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Extreme Networks Announces Commitment to Reference Design for SDN Switch Leveraging OpenFlow to Increase Data Center, Campus Network Efficiency

Company Extends Open Fabric Campus to Cloud Vision for Open networking via Big Switch Networks 'Switch Light' OpenFlow Thin Switching Software Platform

SANTA CLARA, Calif., March 26, 2013 /PRNewswire/ -- Extreme Networks, Inc. (Nasdaq: EXTR) today announced that it is extending its [Open Fabric](#) architecture and vision for Software Defined Networking (SDN) with a commitment to the new Reference Design architecture for SDN switches. Extreme will later this year introduce the first switch, the Slalom™ which will be an optimized SDN switch supporting lightweight software and network services based on the OpenFlow protocol.

The Reference Design architecture is based on merchant silicon and the Big Switch Networks Switch Light, an open source, OpenFlow thin switching platform (also announced today). This platform is based on the Indigo open source project, designed to communicate with the Big Network Controller as part of cost-optimized SDN deployments. Extreme Networks is taking the next step, combining this open platform with global service, support, and deployment capabilities for success in mission-critical networks.

Extreme Networks Slalom will provide an evolutionary progression of Extreme Networks Open Fabric portfolio, complementing the rich ExtremeXOS® based SDN-capable stackable and chassis-based switches. The combination offers customers maximum flexibility, by permitting deployment of Extreme Networks existing switch portfolio for 'hybrid' deployments combining SDN and existing architectures, while paving the way for optimized SDN-centric 'leaf' switches.

"Extreme Networks Open Fabric is designed to offer customers an open and broad portfolio of next generation data center networking solutions that support emerging SDN solutions in hardware and software," said Oscar Rodriguez, president and CEO for Extreme Networks. "Providing customers with the widest amount of choice and performance for their networks is what reduces their costs and helps them scale."

"As a key partner, Extreme Networks continually innovates and delivers industry leading performance and a truly open architecture that fits very well with the SDN movement," said Guido Appenzeller, CEO and co-founder, Big Switch Networks. "We are working with Extreme Networks to develop market-leading SDN applications and OpenFlow infrastructure to in order to deliver our joint customers integrated solutions in this emerging SDN product category."

In February, Extreme Networks began [shipments of OpenFlow](#) with the release of ExtremeXOS 15.3 and SDN applications from Big Switch Networks. These applications include Big Tap, providing traffic monitoring and dynamic network visibility with flow filtering, and Big Virtual Switch (BVS), an application for virtualized data center networks which provisions the physical network into multiple logical networks across the stack, from Layer 2 to 7. Extreme Networks will be demonstrating its SDN solutions at the upcoming [ONS](#) as well as at [Interop](#).

About Extreme Networks

Extreme Networks is a technology leader in high-performance Ethernet switching for cloud, data center and mobile networks. Based in Santa Clara, CA, Extreme Networks has more than 6,000 customers in more than 50 countries. For more information, visit the company's website at <http://www.extremenetworks.com>.

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Except for the historical information contained herein, the matters set forth in this press release, including without limitation statements as to features, performance, and benefits of Extreme Networks products, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date. Because such statements deal with future events, they are subject to risks and uncertainties, including network design and actual results of use of the product in different environments. We undertake no obligation to update the forward-looking information in this release. Other important factors which could cause actual results to differ materially are contained in the Company's 10-Qs and 10-Ks which are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. <http://www.sec.gov>

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