



ISSUED: June 4, 2025

End of Product Sale, End of R&D Support is Announced for Ribbon's VNFM

This bulletin serves as the notice that Ribbon Communications, Inc. ("Ribbon") is announcing the End of Product Sale and End of R&D support for Virtual Network Function Manager (VNFM) effective June 4, 2025. The VNFM performs a lifecycle management function for Ribbon Core SBC/PSX/MRFP solutions deployed in an OpenStack environment.

In line with the industry's shift to cloud native technology, Ribbon has re-architected and re-implemented its voice solutions to be cloud native. This approach addresses both current and future security and operational challenges in real-time communications and does not require a VNFM. It is built on the principles of:

- **Container-based microservices**, enabling the repeated, rapid availability of software updates from development to operations team-managed test, customer lab, and production ("DevOps").
- **Kubernetes orchestration**, reducing the costs associated with public/private cloud life cycle management (upgrades, rollback, resiliency), observability, and resource consumption.
- **Declarative API-based provisioning & test automation** artifacts to support the rapid rollout of new features while minimizing human intervention, errors, and costs. Ribbon's Learning Enabled Automation Program (LEAP) is designed to leverage these capabilities.

Ribbon's cloud native portfolio marks a significant shift from traditional hardware or virtualized solutions, allowing quick software updates for market needs or security threats. It enables efficient use of cloud resources for a cost-effective operation and automated deployment. Using industry-standard elements, customers can leverage their existing cloud native expertise and tools.

All customers with the VNFM product may continue utilizing their existing deployment, but the ability to support the deployment is limited. No new software updates will be available for the product.

PRODUCT LIFE CYCLE DATES

Milestone	Date
End of Product Sale: The product is no longer quoted or offered for sale.	June 4, 2025
End of R&D Support: Date when the product will no longer receive R&D support from Ribbon. RibbonCare, RTS 'best effort' technical support (without software updates/patches, critical issue root cause analysis, or assurance of interoperability with other product releases), remains available for purchase. Please contact your Ribbon channel or account manager for details.	June 4, 2025

Table Notes

1. The above dates are for planning purposes only, and Ribbon reserves the right to change with notice.
2. A RibbonCare Service support term extending past an announced “End of R&D Support” date will be entitled to Best Effort Ribbon Technical Support after the announced End of Ribbon R&D support date.

For more information on Ribbon’s Product Lifecycle Policy, please visit our website [here](https://ribboncommunications.com/company/company-policies/policies/product-life-cycle-policy).
(<https://ribboncommunications.com/company/company-policies/policies/product-life-cycle-policy>)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Frequently Asked Question	Answer
Why is Ribbon announcing End of Product Sale for the VNFM product?	Underlying industry technology is shifting to a Container Network Function (CNF) architecture. This new technology obsoletes the need for VNFM capabilities.

PRODUCT CODES AFFECTED

Existing SKU	Description
NFV-VNFM-VNF-RTS	VNFM RIGHT-TO-SCALE PER VNF

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This bulletin is subject to the existing customer purchase agreement between the parties, which shall control conflicts. The above dates are for planning purposes only, and Ribbon reserves the right to change with notice.