

# RED HAT SERVICES SOLUTION: NFV FOUNDATION

DATASHEET

## INTRODUCTION

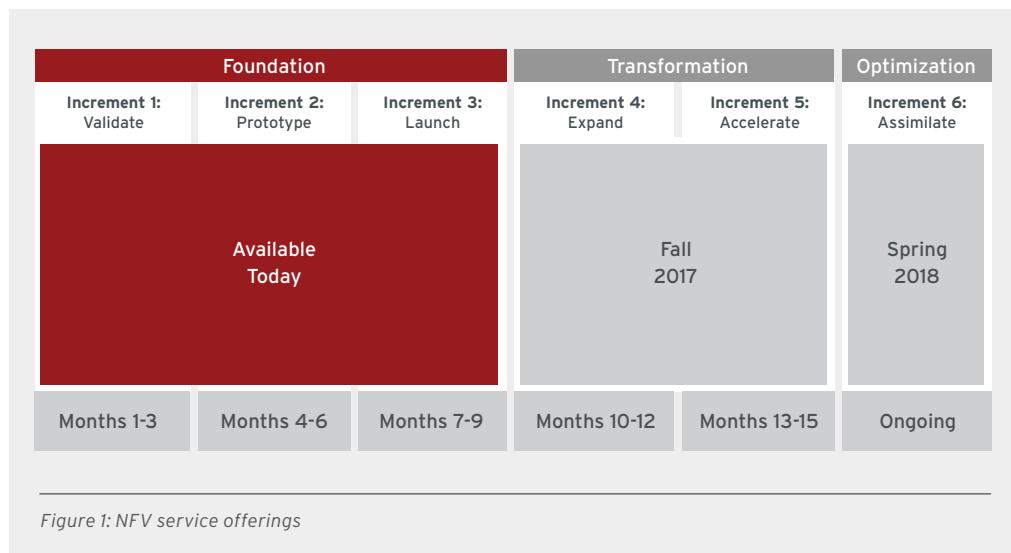
Network functions virtualization (NFV) promises to revolutionize the way communication service providers create and deliver both broad-market and tailored services. With a virtualized network infrastructure, providers are able to move beyond traditional, proprietary hardware-defined functions and achieve greater agility, efficiency, and operational control. However, the telecommunications industry bears the weight of over a century of history in need of modernization and virtualization against exploding demand for instantly available, access-anywhere services.

Successfully deploying an NFV infrastructure requires an approach that not only considers your full stack, but also the people and processes to deliver a scalable solution. Too often, the approach is to view your infrastructure in functional silos or to consider a solution that only addresses a subset of the requirements. Simply installing component virtual network functions (VNFs), or a foundational technology like OpenStack®, leaves you with the responsibility of integrating, scaling, and maintaining your service on your own. This is not an efficient or realistic solution. The scale is too large, the systems involved too complex, and the change required often too great to build the capability independently while maintaining your existing business.

Beyond emerging technologies, a holistic and strategic solution should introduce a transformation in approach, moving away from point-in-time solutions. Point-in-time solutions inhibit business agility by creating skills gaps and technical debt that negatively impact financial benefits. By embracing open standards and best practices, companies can truly transform their team's skills and establish a culture of collaboration and continuous, positive change, all while maintaining architectural control of their business. However, getting started and successfully making this change can be complex.

## RED HAT SERVICES SOLUTION: NFV FOUNDATION

NFV Foundation is one of three Red Hat Services Solutions to address NFV. It's the first step in taking an organization from current hardware-based solutions to production scale NFV while establishing a strong culture of innovation and self-optimization.



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NFV Foundation is part of a phased approach that simplifies, organizes, and automates the process of introducing and operationalizing an NFV environment. This effort establishes the architectural and operational foundation to begin testing and deploying Virtualized Network Functions. During this Red Hat Consulting engagement, customers will:

- **Validate.** Collaborate with Red Hat subject matter experts to scope your challenges, opportunities, and goals; develop a shared understanding and perspective of the project; and deploy sandbox and test NFV environments to accelerate learning; and support live pilot testing of workloads and operations.
- **Prototype.** Deploy initial workloads and operations to establish a suitable NFV environment for use as an NFV testbed and a model for further expansion of both infrastructure and operational approaches. This foundational layer provides automation, orchestration, and infrastructure management while also establishing OSS and BSS integration points for the business.
- **Deploy.** Deploy at least one minimum viable product (MVP) to a target end-customer population with seamless provisioning, management and assurance functions necessary to deliver acceptable service levels.

## A COMPREHENSIVE JOURNEY TO NFV

Upon completing an NFV Foundation engagement, the Red Hat Services Solution: NFV Transformation establishes a platform and approach to new product introduction that follows agile practices that span business, engineering, and operations with automated workflows and customer feedback loops in place to inform CI/CD prioritization.

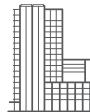
The final phase in the journey, Red Hat Services Solution: NFV Optimization, provides advisory services and assistance to accelerate VNF product deployments, refresh and enhance architectural designs, and continuously improve the operating environment.

## HOW RED HAT CONSULTING HELPS

Red Hat Consulting will:

- Execute a broad level of strategy, planning, and change management to ensure a future-ready NFV platform.
- Define and deliver open, flexible architectures that are under your control.
- Actively participate in integration, workflow testing, skills development, process re-engineering, automation, and other critical people and process changes.
- Help you establish an approach to integration and deployment of Virtualized Network Functions that focuses on the experience and service levels your end customers expect.

Our collaborate-build-empower approach transfers skills from day one, arming your team with best practices to be able to maintain, evolving, and enhancing your architecture on your own. During a Red Hat Consulting engagement, teams shadow Red Hat experts to learn and adapt to change. We then shadow your team to provide advice, hands on assistance, and ready access to deep subject matter expertise.



## ABOUT RED HAT

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of open source software solutions, using a community-powered approach to provide reliable and high-performing cloud, Linux, middleware, storage, and virtualization technologies. Red Hat also offers award-winning support, training, and consulting services. As a connective hub in a global network of enterprises, partners, and open source communities, Red Hat helps create relevant, innovative technologies that liberate resources for growth and prepare customers for the future of IT.

## THE RED HAT CONSULTING DIFFERENCE

Working directly with Red Hat engineering and support organizations, Red Hat® Consulting teams bring the most advanced skills to deliver solutions using Red Hat products and open standards. With exclusive insight into upcoming features and product roadmaps, nobody is better positioned to align teams, streamline processes, and make enterprise systems and applications work together using open source and proprietary technologies.

- **Straight from the source:** Red Hat Consulting teams communicate directly with Red Hat support and product development organizations. Many of our consultants are also active contributors to the upstream open source communities behind Red Hat technologies, so bring unparalleled expertise.
- **Diverse technical experience:** Red Hat Consulting maintains deep expertise with open source and proprietary systems and applications platforms. Our comprehensive understanding of the technology market helps us provide clients with a complete view of their environment. Our guidance is based on a holistic understanding of building enterprise systems, not just our own products.
- **Mentor-based approach:** Red Hat Consulting's approach gives clients the information and skills they need to move to Red Hat solutions in a safe and efficient manner. Red Hat believes that knowledge must be open and shared, just like source code.

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