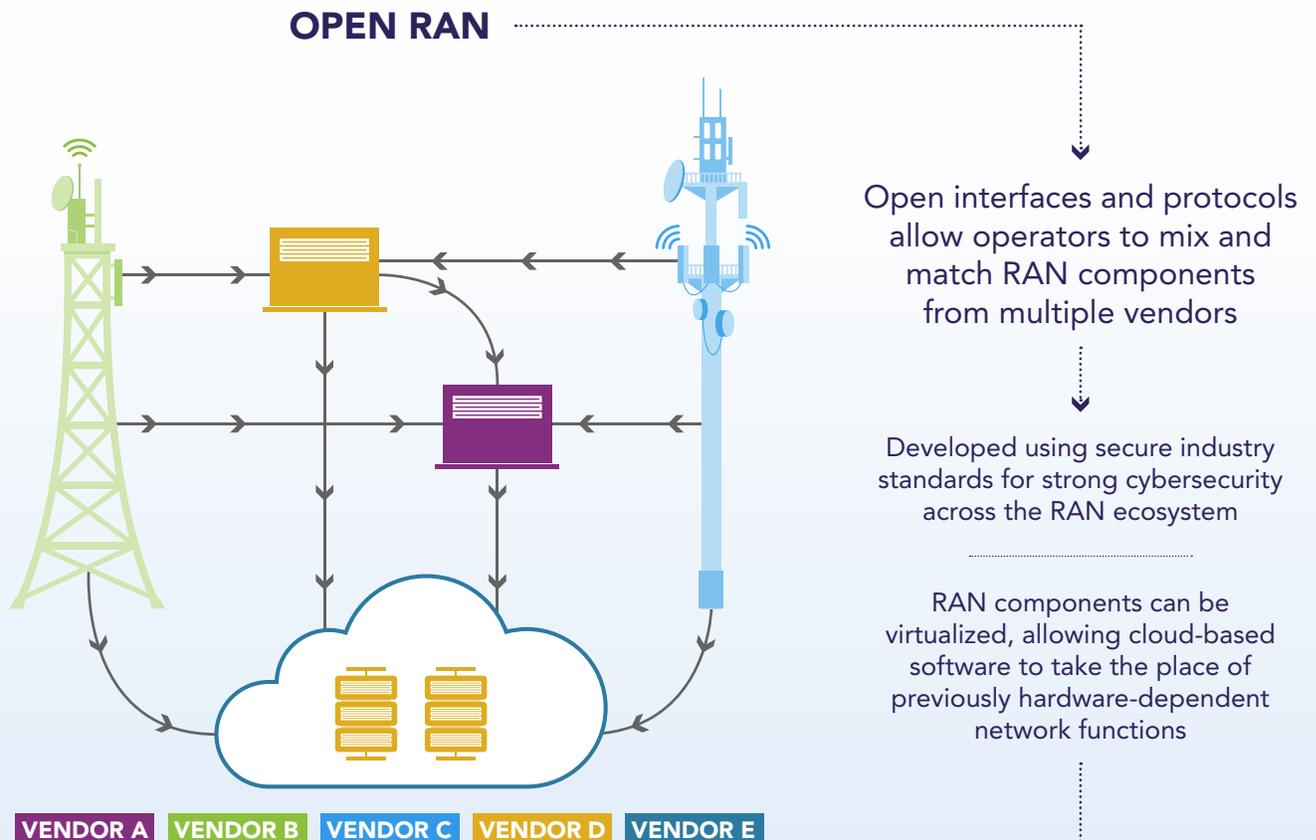


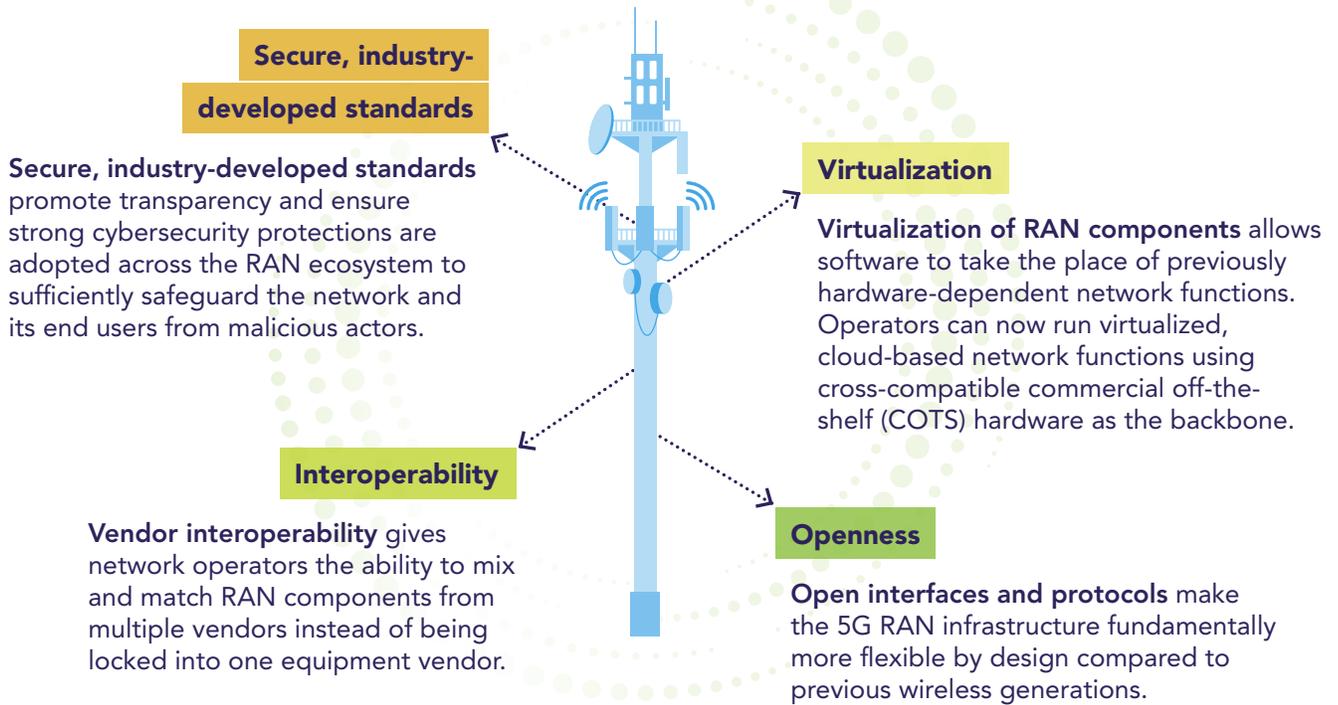
How Open RAN Technologies Will Lead to Secure, Innovative 5G Networks

Fully realized, 5G networks have the potential to deliver immense benefits. Enter the concept of Open RAN, a different approach for developing the antennas and related RAN hardware used in 5G with open standards, cybersecurity, interoperability, and transparency at the fore.

Mobile phones, smart sensors, connected cars, and other cellular-enabled devices cannot connect directly to the 5G core network and the internet on their own. For smartphones and other user equipment to reach the core, the RAN serves as an intermediary that links cellular-enabled devices to the larger core network where much of the behind-the-scenes 5G intelligence takes place.



→ THE PROMISE OF OPEN RAN



← ADVANTAGES OF OPEN RAN



Better network security

Open and transparent software technologies promise inherent cybersecurity advantages in the 5G RAN compared to past wireless generations.

Government and industry stakeholders see Open RAN as an option to address the risk of installing technology from untrusted vendors that pose national security threats.



More flexibility, versatility for network operators

Network operators will be able to configure RAN architecture exactly to their unique business purposes with the flexibility to easily scale resources as needed.

Open RAN will also complement and accelerate promising software-enabled 5G innovations such as edge computing.



Increased market competition, more RAN innovation

Open RAN unlocks the door for new market entrants, startups, and established industry players alike.

Smaller players could disrupt the market by specializing in specific hardware and software aspects of the 5G RAN that can be mass produced, leading to increased choice for network operators and competitive pricing.



Software.org: the BSA Foundation is an independent and nonpartisan international research organization aimed at educating policymakers and the broader public about the hugely positive impact that software has on our lives, our economy, and our society.