**OpenFabrics Alliance Expands Mission to Strengthen Its Support for Development of Advanced Network and Fabric Technologies**

**LOS ANGELES, Calif. — July 18, 2018 —**The [OpenFabrics Alliance (OFA)](http://www.openfabrics.org), an open source organization dedicated to the development of Advanced Network Software, has taken on a new mission to accelerate the development and adoption of advanced fabric technologies. This represents a significant expansion of its original mission from 2004, which was to facilitate the rapid adoption of an emerging network technology, known as the InfiniBand™ Architecture. The new mission is achieved by using the OFA’s proven methods and track record as a ‘prototype’ for success, but adds several important new elements. For example, the OFA plans to apply the same methods that successfully brought the Verbs API to prominence in the open source community to drive development of an expanded range of network software technologies. In addition, the OFA is embarking on a program designed to accelerate network technology development by exploiting synergies among technical organizations working in adjacent fields. The organization’s fundamental goals remain the same – to develop and support open source software to accelerate the development of network technologies, but its scope is broader than ever before.

**Advanced Networks Software – An Expanded View of Fabrics**

The OFA’s new mission now encompasses what it has aptly named Advanced Networks Software - ANS. ANS for fabrics is a suite of APIs and associated software components for high performance computing and enterprise data centers. It is focused on applications requiring efficient networks, storage connectivity and parallel computing. Key elements of ANS, and many of its derivatives are freely available through open source repositories. It is in use today in high performance computing, enterprise data centers requiring highly efficient networks, storage applications, the cloud, virtualized environments, and parallel computing. **Advanced Networks Software** is a suite of high performance APIs and associated software for current and future HPC, cloud and enterprise data centers. It is focused on applications requiring efficient networks, storage connectivity and parallel computing

* The OFA is actively developing and supporting the following fabric technologies:
	+ Kernel-level modules to support device level applications:
		- Storage Technologies (Lustre™, SRP, NVMoF, etc)
		- Legacy Communication (Sockets)
	+ User mode APIs for:
		- Verbs API supporting InfiniBand-style networks
		- Parallel Message Passing (MPI, SHMEM)
		- OpenFabrics Interfaces (OFI) providing a higher level semantic that is untethered to any particular network
		- RDMA implementations
	+ Support for emerging and future networks
		- Remote Persistent Memory

**OFA Industry Alliance Program – Enabling Collaboration**

Central to the new mission is the idea of collaboration. To drive industry wide collaboration, the OFA has launched a new Industry Alliance Program. The objective is to facilitate greater synergy among technical organizations working in adjacent areas to advance fabric technologies. The new program provides a platform to incubate and evolve vendor independent open source software for fabrics and drives technical deliverables and promotion to the benefit of the industry as a whole.

In April of 2018, the first of such alliances was [announced](https://www.snia.org/news_events/newsroom/media-alert-and-openfabrics-alliance-announce-collaboration) with the Storage Networking Industry Alliance (SNIA) to collaborate on activities that advance remote access to persistent memory and the adoption of remote persistent memory as a mainstream technology. Remote access is vital to fabrics because modern applications span multiple systems, and this collaboration will bring the benefit of persistent memory to these applications.

Contact press@openfabrics.org to inquire about the Industry Alliance Program.

**OFA Workshop 2019 – Save the Date**

The [15th Annual OFA Workshop](https://www.openfabrics.org/index.php/2019-ofa-workshop.html), is returning to Austin, Texas – March 19-21, 2019 at the University of Texas at Austin. The annual OFA Workshop is a premier means of fostering collaboration among those who develop fabrics, deploy fabrics, and create applications that rely on fabrics. It is the only event of its kind where fabric developers and users can discuss emerging fabric technologies, collaborate on future industry requirements, and address problems that exist today.

Stay tuned for event updates, including the official Call for Sessions, sponsorship opportunities, early bird registration, and other important deadlines.

**About the OpenFabrics Alliance**
The OpenFabrics Alliance (OFA) is a 501(c) (6) non-profit company that develops, tests, licenses and distributes the Advanced Network Software – multi-platform, high performance, low-latency and energy-efficient open-source RDMA software. Advanced Network Software is used in business, operational, research and scientific infrastructures that require fast fabrics/networks, efficient storage and low-latency computing. The open source technology is free and is included in major Linux distributions, as well as Microsoft Windows Server 2012. In addition to developing and supporting this RDMA software, the OFA delivers training, workshops and interoperability testing to ensure all releases meet multivendor enterprise requirements for security, reliability and efficiency. For more information about the OFA, visit [www.openfabrics.org](http://cts.businesswire.com/ct/CT?id=smartlink&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.openfabrics.org&esheet=50803943&newsitemid=20140213005951&lan=en-US&anchor=www.openfabrics.org&index=2&md5=0959034e9c3bb457390414c02bdbfd89).