI system. The duo will not only deliver product demonstrations, but also some speaking engagements as well.

The CALIENT ADARA SDN-TPOI solution—which was formally launched back in January—uses not only SDN, but also a set of new packet technologies, along with optical networking technologies, to yield a complete networking solution that also offers cloud computing capabilities. With these technologies working together, the end result is connectivity with low latency and high speed, while using currently-operational routed and Internet protocol (IP) - multiprotocol label switching (MPLS) networks.

All of this sounds great, but the system's true benefit is that it can be put to work rapidly, deployed across current networks to deliver more capability and a better customer experience overall. Since customers can use portals to establish their own services and gain access to greater bandwidth, that means a better operation overall, and can even generate some substantial savings in the process. Some estimates suggest savings of 37 to 50 percent for core router network capital expenditure (CAPEX) and even higher savings in operational expense (OPEX) by giving SDN-TPOI a chance to work.

It's hard to refuse a system that can generate savings like that, since it has the tendency to pay for itself over a sufficiently long term. A system that is basically free, and then starts generating savings, can be worth quite a bit if the term isn't too long; a system that pays for itself in 10 years is much more likely to be put in play than a system that would take 50 years to do so, particularly if the system will be outdated in 15 years. Cost savings are generally valuable, as they contribute directly to profitability, assuming revenue remains constant or has a lower decline than the cost savings generated.

It's not just about cost savings, of course; it's also about a better network that's easier to use and delivers more capability and value to the user. The combined force of ADARA and CALIENT should go a long way toward delivering that kind of effective use case with SDN-TPOI, and should do so for quite some time to come.

Edited by [Stefania Viscusi](#)

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