

NEARnet– New England Academic and Research Network

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Description

NEARnet, the New England Academic and Research Network, is a regional high speed data communications network. NEARnet was founded in 1988 by Boston University, Harvard University, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to meet a growing need for fast, reliable information exchange. It is linked to other regional and national networks to create a national infrastructure for electronic information.

NEARnet is a cooperative project which continues to grow very rapidly. As of October 1992, NEARnet has grown to 174 member organizations. These members include New England's finest universities, colleges, technology-based industries, government and private agencies. Since its inception in 1988, NEARnet's management and operations has been contracted to Bolt Beranek and Newman Inc.

Utilizing the Internet TCP/IP protocol suite, NEARnet supports leased-line and microwave links at speeds from 19.2 Kb/s to 10 Mb/s. Dialup IP access is also supported using SLIP starting at 9.6 Kb/s. In addition to technical support, consulting, and user information services, the NEARnet staff maintains a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week network operations center.

Network Access

Any IP host on the Internet may access NEARnet sites.

Who Can Use the Network

Any NEARnet member may exchange traffic with any other member for purposes that are consonant with the NEARnet Acceptable Use Policy. In cases where data communications are carried across other networks, NEARnet members are advised to adhere to the acceptable use policies of these networks. Commercial routing is offered through a cooperative agreement with the CIX and ANS CO+RE Services.

Miscellaneous

Online information is available via anonymous FTP at nic.near.net. The NEARnet Staff publishes a monthly online bulletin and a hardcopy quarterly newsletter. NEARnet also offers a series of Technical and User Services Seminars for its members and the Internet community.

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