

Why Bother
With An
NREN?

NRENs emerged in response to the commercialization of the Internet ...

- A not-for-profit organization providing advanced services to a well bounded community
- At their core, NRENs exist to enable efficient, reliable data communications and networking services for their nation's research and education communities. NRENs also form a local and international research and education network, allowing local and global collaboration
- The ultimate purpose of an NREN is to serve scholars and innovators, ensuring that research and development is contributing to the local and global economy

... by establishing reliable, cost-effective, high speed networks for research

NREN's Position Themselves As ISPs and MSPs!



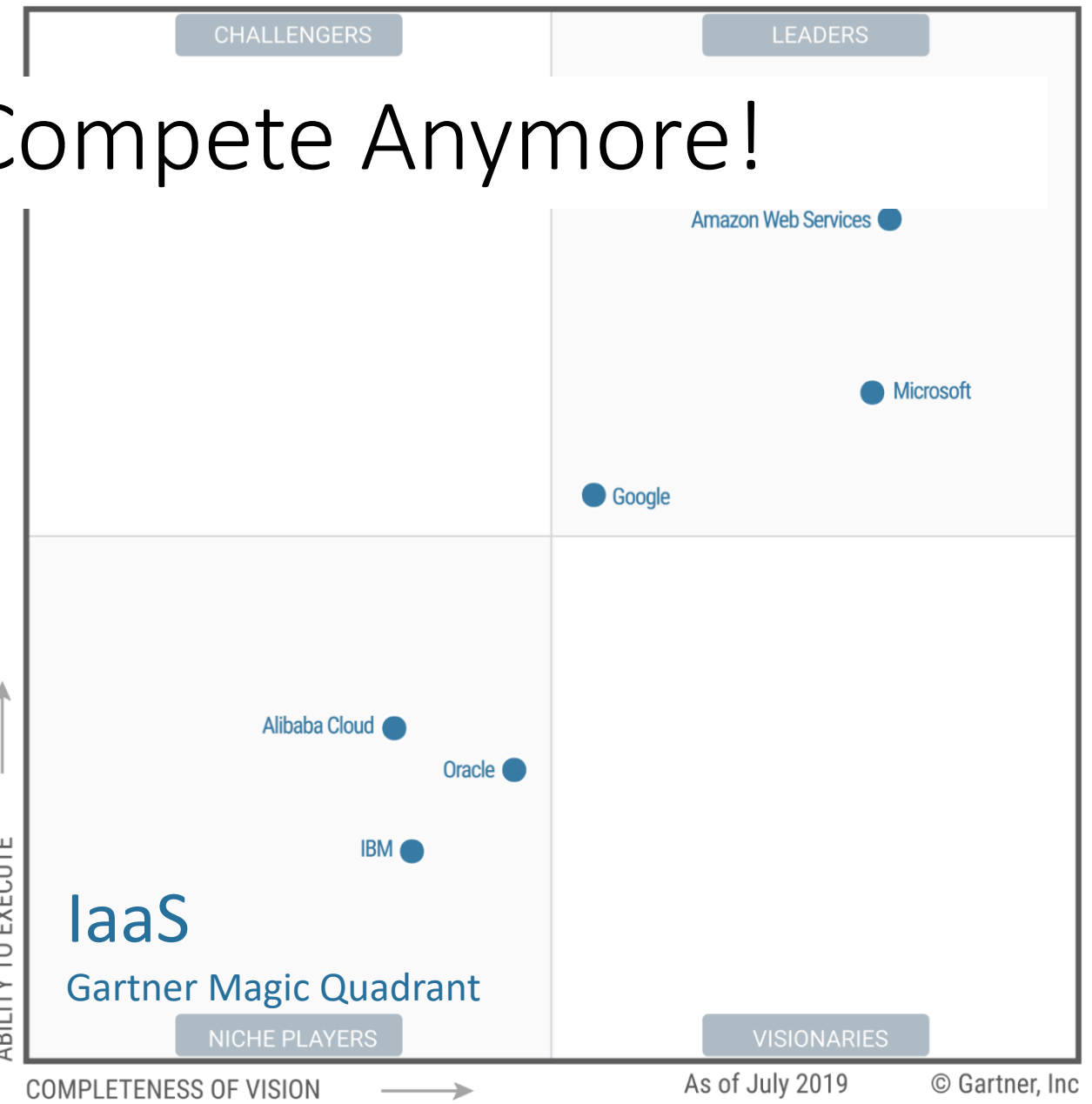
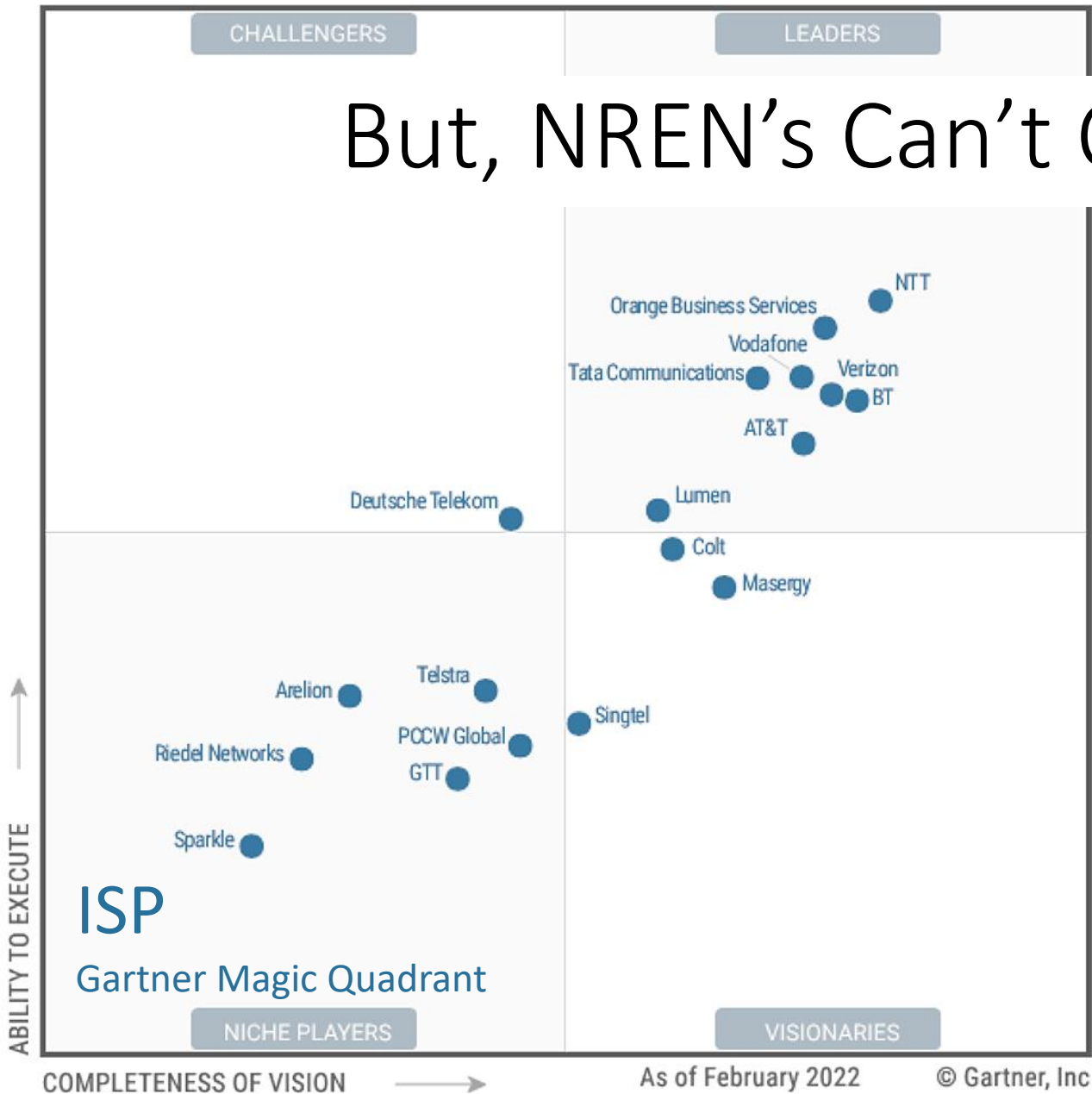
“A **national research and education network (NREN)** is a specialised [internet service provider](#) dedicated to supporting the needs of the [research](#) and [education](#) communities within a country.

It is usually distinguished by support for a high-speed [backbone network](#), often offering dedicated channels for individual research projects.

In recent years NRENs have developed many '**above the net' services.**”

--WIKIPEDIA

But, NREN's Can't Compete Anymore!



Strength

Weakness

Opportunities

Threats

Strength

Integral part of the
R&E community

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Opportunities

Evolving R&E needs

Threats

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Commitment to
ISP/MSP model

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Availability of better
commercial services

The True Value Of NRENs Is In
Leveraging Their Position
To Facilitate
The Transformation
Of Research and Education

NREN's Need to Pivot

From Service Provider

To Service Broker

Network
Services

Above the
Net Services

Product
Manager

Shared
Resource
Manager

Community
Advocate

Example NREN Services

Product Manager

- Negotiate prices on behalf of community
- Procure services from MSP's on behalf of community
- Develop shared services not provided by MSPs

Shared Resource Manager

- Manage resources such as HPC, Observatories, Colliders
- Create shared labs and prototyping spaces
- Provide "exchange" opportunities

Community Advocate

- Lobby government in support of Online Education
- Provide forums to share and collaborate
- Provide internship opportunities

NREN's Are Not ISP's

NREN's Are Catalysts
for R&E

Advancement and Collaboration

THANK YOU



**AMERICAN
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