Capgemini C RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Networks with intelligence

Why and how the telecom sector should accelerate its autonomous networks journey

The telecom sector is just starting its autonomous networks journey

Six in 10 telcos aim to have Level-3 or above autonomy by 2028



STATE OF OVERALL NETWORK AUTONOMY, CURRENT VS. EXPECTED

Percentages represent share of organizations by overall level of network autonomy (according to TM Forum's levels of autonomous networks). Source: Capgemini Research Institute, Autonomous Telco Networks Survey, December 2023–January 2024, N = 113 large CSPs.

BY COUNTRY



Nearly two-thirds of telcos in Sweden, Spain, Italy, and France have attained Level 2 autonomy



BY DOMAIN

About 90% of telcos have all network domains at Levels 0-2



One-third of telcos in the US have moved to either Level 2 or Level 3 autonomy



BY REGION European telcos lead progress in autonomous networks journeys

Most of the autonomous networks use cases are in the initial stages of deployment

| Top use cases under e | experiment | ation (POC/pilots) | per our survey |
|--|------------|---|------------------------|
| Slice optimization and service-level agreement (SLA) assurance | Intelligen | nt orchestration | Predictive maintenance |
| Adaptive/dynamic network policies for changing conditions | | Subscriber churn/behavior prediction and take corrective action | |

What is holding back the industry's progress on autonomy?

Telcos encounter several obstacles to their transition towards higher network autonomy

TOP BARRIERS TO ADOPTION OF HIGHER LEVELS OF NETWORK AUTONOMY

Cultural challenge in terms of employee mindset

Integration issues

Data sovereignty concerns

Applicable technologies not yet mature

Data protection regulations e.g., GDPR



Percentages represent the share of organizations.

Source: Capgemini Research Institute, Autonomous Telco Networks Survey, December 2023–January 2024, N = 113 large CSPs.



STRATEGY

About 1 in 5 telcos have a comprehensive autonomous networks transformation strategy



LEADERSHIP Nearly 1 in 5 telcos have appointed a dedicated leader for autonomous networks **ROADMAP** Half of telcos have a roadmap for the next 1-2 years

THE POTENTIAL OF GENERATIVE AI FOR AUTONOMOUS NETWORKS



of telcos are exploring the potential of generative AI for autonomous networks



of telcos have implemented generative AI for networks at a partial scale



More than half of telcos are currently using or planning to use generative AI in several use cases

Telcos that are moving faster on autonomy are reaping clear benefits



The benefits of autonomous networks are expected to outweigh investment

\$87million

Expected investment over the next 5 years

Expected OpEx savings from autonomous networks over the coming five-year period

-\$150 million-\$300 million per organization

Estimated return on investment (RO1) - 1.7x-3.4×

Estimated payback period 🕒 **2.9 to 1.5 years**

Leading telcos are significantly outperforming their peers

EXTENT OF BENEFITS REALIZED IN THE LAST 1-2 YEARS, LEADERS VS. OTHERS



Beginner

Fast-follower

Leader

Source: Capgemini Research Institute, Autonomous Telco Networks Survey, December 2023–January 2024, N = 113 large CSPs, N = 19 Leaders, N = 74 Fast-followers, and N = 20 Beginners. Capgemini Research Institute analysis. We classified surveyed organizations into leaders, fast-followers, and beginners, based on: the maturity of autonomous networks transformation strategy and roadmap, current level of network maturity, investments, and stage of implementation of various autonomous networks use cases.

THE SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS OF AUTONOMOUS NETWORKS

71[%]

of telcos have significantly reduced energy consumption in the last 2 years 2.6-5.2%

Expected reduction in telcos' overall emissions enabled by autonomous networks

How can telcos accelerate and sustain their autonomous networks journeys?



Download report 🕠

Subscribe to our research

This message contains information that may be privileged or confidential and is the property of the Capgemini Group. Copyright © 2024 Capgemini. All rights reserved.