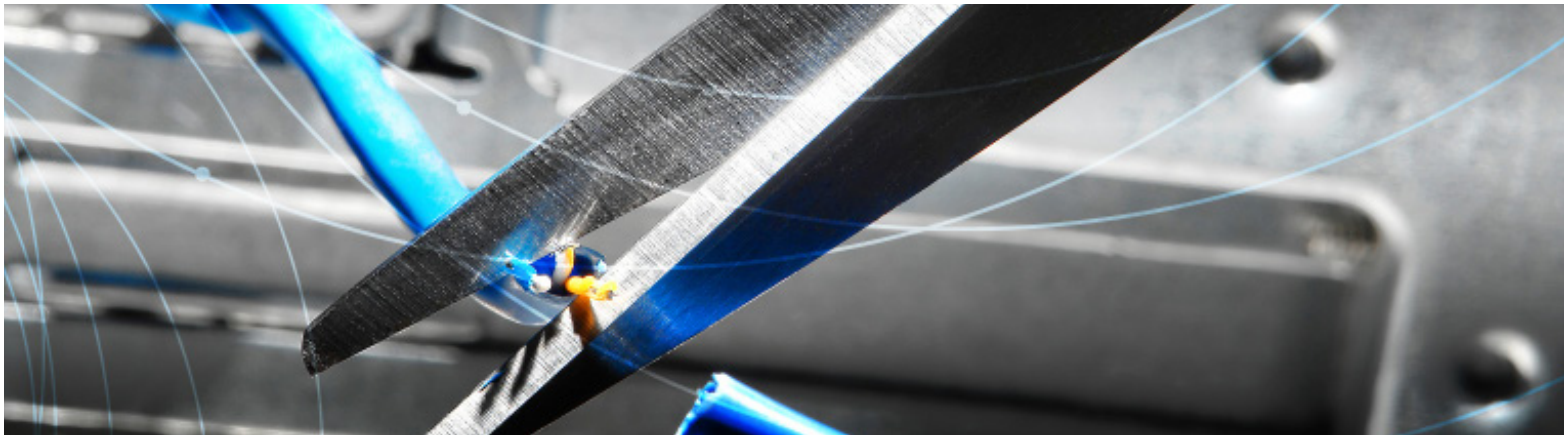

Evolving Demands, Right-Sized Solutions

NEF helps you right-size your network infrastructure and carrier contracts to fit the requirements brought on by evolving markets, dynamic provider landscapes and changing business needs.

Many companies are looking to get a better network – but whether they are starting at the right place is a different question. Rapid changes can have a big impact on a once well-planned network infrastructure. It's not that a company's data transport inventory was ill-planned or their existing carrier contracts weren't properly scoped. Rather, the fast rate of change in today's IT environments and the business drivers they support call for a second look at the optimal infrastructure plan. That's where NEF comes in.

No one likes an "audit" per se, but a gut-check on network architecture needs and how to restructure carrier contracts might yield a better network performance plus some extra budget to further other IT initiatives. Through our unbiased, vendor-neutral assessment, NEF helps enterprises answer the question more and more network planners are asking themselves in the face of their evolving infrastructure requirements: how do we optimize the data transport inventory we have to fit what we need?

Network Audits

How Can NEF Add Value with a Network Review?

Companies may be wondering about the cost-benefit impact of engaging in a network audit. Most often, NEF is able to provide value in a number of ways from restructuring non-optimal contracts, to consolidating circuits, to identifying potential problem areas like diversity, which could cause costly issues down the road if not addressed.

NEF delivers the following benefits in a thorough network audit and review:

- Initial discovery and assessment on client requirements and future needs
- Extensive review of all transport circuits, terms and contracts
- Research on network locations and data center sites, current and projected
- Physical network diagrams and service summaries
- Well-researched vendor ratings and product/market awareness to guide decisions

Clients rely on NEF's knowledge and experience based on thousands of network installations and projects. The results of NEF's fact-finding and network planning efforts include thorough, unbiased analysis and informed provider-neutral recommendations. With this actionable data from NEF, clients can apply tangible performance optimizing network solutions and get measurable cost savings. Furthermore, clients can take the results and findings from the network audit and implement changes using their own internal staff and procurement teams.

Take Action, Start with Information

Telecom infrastructure review projects are often involved and even onerous for organizations. With the NEF network audit, companies can make informed multi-million dollar decisions backed by research, expert insights and thorough analysis. NEF sets itself apart from other resources by offering more complete data and research performed by highly skilled, niche experts in transport and data center projects. What's more, NEF leverages strong relationships with service providers up to and including C-Level contacts to bring about information and win-win contract structures throughout the process. These advantages mean clients get comprehensive information and actionable recommendations for their current transport services and future infrastructure planning.

Talk with an NEF analyst today to see what results our specialized data transport network audit information can deliver to your company.

The Process at a Glance

1. *Perform discovery on business processes and application dependencies*
2. *Define transport network elements & requirements*
3. *Gather all data on existing network service contracts*
4. *Research network options and potential route/product solutions*
5. *Analyze and design network architecture*
6. *Recommend service contract additions, restructuring, consolidation and changes*
7. *Report on findings with key stakeholders*
8. *Refine and review as necessary*