

Title: P4 Evangelist and Ecosystem Lead

Seniority - senior individual contributor, with title based on experience.

Location: Flexible, reporting into Menlo Park, CA

Background

ONF is looking for an exceptional individual to focus on the vibrancy and growth of the P4 project and language, the ecosystem of companies leveraging P4 and on driving adoption of P4 across the industry.

P4 is an open programming language for expressing how packets are processed by a networking data plane (such as switches, network interface cards, routers, or network appliances). Many targets (in particular, targets following an SDN architecture) implement a separate control plane and a data plane, and P4 is designed to specify the data plane functionality of the target. P4 is transformational in enabling networking devices to be dynamically programmed by operators and application developers rather than being limited to the fixed functionality historically offered by networking silicon ASICs.

P4 is also an open source community that enhances and nurtures the P4 language and associated open source components (like compilers). The P4 project is led by members following a structured merit-based governance model. The P4 project is hosted by ONF, and ONF also leverages the P4 language across its entire portfolio of open source platforms and solutions. This individual will also be evangelizing the ONF portfolio and facilitating adoption of ONF platforms as a vehicle for broadening the impact of P4 and seeding the industry with a variety of P4-enabled solutions and development platforms.

If you are interested in working across the industry with leading innovative networking companies and technologies, then this role might be the place for you.

Needs to be Addressed by this Role:

We are looking for an individual to foster and evolve the P4 ecosystem and related marketing and community activities. Responsibilities include:

- Grow Awareness of P4
- Promote Adoption of P4
- Grow number of companies participating in the P4 Ecosystem
- Broaden consumption of ONF's open source platforms that leverage P4
- Grow developer participation and collaboration within the P4 ecosystem

Responsibilities & Activities

- Lead P4 community and ecosystem activities for ONF
- Serve as primary authority on how P4 is used throughout the industry by interfacing with and building relationships across the industry
- Manage public presence of P4 (p4.org site, wiki, websites, github, social channels)
- Organize P4 Events (in person and virtual)
- Broaden availability of educational materials on P4 by activating the community contributions
- Develop/Solicit/Produce P4 content (explainer videos, testimonials, demos, etc.)
- Competitive marketing - positioning P4 in relation to other market alternatives
- Build a P4 Certification Program, working with the community to create and launch programs to certify hardware, software and programmers
- Advocate for P4 at events and online
- Speak, blog and post on behalf of ONF on P4 and it's value and potential
- Build an understanding of the relationship and value of P4 across ONF's full portfolio of open source projects, promoting the adoption of these platforms as an additional vehicle to broaden the reach and use of P4
- Track & report on P4 community health & status

Travel: 15% (once travel is once again safe)

Prerequisites

- Enthusiasm for P4 technologies - ability to learn, position, write about and present P4
- An understanding of the networking market and ecosystem, from silicon to system and from cloud to telco operators
- Technical competence to explain benefits of P4
- 5+ years in the networking and/or telecom industry in a technical or product management role
- Marketing experience, presenting, writing about and promoting technology products
- Technical understanding of networking: e.g. switching (Layer2), routing (Layer3), BGP, IPv6, etc.
- Understanding of modern open networking trends (SDN, SONiC, open networking, disaggregated networking solutions)
- Extrovert - preference for communicating, presenting, writing, posting, engaging ...
- Demonstrated success in building relationships
- Small company and/or startup experience

Desirable Skills and Background

- Already part of the P4 ecosystem
- Community Building Experience (e.g. user groups, developer groups, etc.)
- Open source experience - knows how open source projects work
- Work experience with a smart NIC vendor, virtual switching solutions or overlay networking.
- International experience and skills to work with a worldwide ecosystem
- Passport and/or Visa enabling unencumbered international travel

Suitable Backgrounds

- Product management with software/networking/silicon company
- Technical marketing background, wanting to get into community and developer relations
- Tenure with company leveraging P4 or programmable networking silicon, Smart NIC or DPU
- Business development
- Developer advocate/developer community manager in a software company