ANS - Advanced Network & Services, Inc.

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Description

Advanced Network & Services is a U.S.-based network service provider that offers connections to the Internet at a variety of bandwidth levels, including 56 Kb/s, T1, 10 Mb/s and T3. Currently, ANS has the only nationwide computing network operating at higher than T1 speeds. ANS began by serving only sites sponsored by the National Science Foundation, and the NSFNET remains the largest segment of the ANS network. However, today the company provides enterprise and gateway attachment services to commercial organizations, including other network and information service providers, as well as research and education institutions and government agencies. The fiber optic transmission facilities of the ANS network are provided by interexchange carriers, and the core nodes of the network are co-located at the carrier points of presence (POPs), which are staffed around the clock. The network's operations center is located at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and also provides continuous service.

Network Access

The ANS network is accessible through direct attachment or through gateways from the National Science Foundation Network, private networks or public regional networks.

Who Can Use The Network

All research and education institutions and government agencies that have signed the ANS Acceptable Use Policy as part of their contractual agreements with ANS are free to use the company's network to send and receive information related to research and education. Any commercial organization that has signed the ANS CO+RE Acceptable Use Policy and the appropriate agreements for sending and receiving information that is commercial in nature, that is, not related to research and education, may use the ANS network. However, commercial traffic may not be sent through a public regional network unless the network has signed an agreement with ANS CO+RE allowing this type of traffic to be carried across its gateways.

Miscellaneous

In addition to providing attachment services and the equipment for these connections, ANS offers security services that limit access between the Internet and private networks, consultation in the integration of high- speed networking into strategic planning, assistance in network engineering and design, and educational seminars in high-speed networking.

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