

# AT&T and Microsoft Test Network Edge Compute Capabilities to Enhance 5G for Business



## **AT&T announced its approach to 5G for businesses, laying out three key pillars: mobile, fixed, and edge computing.**

Now we're taking it a step further, testing how to bring network edge compute (NEC) capabilities into the AT&T 5G network with Microsoft Azure. We're testing our ability to substantially reduce latency and improve user experience by deploying advanced cloud services in specific geographic locations closer to business sites. A fully-scaled deployment will give businesses access to compute power, lower latency, and optimized network routing without the need for dedicated on-premises hardware.

These advantages will be important for the low-latency cloud and IoT solutions used by retail, healthcare, public safety, manufacturing, and entertainment.

*Mo Katibeh, Chief Marketing Officer, AT&T Business: "Using the blazing speeds of our fiber, LTE and 5G mobile connections, we're paving the way for how low-latency pathways to cloud services like Microsoft Azure can accelerate business transformation – for both enterprise and small business applications."*

## **Proof of Concept – Keeping an Eye on Drones**

To advance the potential for NEC services, AT&T is creating a NEC environment at the AT&T Foundry in Plano, Texas, where we co-create new, cutting-edge solutions with enterprise and public safety customers. Our team in Plano worked with the AT&T Foundry in Israel to identify a startup that could enhance their solutions via NEC. We're now testing our solution with Israel-based Vorpai Ltd.



The use of drones has exploded in recent years. But in some cases, drones can be a safety hazard when flying near restricted areas. [Vorpai](#) offers VigilAir as a drone detection and geolocation tracking solution. The service can be useful to commercial drone monitoring, airports, public safety law enforcement agencies, and others needing the ability to identify drone and operator locations in near-real time, enhancing monitoring and mitigation. As Vorpai expects drone usage, and in particular commercial drone usage, to substantially increase in the coming years, the need for VigilAir to take advantage of high throughput and low-latency compute will be important to deliver the best results.