OSS connectivity, consideration and convergence…what lies ahead in 2017

2017 is unlikely to bring any major OSS surprises however, things will move forward. We expect to see more consolidation and connectivity, as new technologies gain in popularity and as new technology trials continue, more consideration of existing infrastructure must be taken. Here is our brief snapshot of the key focuses for the telecommunications sector for the year ahead.

Convergence of infrastructure

Federating and converging systems is going to continue to be a crucial driver for CSPs. With increasing complexity, CSPs are only going to be able to meet customer demands of network performance and real-time service activation and provisioning, if steps are taken to further efforts to implement a single view and management of CSP infrastructure.

The rise of IoT

Connected everything seems to be the future. With analysts predicting anything between 25 and 75 billion connected devices by 2020, CSPs need to continue strides to ensure network stability and infrastructure can cope with the demands of Internet of Things. 2017 is expected to see further consumer uptake of connected devices as the technology becomes more mainstream.

Network usage

Past years has seen a dramatic change in the role of consumer technologies. People are engaging with the technology like never before and for a much wider array of uses. Take second-screen viewing, which has become the norm, especially for younger generations who utilise television time to multi-task. The amount of video consumed has also vastly increased, driven by social media sharing and live feeds, innovative apps, as well as more competitive data packages. This has added to network performance pressure and this will be an ongoing challenge for CSPs to manage.

NFV and SDN

Further infrastructure readiness work is expected for the implementation of NFV and SDN to create an agile approach to networking. Those already working on trials must start to integrate the technology to existing systems, OSS for example, to understand the impact and to protect existing systems investment and manage the time and cost risks.

Security

As the world becomes more reliant on digital services and the network to do everyday tasks, the cyber security threat becomes more important. With so many global news reports of breaches, CSPs need to ensure networks are not vulnerable to attack. And if it happens, they identify and rectify the issue fast.

CSP systems focus

The focus for CSPs in 2017 must be on performance. Performance of its systems, its network, its service. The trends are set to continue apace and by focusing on enhancing performance, CSPs can sustain long-term success.

Myself and all at DonRiver wish you all the best for 2017.