In early 2015, we stated our plan to virtualize and software-control 75% of our core network functions by 2020. Last year, we hit our goal of reaching 55%. In 2018, our goal is 65%.

Open source software has allowed us to manage more cost-effectively, better control and more quickly deploy network services than ever before. We’ve announced several major open source initiatives over the last year or so, all designed to maximize speed and innovation while controlling costs:

**ONAP – The operating system for Network Clouds.** Since formation a year ago, the project now brings together over 50 of the largest network and cloud operators and technology providers from around the globe, representing more than 60% of the world’s mobile subscribers. AT&T is leading the software contribution and together with project members plans to deliver the second ONAP release, Beijing, in the second quarter of this year.

**DANOS – The operating system for individual white box servers that power a virtualized network.** And we announced we are taking white boxes, running on DANOS, to scale in our network and will plan to install as many of 60,000 of these white box routers to support our 5G build out over the next few years.

**Acumos – An industry-first AI platform and marketplace, co-created with Tech Mahindra, that makes it easy to chain multiple microservices together in a simple drag-and-drop interface.** The Linux Foundation recently announced the public availability of Acumos, meaning anyone can now access the platform and begin building AI applications.

**Akraino Edge Stack – A complete software platform for edge computing systems and applications.** The Linux Foundation also recently announced that Intel and other key industry players have signed on as members of the community. We’re seeing early indicators of progress that are encouraging, and this growing collaboration will help to expedite the maturity and adoption of edge cloud.

These aren’t just frameworks or concepts. We’re delivering functioning software, tools, applications, and platforms. Our engineers and developers are contributing code that’s being used in AT&T and around the world.

With the number of open source projects at AT&T continuing to expand, we are building a framework for how they integrate with and support one another.

Think of this as Network AI, an intelligent software-defined framework for these projects. AT&T Labs will spearhead this initiative. The focus is on identifying areas where a combination of software, open source and AT&T resources can drive innovation for the industry.