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Internet2 connects 5 universities with large-scale SDN ONOS rollout

June 15, 2015 | By [Chris Talbot](#)

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Internet2 and the Open Network Operating System community have completed what Internet2 is calling the first large-scale deployment of ONOS through its NOC at Indiana University.

Five educational institutions have been connected using ONOS to Internet2's national network that's piloting SDN technologies. The institutions involved include Duke University, Florida International University, Indiana University, University of Maryland at College Park and University of Utah.



Image: Internet2



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According to Internet2, it's using SDN capabilities to provision virtual networks based on FlowSpace Firewall. It deployed an ONOS cluster on a slice of its virtual network, which currently controls 38 OpenFlow-enabled Brocade and Juniper switches. The ONOS project team worked with Internet2 at its Indiana University NOC to validate the ONOS/SDN-IP solution, and according to the organizations, the SDN-based network provides a few key benefits to the universities, including network programmability, a lower total cost of ownership and the removal of vendor lock-in. It's also a centralized control plane that Internet2 stated will drive significant improvements in network operation efficiency for the universities.

"A primary feature of the Internet2 Network is its ability to serve as a 'playground' for piloting new advanced networking capabilities in a real-world environment with demanding users and advanced applications capabilities," said Rob Vietzke, vice president of network services at Internet2, in a statement. "The ONOS and SDN-IP peering deployment is another demonstration of how Internet2 and the academic community continue to be a large scale platform in which pre-market innovations can be prototyped at scale."

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What's interesting with this launch are the options it provides customers. The Internet2 ONOS deployment is a good example of a large-scale open SDN project, and the company clearly hopes to use it as an example to show other educational institutions and enterprises what can be done with ONOS and SDN.

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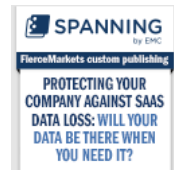
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