

Minutes of Meeting on requirements of ERs on Cloud/CoTS based server Telecom/Communication products

Subject – Formulation of Essential Requirements of COTS Server/ Cloud based Telecom/Communications products-reg.

TEC is in process of making Essential Requirements for telecom products not included in the list of telecom products mentioned in MTCTE procedure. Many Communications devices/elements are coming up on either on Cloud Server/CoTS Server based products, which are vanilla type plain servers over which OEM install their applications supporting switching/controlling functions and information delivery. Technical applications of these products are either on software or hardware based which may be installed on generic servers/Boards and/or interfaced with main equipment. Further, many Telecom/Communication Products/Services which are completely software-based like PABX, SIP, IVR, Call Centre, Contact Centre Telephony etc. are also deployed by OEMs on cloud-based server infrastructure.

In this regard, an e-meeting was conducted with various OEMs on 14th August, 2020 in forenoon session to discuss and take inputs from industry regarding formulation of Essential Requirements in reference to such telecom/communication products/services. Representatives from several OEMs i.e. HP, DELL, Nokia, Ericsson, Huawei, ZTE, Cisco etc. joined the meeting along-with officers of TEC. In the meeting, it was suggested that two ERs of such products may be made i.e.

1. One ER of Hardware only i.e. underlying COTS/Cloud servers (tested only for EMI/EMC, Safety and Interface testing)
2. One ER of Telecom Application installed on COTS/Cloud servers (tested for technical requirements).
3. Security Module compliance after module is ready.

All the OEM stakeholders were of the view that there is one more layer of Networking Function Virtualization Infrastructure (NFVI) providers that sits right above the hardware and abstracts the HW resources, so they can be logically partitioned and provided to the OEMs to perform their Telecom/Communication functions. Therefore, instead of two ERs, three ERs may be framed for such telecom products that are installed on COTS/Cloud servers.

1. One ER of Hardware only i.e. underlying COTS/Cloud servers (tested only for EMI/EMC, Safety and Interface testing)
2. One ER of Cloud Operating System (OS) installed on COTS/Cloud server by the NFVI provider (tested for technical requirements)
3. One ER of Telecom Application installed on underlying NFV Infrastructure (tested for technical requirements)

The security requirements will be added to all the three ERs together will be decided as in when they will be finalized. Further this matter may be taken to internal Committee for further disposal of SoPs including ERs preparation, either module wise or single entity. Committee will consider the apprehensions expressed by the participants on duplicity of Test procedure and methodologies.