

NORDUnet – The Nordic Backbone Network

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Description

NORDUnet is a collaboration between the national research networks in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. Its purpose is to provide the national research and education communities with an efficient networking service which ensures coherence of the national R & D networks and connects these to similar networks in the rest of Europe and the world.

NORDUnet is organized as a consortium agreement between the national networks DENet, FUNET, SUNET, SURIS and UNINETT. The administration is an integral part of UNI-C in Denmark.

NORDUnet has contracted its work mainly to the national organizations. The network operations center has been contracted to KTH/SUNET. It is their responsibility to monitor the service, configure the Cisco routers (IP) as well as coordinate operational issues. The X.25 operations have been contracted to UNINETT and DECNET operations to UNI-C. Overall technical coordination has been contracted to VTKK/FUNET.

NORDUnet has five points of presence, one in each of the Nordic countries.

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FUNET/VTKK
Tietotie 6
Espoo
Finland
SURIS
University of Iceland
Dunhaga 5 IS-107 Reykjavik
Iceland
SINTEF/DELAB
N-7034
Trondheim
Norway

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KTH/SUNET
S-100 44
Stockholm
Sweden

NORDUnet provides IP, DECNET, X.25 and CLNS layer 3 services, in this order of volume. NORDUnet leases bandwidth in form raw lines and adds value by providing the network layer protocols in a coordinated fashion with equipment operated through various contracts. The national networks which are the NORDUnet customers see it as a "NORDUnet plug" which provides different service "pins".

NJE traffic is transported over TCP/IP. The CLNS (including DECNET Phase V) pilot traffic is carried by the same Cisco's as the production traffic. The external connections are mainly based on Cisco routers. NORDUnet runs IP and CLNS protocols to the US and IP, CLNS and DECNET IV to Europe. X.25 connectivity to Europe is provided via a direct connection to the IXI network.

There are app. 60.000 IP hosts, 5000 DECnet hosts, and 100 EARN hosts in the Nordic national networks that are interconnected by NORDUnet. NORDUnet connects the national Nordic networks to Internet, Ebone, EASInet, EARN/BITNET, EUnet, HEPnet, SPAN and IXI.

Who Can Use the Network

NORDUnet can only be used for academic and research traffic.

References

Documents available by anonymous ftp and gopher from nic.nordu.net