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## **New iGR study forecasts U.S. mobile operators' spending on MEC**

***Study also provides details on MEC, CORD and M-CORD architectures***

**AUSTIN, Texas, October 27th, 2017** – Mobile operators are preparing their networks for 5G. Part of that process includes moving to software defined networking (SDN) and network function virtualization (NFV). Additionally, multi-access edge computing (MEC) and Central Office Re-architected as a Data Center (CORD) are two sub-sets of the overall shift away from the traditional network architecture to one that looks more like a data center.

Simply put, MEC marries a radio with a data center. Today, that radio is LTE, but it could also be Wi-Fi, 5G New Radio or some combination of them all. The server component is a secure, virtualized platform that network owners can “open up” to third parties, such as content providers and application developers. The goal behind CORD is to take all of the equipment in today’s central office (CO) and disaggregate the hardware and software components, virtualize the software and run it on commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) hardware. MEC, CORD, and the mobile-specific version M-CORD are all likely to help operators deliver on 5G networks.

iGR, a market research consultancy focused on the wireless and mobile industry, has recently published a new market study that analyzes MEC, CORD and M-CORD, including the architecture, the potential use cases, and the pros and cons of the solutions. The market study also includes a forecast of potential spending by U.S. mobile operators on MEC for their own mobile networks from 2018 to 2026.

“MEC and CORD emerged on the wireless industry stage several years ago and their significance is great,” said Iain Gillott, president and founder of iGR. “We believe that MEC and M-CORD will ultimately be essential in realizing the full promise of 5G.”

iGR’s new market study, [\*\*\*MEC: U.S. Mobile Operator Spending, 2018-2026\*\*\*](#), provides a forecast of how much U.S. mobile operators will spend implementing MEC in their mobile networks. The market study also details the MEC and CORD architectures, the requirements for deployment and MEC’s potential use cases.

The following key questions are addressed in the new market study:

- What is MEC?
- How does MEC work?
- How does MEC relate to other edge computing initiatives, such as OpenFog, CORD Project, Open Edge Computing (OEC), Open Compute, and EdgeX Foundry?
- What can be done with MEC?
- What are some of the perceived benefits and issues related to MEC?
- What are the key drivers for implementing MEC?
- What is CORD and M-CORD?
- What can be done with CORD and M-CORD?
- What are some of the perceived benefits and issues related to CORD and M-CORD?
- How much mobile operator spending is likely to occur on MEC-based solutions?

The information in this market study will be valuable for:

- Mobile operators
- Infrastructure OEMs
- Computing infrastructure OEMs
- Small cell product and solution vendors
- Backhaul service providers and equipment OEMs
- Financial analysts and investors.

The new report can be [purchased](#) and downloaded directly from *iGR's* website at [www.iGR-inc.com](http://www.iGR-inc.com).

## **About *iGR***

*iGR* is a market strategy consultancy focused on the wireless and mobile communications industry. Founded by Iain Gillott, one of the wireless industry's leading analysts, in late 2000 as *iGillottResearch*, *iGR* is now in its seventeenth year of operation. *iGR* continuously researches emerging and existent technologies, technology industries, and consumer markets. We use our detailed research to offer a range of services to help companies improve their position in the marketplace, clearly define their future direction, and ultimately improve their bottom line.

*iGR* researches a range of wireless and mobile products and technologies, including: smartphones; tablets; mobile wearable devices; connected cars; mobile applications; bandwidth demand and use; small cell and het-net architectures; mobile EPC and RAN virtualization; DAS; LTE; VoLTE; IMS; NFC; GSM/GPRS/UMTS/HSPA; CDMA 1x/EV-DO; iDEN; SIP; macro-, pico- and femtocells; mobile backhaul; WiFi and WiFi offload; and SIM and UICC.

A more complete profile of the company can be found at [www.igr-inc.com](http://www.igr-inc.com).