Subject: (Assignment 2: Executive Summary Assignment)

Dear Dr. Perigo,

As we all know networks are expensive, companies of all sizes are concerned about making a migration from traditional network to software-defined networking (SDN), given the time and money they have invested in their current infrastructure. Companies want to make sure that benefits of migration will exceed the risks involved, including us. However, SDN can provide significant advantages over traditional networks such as agility, flexibility, security and ease of configuration if we do it properly[2]. The followings are the benefits of SDN I’d like to introduce to you:

* Centralizing security control into one entity can effectively be used to manage security throughout the enterprise if it is implemented securely and properly
* Saving operating costs; SDN would lower overall operating costs and result in administrative saving because network issues can be centralized and automated.
* Content delivery; The ability of being able to shape and control data traffic is guaranteed for VoIP and multimedia transmissions.

One of common questions in Open Networking Foundation (ONF) for companies is “how to get there” [1]. Here are the steps for us to migrate smoother:

1. Educate IT staff in SDN technologies. Because operating SDN can be vary from networks to networks, employees should receive properly training. The better-informed employees on SDN architecture, the better prepared for a successful SDN migration.
2. Start small and scale up. It is risky to migrate entire company to SDN. The better way would be clearly defined architecture and service requirements of the target network, and detail what devices will be impacted by the process. A step-by-step approach gathers more experiences and minimize the risk to succeed.

Chen Hao Cheng (Johnny), Senior Network Engineer

References:

1. <https://www.opennetworking.org/>

2. https://www.networkcomputing.com/networking/real-world-advice-sdn-migration