



# The Future of SDN is Now



The buzz around software-defined networking (SDN) and its undeniable benefits has reached new heights. Teams used to be confined by hardware, setup time, and capacity when it came to managing their infrastructure. That's no longer the case.

The open API nature of SDN allows network engineering and operations teams, as well as applications to programmatically request specific sets of network features to be provisioned on demand, enabling a range of integrated network resources to be scaled up or be dialed back in minutes rather than days.

The elasticity and scalability offered by SDN is mission-critical in today's always-changing IT environment. Teams are under pressure to accommodate innovation across their organization, assuring performance for an exploding number

of projects, devices, and users. SDN offers the flexibility that teams are looking for while helping organizations save on operational costs.

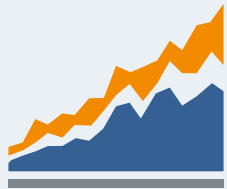
It's not hard to see why SDN has generated interest among IT professionals. But implementation is a different story. Large organizations can't flip a switch and immediately transition to SDN. The migration will take time and many teams will need to simultaneously monitor and manage their new SDN deployments and older, legacy infrastructure. SDN also often means an upfront investment, so teams are understandably cautious when it comes to making the move.

**SO WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE THE STATE OF SDN TODAY, AND WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD? WE'LL EXPLORE IN THIS E-BOOK.**



# SDN Today

The true benefits of SDN lie in its ability to allow teams to centrally manage their infrastructures, removing roadblocks caused by configuring, maintaining and updating physical hardware. Therefore, it's no surprise that most industry predictions are for broader adoption and continued growth of SDN.



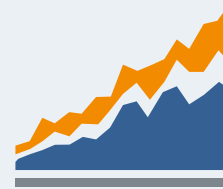
**53.9%**

IDC published a study of the SDN market in February 2016 that forecasts a 53.9 percent compound annual growth rate from 2014 through 2020.



**\$12.5B**

In total, IDC estimates that the SDN market will be worth nearly \$12.5 billion by 2020.



**47%**

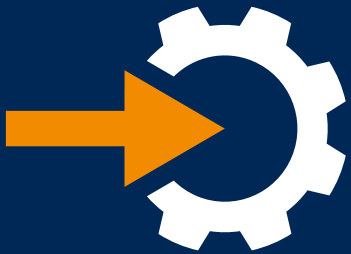
Similar data from Allied Market Research (AMR) predicts the CAGR for the worldwide SDN market to register at 47 percent through 2022, forecasting the total market value at a much loftier \$132.9 billion.



AMR estimates that North American enterprises will account for the majority of SDN adoption.

# SDN Today

SevOne conducted a survey of our own in 2017 to take the pulse of SDN adoption. Working with over 100 enterprise IT professionals at large Fortune 1000 companies in industries including financial services, business services, healthcare, high tech, telecom, we found that:



**72%**

had implemented  
SDN in some capacity



**58%**

had future SDN projects  
planned, developed, or deployed



**45%**

plan to deploy future SDN  
projects between now and 2020

# The Pros of SDN Adoption

When asked about the benefits of SDN adoption, IT professionals from SevOne's survey cited:



**Ability to meet application needs with dynamic capacity**



**OPEX reduction**



**Faster time to market for new services**



**CAPEX reduction**

These findings were echoed in a 2017 IHS Technology report entitled **Datacenter SDN Strategies - North American Enterprise Survey**, which listed the following benefits:



**Improved network security**



**Rapid application deployment**



**Enhanced application performance**



**Fast extension of network capacity**



**Smarter network management**

# Where the Rubber Meets The Road

SDN is an entirely different way to manage network services and applications from how many organizations run their infrastructures today. Teams are often looking at costs that include new equipment and even additional training.


They're also cognizant of the risks associated with transitioning mission-critical functions. Many will move to SDN in steps, and, at least for some time, monitor and manage new SDN functionality along with legacy systems. Teams will require end-to-end visibility of their entire infrastructure, ensuring nothing falls between the cracks.

Then, once the transition is complete, they'll need to manage a much more dynamic, elastic environment. SDN provides the ability to scale applications and services up or down as fast as needed by the business. A constantly and rapidly changing infrastructure requires a monitoring solution that can stay in sync with the changes.

The monitoring solution must traverse every level, from the user's perception of application performance through the services composed of dynamic virtualized components to the physical infrastructure that they run on.







The SevOne SDN Monitoring Solution 2.0 for Cisco ACI provides real-time and historical health and performance status of dynamic SDN implementations. With SevOne's industry-leading service assurance capabilities applied to an SDN environment's dynamic, policy-driven network provisioning, the Solution delivers unique insights into both the virtual (overlay) and the physical (underlay) components of an infrastructure, along with the relationships between them.

But before teams focus on monitoring their SDN deployment, they need to choose the right SDN platform provider. This vendor must have the right strategic vision and be able to execute accordingly. In SevOne's survey of IT professionals, more organizations said they planned to work with the Cisco ACI platform (37%) than any other organization for their SDN deployment.

That's why Version 2.0 of the SevOne SDN Monitoring Solution is focused on gathering data from Cisco ACI-based infrastructures. The Solution integrates directly with the ACI Control layer and the underlying physical infrastructure for complete visibility into all the entities comprising a Cisco ACI-based deployment. As SDN adoption continues to grow, choosing the right platform and management partners can make or break an organization's initiatives.

**DOWNLOAD OUR NEW SOLUTIONS GUIDE  
TO SEE HOW THE SEVONE SDN MONITORING  
SOLUTION CAN GIVE TEAMS THE CONFIDENCE  
THEY NEED FOR A SMOOTH, EFFECTIVE  
SDN TRANSITION.**



## About SevOne.

SevOne provides the world's largest CSPs, MSPs and Enterprises with the most comprehensive technology portfolio to collect, analyze and visualize network & infrastructure performance data to deliver actionable insights to compete and win in the connected world. SevOne serves organizations that are looking to complex, dynamic next-generation infrastructure such as software defined networks, orchestrated containers and cloud technologies to support their business goals.