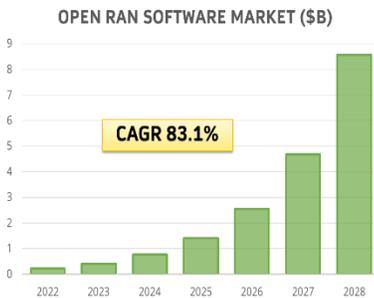


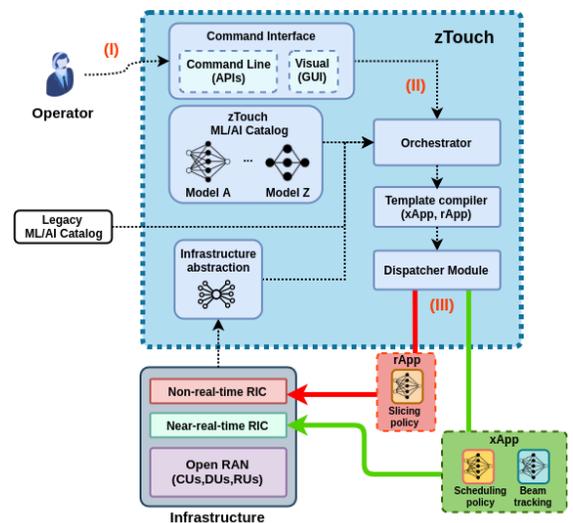
Overview. The cellular industry has begun a transition toward open, programmable, and cloud-native architectures to reduce cost and address major management challenges. This transition (like the telecom migration to SDN) creates a significant new business opportunity for a flexible automated management system. zTouch Networks leverages years of research and development to provide the industry’s first data-driven, intelligent and autonomous network operating system to power this industry upgrade.

5G/6G Open RAN Cellular Market.



The cellular industry has significant challenges with managing and scaling network performance because of existing proprietary, hardware-based, and inflexible solutions. Standardization efforts by the O-RAN Alliance are underway to address these challenges. Over the next 5-7 years it is expected that 50% of networks will be replaced with Open-RAN, an open, disaggregated, and programmable, architecture. However, there is currently no network solution which enables the management of large, diverse cloud native networks or facilitate introduction of new services. The Open RAN SW market is expected to reach \$8.5bln in 2028¹.

Product Solution. zTouch embraces the O-RAN architecture to provide the industry’s first autonomous, intent-based control and orchestration of the network using data-driven algorithms, AI modules, and novel APIs. Its system converts operator intents into executable operational strategies and then automatically orchestrates the deployment of intelligence at specific locations of the network to achieve the desired intent. zTouch maintains a catalog with ML/AI models that have been trained to accomplish a variety of tasks and provide high-performance services (e.g., resource allocation, network slicing, edge computing, and more). zTouch’s network automation prototype is the result of 5 years of research and \$3.5M+ non-dilutive grants and is protected by numerous patents.



The team. zTouch spun out of the Institute for Wireless Internet of Things (WIoT, <https://www.northeastern.edu/wiot/>), a world class institute in cognitive wireless networking, 5G/6G, AI, and ML. The zTouch team is led by Tommaso Melodia, Founder and Director of the WIoT, Director of Research of the NSF PAWR Project Office, serial entrepreneur and thought leader in advanced wireless systems. The team has extensive relationships with key industry partners and manages the world’s largest RF emulator, Colosseum (a \$30M+ resource) and the testbeds in the NSF Platforms for Advanced Wireless Research (a \$100M program).

Near-term plan. zTouch has an aggressive plan to pilot its platform with key industry partners in the next 18 months and is looking for investors in this effort. It is looking to raise \$5M to accelerate its pilot and attract world-class leaders to operate and grow the business.

¹ <https://tinyurl.com/y2rpuhul>