

Institute for the Wireless **Internet of Things** at Northeastern University

## U.S. developments regarding ORAN

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# \$whoami

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- Board Appointments
  - ATIS NextG Alliance Technology WG
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- Co-Founder of 6GSymposium

## **Open RAN: Much More than "Horizontal Disaggregation"**

Traditional "black-box"

RRC

RLC



### Open, programmable and virtualized

**Internet of Things** at Northeastern

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# **6G Evolution and Use Cases**

Three Usage Scenarios are extensions from IMT-2020 (5G):

- Immersive Communication (from "eMBB")
- Massive Communication (from "mMTC")
- HRLLC (Hyper Reliable & Low-Latency Communication) (from "URLLC")
- Three Usage Scenarios are new:
- Ubiquitous Connectivity
- AI & Communication
- Integrated Sensing & Communication



### OUSD R&E FutureG Minimum Viable Platform Open Centralized Unit / Distributed Unit



A Reference Platform to build the DoD specific enhancements at smaller timescales

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### **Program Overview**

The Public Supply Chain Wireless Fund (Innovation Fund) is a \$1.5 billion competitive grant program authorized by Section 9202(a)(1) of the FY21 NDAA and appropriated by Div. A, Section 106 of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 over a 10-year period.

#### Vision

Develop a competitive global ecosystem of trusted telecommunications vendors that are fielding open and interoperable network equipment domestically and overseas.

#### Mission

Develop and implement a grant program that accelerates the adoption and deployment of open radio access networks (open RAN) through investments in interoperability, hardware maturity, security, and supply chain diversity.

#### **FY21 NDAA Program Objectives**

- 1. Promoting and deploying open technology
- 2. Accelerating commercial deployments of open, interoperable equipment

3. Promoting compatibility of new 5G equipment with future open, interoperable equipment

- 4. Managing integration of multi-vendor network environments
- 5. Identifying criteria to define equipment as compliant with

open standards

- 6. Promoting security features
- 7. Promoting network virtualization

### NOFO 1 and 2

Innovation Fund has released and is executing on two notice of funding opportunities

#### NOFO 1

- The focus areas were on accelerating testing, conformance and performance of ORAN components: •Research and Development (R&D), and •Testing and Evaluation (T&E).
- •Awarded \$140M in grant awards

#### NOFO 2

- •This NOFO focuses on accelerating the development of open RU products and improving the overall performance and capabilities of open RUs through targeted research and development.
- Open radio unit (RU) commercialization
- Open RU innovation

Anticipating up to \$420M in grant awards

#### COMING SOON: NOFO 3. Anticipated in Dec 2024

# **AI-RAN Alliance**

The AI-RAN Alliance has three key initiatives:

**1.AI-for-RAN**: Advancing the use of AI to optimize the performance of the Radio Access Network (RAN) of mobile systems.

**2.AI-and-RAN**: Developing blueprints for infrastructures where AI and RAN workloads can coexist, collaborate, and share data seamlessly.

**3.AI-on-RAN**: Enabling novel AI applications that require proximity to the RAN.

6G networks must follow open, programmable, virtualized, and AI-native design principles

