

Service Description

G-Cloud 15

Lot 2a

Colt Edge

Abstract

This document covers the Service Description for Colt Edge Solution.

Colt Edge is a uCPE-based platform that unifies compute, storage, and networking on commodity hardware to deliver virtualized network services and customer applications at the Customer locations.

It comprises three core components: flexible white-box hardware, a virtualization layer for resource allocation and service chaining, and virtual functions—including VNFs like SD-WAN and firewalls, as well as customer applications for use cases such as 5G and smart manufacturing.

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1. Overview

Colt Edge is a versatile platform that combines compute, storage, and networking on a commodity, off-the-shelf server. It delivers network services as virtual functions to any site on a network. Built on a Universal Customer Premises Equipment (uCPE) architecture, Colt Edge consists of three key components:

1. **Hardware (White Box):** This is a generic, on-premises physical server—either bare-metal or white box—that hosts virtual functions. Multiple hardware configurations are available, offering varying levels of processing power, memory, and throughput to meet diverse requirements such as the number of VNFs, bandwidth, and functionality.
2. **Virtualization Layer:** The virtualization layer (hypervisor) enables the allocation of compute, memory, and storage resources for individual VNFs. It also supports service chaining and defines data flows across VNFs, ensuring flexibility and scalability.
3. **Virtual Functions:** These are software-based functions or applications hosted on the platform:
 - **VNFs (Virtual Network Functions):** Network services such as SD-WAN and firewalls, traditionally delivered via purpose-built hardware, are now virtualized and run on the same device alongside other functions.
 - **Customer Applications:** Beyond VNFs, Colt Edge can host customer-specific applications for use cases like 5G, smart buildings, manufacturing, or distributed cloud. Customers can bring their own applications and deploy them on Colt Edge.

2. Features

Following are the key features

Feature	Details
Design and order	Colt will work with Customer to identify requirements for the Edge hardware and VNFs. This design will endeavour to reflect any relevant information provided by Customer to Colt needed for the delivery and billing of the associated services. All new orders and/or changes to orders shall go through the Customer's Colt account representative.
Deploy and install	Colt will perform following steps as needed to provide the service: 1. Physical installation of Colt Edge Device 2. Configuration of the Edge device and related software (Virtualization platform and VNFs) 3. Loading of Software image(s) and instantiation of VNF(s), as applicable 4. Configuration needed to establish connectivity of the Edge and Colt managed virtualization components. Installation is considered completed at the point that the Colt Edge and Colt managed virtualisation layer have established connectivity with the Colt management centre.
Management	Standard management provided by Colt for the Edge includes the following 1. Management of the hardware 2. Base operating system 3. Hypervisor (virtualization software) 4. Resource allocation for virtual machines (for deploying VNFs) 5. VNF software installation 6. Logical connectivity between virtual machines or VNFs. The VNF may be managed by Colt or by Customer as determined in the Service order form.
VNF	We offer a library of VNFs from the leading vendors. This includes network functions such as SD WAN, Firewall, WAN Optimization and technology vendors such as Palo Alto, Fortinet, Cisco etc. Please contact you Colt Account Executive for complete list. VNFs can be managed and/or licenced by either Colt or the Customer.
Configure and provision	Colt will configure/provision the Service(s) for the customer. Any changes in the initial configuration will be handled through a Service Request
Devices	We offer different equipment with varying performance parameters such as core, memory, throughput etc, catering to different requirements such as number of VNFs, bandwidth and functionality. Based on the business requirements, Colt will help customer to choose the right hardware.
VNF Management	VNFs can be managed through difference interfaces such as UI/CLI (command line interface) or through proprietary management tools. If Customer is managing the VNF, Management of the VNF can be done through. 1. LAN 2. WAN
Resiliency	Colt Edge supports the following resiliency options. 1. Single uCPE: This includes a single device with either a Single or Hybrid WAN underlay connectivity 2. Dual uCPE: This includes two devices with multiple WAN connectivity options. It can be either in active/active or active/standby resiliency.
Support	Colt will not provide support for VNF function/configuration if managed by Customer.

Feature	Details
	All other service aspects including fault monitoring, recognition, isolation and resolution will be done by Colt in according with Service Level Agreement document.

