Written by Marco Attard 01 November 2012

Rackspace announces Cloud Networks-- a system allowing the creation of isolated, multi-tiered networks in a public cloud, using software defined network capabilities.



Cloud Networks users can create multiple networks (or tiers of networks) when building cloud-based virtual machines, with individual networks supporting web servers, application servers and databases through what Rackspace calls "true layer 2 isolation in the cloud."

The system leverages on Open vSwitch, the software defined networking (SDN) technology from recent Rackspace purchase Nicira.

Previously Rackspace customers could only segment systems through vLANs.

RackSpace also announces a strategic agreement with Hadoop cluster deployment and support specialist Hortonworks. Customers now can run Hadoop clusters on Rackspace infrastructure, while a cloud-based Hadoop service is also in the works.

Go Cloud Networks: The Next Chapter in the Open Cloud

Go Rackspace and Hortonworks Collaborate to Deliver OpenStack and Hadoop-based Big Data Solutions