

# Open vs. Proprietary 5G Fronthaul Interface: SK Telecom Case

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# Table of Contents

SK Telecom announced on December 15 last year that its newly developed “open 5G fronthaul interface specification” was adopted as a Korean national standard by the Telecommunications Technology Association (TTA). This report covers the "5G RAN architecture and Fronthaul" strategies that are being shaped by SK Telecom.

## Table of Contents

• Abbreviations	1
• [SK Telecom PR] SK Telecom’s fronthaul technology for 5G adopted as Korean national standard	2
• RAN architecture: 4G RAN – Problem statements	3
• RAN architecture: 5G RAN	4
• 5G RAN architecture: High-layer split (F1) and low layer split (RoE, eCPRI)	5
• Lower layer function split: Radio over Ethernet vs. eCPRI	6
• Open 5G fronthaul interface: IEEE 1914, xRAN and Telecom Infra Project (TIP)	7
• SK Telecom 5G RAN architecture: Open fronthaul interface	8
• SK Telecom 5G RAN architecture: High-layer split (F1) and low layer split (Fx) (1)	9
• SK Telecom 5G RAN architecture: High-layer split (F1) and low layer split (Fx) (2)	10
• Comparison between IEEE RoE (D3.0) and SK Telecom open F/H interface specification (1)	11
• Comparison between IEEE RoE (D3.0) and SK Telecom open F/H interface specification (2)	12
• Comparison between IEEE RoE (D3.0) and SK Telecom open F/H interface specification (3)	13
• Comparison between IEEE RoE (D3.0) and SK Telecom open F/H interface specification (4)	14
• Comparison between IEEE RoE (D3.0) and SK Telecom open F/H interface specification (5)	15
• Netmanias comments on SK Telecom’s strategy	16
• Open 5G RAN and fronthaul architecture of SK Telecom	17

# Abbreviations

3GPP	3rd Generation Partnership Project
BBU	Baseband Unit
C&M	Control and Management
CPRI	Common Public Radio Interface
C-RAN	Cloud/Centralized Radio Access Network
CU	Central Unit
DAC	Digital to Analog Converter
D-RAN	Distributed Radio Access Network
DU	Distributed Unit
eCPRI	enhanced CPRI
FCS	Frame Check Sequence
gNB	5G base station name
IQ	In-phase and Quadrature
LTE	Long Term Evolution
MAC	Media Access Control
NGFI	Next Generation Fronthaul Interface
OAM	Operations, Administration and Maintenance
OFDM	Orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing
PDCP	Packet Data Convergence Protocol
PHY	Physical Layer
PRACH	Physical Random Access Channel
RAN	Radio Access Network
RE	Resource Element
RF	Radio Frequency
RLC	Radio Link Control
RoE	Radio over Ethernet
RRC	Radio Resource Control
RRH	Remote Radio Head
RU	Remote Unit
SRS	Sounding Reference Signal
TLV	Type-Length-Value