

F5 Partners with Rakuten Mobile to Support New Cloud-Native Mobile Network, 5G-Ready Service Rollout

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F5 telecom solution delivers a faster, more secure experience for Rakuten customers

TOKYO--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- [F5 Networks](#) (NASDAQ: [FFIV](#)) today announced that it has partnered with Rakuten Mobile, Inc., the mobile network subsidiary of Rakuten Group, to support the company's October launch of the world's first fully virtualized, cloud-native mobile network and its future deployment of 5G. The carrier will leverage F5's network functions virtualization (NFV) capabilities to optimize its new mobile network and accelerate its path to 5G services in 2020.

Through this partnership, Rakuten Mobile, Inc. is collaborating with F5 to scale and evolve their cloud-native network design architecture to increase scalability and flexibility without sacrificing control. F5 has provided a full-suite N6/SGi-LAN solution consisting of virtualized CGNAT, SGi Firewall, DNS Transparent Cache, and IP Traffic Optimization Functions to deliver enhanced Mobile Broadband (eMBB) services. F5's NFV capabilities and offerings enabled Rakuten Mobile, Inc. to:

- Simplify and optimize service orchestration
- Ensure application availability, performance, and security
- Have unmatched freedom and agility in deployment of services
- Enable a higher throughput, low-latency network and allow predictable scaling for services

Rakuten Mobile, Inc.'s 5G-ready network leverages an innovative, software-driven architecture entirely on the cloud, which ensures stability, scalability, and agility, as well as effectively manages costs, and brings secure and high-performance connectivity to consumers. This virtualized architecture is set to disrupt the telecom industry landscape not only in Japan but also the rest of the world.

Earlier this year, F5 [announced](#) several new solutions and enhancements designed to allow service providers to launch 5G services. These offerings enable service providers to maximize the investments in their current 4G networks, while optimizing their infrastructures with the scale to securely deploy emerging 5G.

"Rakuten, one of Japan's most innovative and well-known brands, is an ideal company to partner with on strategic projects like this," said James Feger, VP and General Manager of Service Provider business at F5.

"After years of preparing for 5G, we're seeing progress as service providers like Rakuten begin to implement the infrastructure to make its promise a reality," Yuichi Gonda, Regional VP at F5 Networks Japan, added. "With F5's proven carrier-grade solutions, service providers like Rakuten Mobile can optimize their networks, monetize new 5G solutions and applications, and ensure world-class security of their network and subscribers."

“Our vision is to build a network that innovates at the speed of software and scales at the speed of cloud, and—with a culture founded in technical and operational innovation—we are uniquely positioned to achieve that,” said Tareq Amin, Rakuten Mobile’s Chief Technology Officer. “By leveraging best-in-class technology from partners such as F5, we aim to provide a high quality, cost-effective mobile service to our customers.”

Additional Resources

- [Rakuten is Building the World’s First End-to-End Cloud-Native Mobile Network](#)
- [F5 Enables 5G Services with New Solutions for Service Providers](#)
- [Explore NFV Solution Packages](#)

About Rakuten Mobile

Rakuten Mobile, Inc. is a Rakuten Group company responsible for mobile communications, including mobile network operator (MNO) and mobile virtual network operator (MVNO) businesses, as well as ICT and energy. Through continuous innovation and the deployment of advanced technology, Rakuten Mobile aims to redefine expectations in the mobile communications industry in order to provide appealing and convenient services that fulfil diverse customer needs.

About F5

F5 (NASDAQ: [FFIV](#)) gives the world’s largest businesses, service providers, governments, and consumer brands the freedom to securely deliver every app, anywhere—with confidence. F5 delivers cloud and security application services that enable organizations to embrace the infrastructure they choose without sacrificing speed and control. For more information, go to [f5.com](#). You can also follow [@f5networks](#) on Twitter or visit us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#) for more information about F5, its partners, and technologies.

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