Service providers and enterprises want more agile network services with a lower total cost of ownership to accelerate their return on investment. Virtual Network Services – an example of Third Network Services, as defined by the MEF – are agile, assured and orchestrated network services that can be ordered, modified, and delivered to subscribers on demand. These services provide increased service agility and innovation while reducing operational costs through automation and virtualization.

Service providers want to deliver virtual network services similar to how cloud services are delivered today where subscribers order, activate, and modify the service on-demand and conveniently via self-service web portals. Virtual network services also reduce capital and operational costs by reducing the type of customer premises equipment (CPE) carried in inventory.

Cut Through the Confusion and See the Way Forward
There are a myriad of Software-Defined Networking (SDN), Network Functions Virtualization (NFV) and Lifecycle Service Orchestration (LSO) technologies, architectures, standards and products. A vendor-agnostic, trusted adviser can help you by providing the information and analysis you need and guiding you through a myriad of unfamiliar technology and implementation choices. The Fujitsu SDN/NFV Services team cuts through the confusion so that you can see the way forward. We’ll assist you in answering key questions about virtual services implementation, such as:

- How do I develop use cases that are relevant to my business goals?
- What changes are needed to prepare my network and IT infrastructure?
- Are my operational systems and processes ready?
- What is the right approach to reference architecture?
- How can I ensure the quality of my new services will match or exceed current offerings?

Equip Yourself with the Right Information and a Clear Plan
With the Fujitsu SDN/NFV Plan Service team as your partner, you can benchmark your level of business, technology, and operational readiness to determine what changes are needed to prepare for the transformation ahead. Our expert consultants first meet with you to understand the desired business outcomes and then make recommendations for successfully transforming your infrastructure and operations to meet your business objectives. We conclude each phase of the Plan service with complete and clear documentation, and with this data in-hand, you can confidently move forward.

Five Components for a Complete Approach to Readiness and Planning
The SDN/NFV Plan Service consists of five components, each focused on a specific aspect of planning and preparation for your virtualized network:

- Use Case Development
- Infrastructure Readiness Assessment
- Operations Readiness Assessment
- Reference Architecture Development
- Performance Characterization and Benchmark Testing
Full Support for Well-Informed Implementation Planning

Use Case Development
The Fujitsu team begins by investigating and developing vendor-agnostic use cases based on your requirements, preferred deployment model and business objectives. Deployment options can include Virtual Customer Premises Equipment (vCPE), Virtual Customer Edge (vCE), or hybrid vCPE/vCE for decentralized, centralized or distributed deployment of Virtualized Network Functions (VNFs) at your customers’ premises, at data centers/Central Offices (COs), or a combination of both. We also evaluate your current service offerings to determine potential new service capabilities and assess what benefits you can achieve via virtualization.

Infrastructure Readiness Assessment
Network service performance and availability SLAs are often more stringent for virtual network services; re-evaluating your IT infrastructure in advance helps you avoid unexpected setbacks or costs later in the implementation process. Infrastructure Readiness Assessment evaluates your physical compute, storage, memory and network infrastructure, in addition to virtualization, availability and infrastructure management. This service provides a detailed report that identifies gaps and provides best practice recommendations for evolving your network and IT infrastructure to support virtual network services delivery.

Operations Readiness Assessment
Your network operations staff may have challenges delivering on-demand, virtual services due to incomplete or inefficient process automation. This service examines your operations processes from product ordering through service delivery to service assurance, and determine how you can close automation gaps from end to end across the entire service lifecycle. The team identifies operational gaps and recommends best practices to correct automation deficiencies and support virtualized, on-demand, self-service business models.

Reference Architecture Development
Reference Architecture Development defines an intelligent automated framework for all your virtual services implementation. We provide you with a standard Reference Architecture (RA) that defines the functional blocks and interface reference points for key functional components such as service orchestrators, SDN controllers, legacy element and network management systems (EMS/NMS), NFV orchestrators (NFVO), virtualized infrastructure managers (VIM), and NFV Infrastructure (NFVI). The RA also guides the definition of open-source and multivendor Reference Implementations (RIs) for your use cases and any vendor-specific solution components under evaluation.

Performance Characterization and Benchmark Testing
The Fujitsu SDN/NFV Services team can help you evaluate combinations of VNFs and COTS hardware based on your functional requirements and performance objectives, and measure these combinations against what you currently deliver with physical appliances. We also assess capacity to support multiple VNFs (services). Our recommendations are based on tests that cover various use case scenarios. We also test the performance of service-chained VNFs to ensure performance comparable to the current deployments. Testing methodology is based on ETSI NFV standards and applicable benchmark testing processes used in our test laboratory. We also provide gap analysis to compare your current modes of operation with VNFs running on vCPE or vCE appliances.