Facebook Updates Wedge Switch

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Facebook announced an update on the Wedge the top-of-rack switch, as the company says the 40Gbps switch cannot cope with fast-growing social network traffic.

 Announced back in June 2014 , the Wedge was designed as a more flexible and scalable alternative to traditional switches. It works with both commercial and open-source networking products and packs an actual microserver module (one based on Facebook's "Group Hug" architecture), meaning it runs a server complete with own networking OS next to the traditional networking silicon.

The updated Wedge 100 is a 32x100G switch able to handle 100Gbps per port. Like the first Wedge it has a non-blocking design making it able to feed all ports at the same time, bringing total capacity to 3.2Tbps. It runs on FBOSS, an Facebook-developed software stack, or Big Switch Networks' open source Open Network Linux.

Facebook does not say when the Wedge 100 design will be finalised but it be will shared on the Open Compute Project, allowing other vendors and operators to build similar networking solutions. Accton, for example, already offers a switch based on the first Wedge.

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