CLAIMS

~~We claim:~~

1. A method for provisioning a network service, the method comprising:

receiving a user request to provision a network service;

determining an abstracted task to provision a network element associated with the network service based on the user request;

determining a network-specific task associated with a first network and the abstracted task; and

configuring the network element to provide the network service to an endpoint by sending one or more network-specific commands associated with the network-specific task to the network element.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising presenting a plurality of standardized requests to a user, wherein the network element is configured in response to receiving a selection of one of the standardized requests.

3. The method of any preceding claim ~~1~~, further comprising, in response to receiving the user request to provision the network service, configuring a second network element to provide the network service, the second network element being configured by sending one or more second network-specific commands to the second network element.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the network element is associated with the first network, wherein the second network element is associated with a second network, wherein the one or more network-specific tasks are different from the one or more second network-specific tasks, and wherein the one or more network-specific commands are different from the one or more second network-specific commands.

5. The method of any preceding claim ~~1~~, wherein the network is selected from a plurality of networks based on an endpoint location of the endpoint.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the network is selected based on a proximity of the endpoint location to a computing resource.

7. The method of any preceding claim ~~1~~, wherein the user request includes a required bandwidth.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the network element is further configured based on the required bandwidth.

9. The method of claim 1 or 2, further comprising detecting changes in the first network; and, based on the changes in the first network, causing a second network element to be configured to connect to the endpoint.

10. A system for provisioning a network service, the system comprising:

at least one networking application programming interface (API) server comprising at least one processor and memory, the at least one networking API server implementing a standardization layer and an abstraction layer, the standardization layer selecting a first network based on a standardized request;

the abstraction layer determining an abstracted task to provision a network element, associated with the first network, based on the standardized request, and determining a network-specific task associated with the first network and the abstracted task configurable to connect an endpoint serving a user to the network element through the first network; and

one or more APIs to send one or more network-specific commands to the network element to configure the network element based on the network-specific task.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein the first network is further determined based on price as calculated based on an endpoint location.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the endpoint location is a location of an enterprise network associated with the user.

13. The system of claim 11 or 12, wherein the user request includes a required bandwidth.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the price is further calculated based on the required bandwidth.

15. The system of any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein the price is further calculated based on the network element.

16. The system of any one of claims 10 to 15, wherein the network service includes a second network element, the second network element being configured by sending one or more second network-specific commands to the second network element, the network service further provisioned based on the configuration of the second network element.

17. ~~One or more tangible non-transitory computer-readable storage media storing computer-executable instructions~~ A computer program for performing a network service, the computer program comprising instructions which, when the program is executed by a computer, cause the computer to carry out a process comprising:

receiving a user request to provision a network service;

determining an abstracted task to provision a network element associated with the network service based on the user request;

determining a network-specific task associated with a first network and the abstracted task; and

configuring the network element to provide the network service to an endpoint by sending one or more network-specific commands associated with the network-specific task to the network element.

18. The computer program~~The one or more tangible non-transitory computer-readable storage media~~ of claim 17, the computer process further comprising: in response to receiving the user request to provision the network service, configuring a second network element to provide the network service, the second network element being configured by sending one or more second network-specific commands associated with second network-specific tasks to the second network element

19. The computer program~~The one or more tangible non-transitory computer-readable storage media~~ of claim 18, wherein the network element is associated with the first network, wherein the second network element is associated with a second network, wherein the one or more network-specific tasks are different from the one or more second network-specific tasks, and wherein the one or more network-specific commands are different from the one or more second network-specific commands.

20. The computer program~~The one or more tangible non-transitory computer-readable storage media~~ of claim 18 or 19, wherein the second one or more network-specific commands is associated with a second network-specific task, and the first network-

specific task and the second network-specific task are associated with the abstracted task.