WHAT IS THE INTERNET SOCIETY?

The Internet Society is proud to be the organisational home of the Internet's premier Internet standards-making body: the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF). Without the technical achievements of the IETF and its participants, the Internet would never have become the success that it is today.

ISOC provides a major source of funding and support for the IETF and its processes, including funding for the RFC Editor function. At the IETF's request, ISOC substantially increased its support to and participation in the IETF, with considerable progress being made in establishing a new, more productive and efficient administrative support structure.

ISOC's support of Internet standards and the IETF also extends to its policy, education, and public relations functions as well as to its legal and insurance coverage. ISOC, along with its Platinum Contributors, is the IETF's sole source of financial support apart from IETF meeting revenue. Support from companies whose products and services so clearly depend on the standards developed by the IETF is essential.

A major source of programme funding for many of ISOC's initiatives is the Public Interest Registry (PIR), a not-for-profit corporation created by ISOC in 2002 with ISOC as its sole member.

PIR's mission is to manage the .ORG domain in an exemplary manner, while educating and empowering the global noncommercial community to use the Internet more effectively and, concurrently, to take a leadership position among Internet stakeholders on policy and related issues on behalf of the .ORG community.

With support from PIR, ISOC was able to respond to regional coordinating groups that needed limited, supplemental funds to sustain local resources and to carry out important training events.

Afilias Limited, a global leader in advanced domain name registry services, provides registry support services for PIR and is an ISOC Platinum Contributor.

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