WHAT IS THE INTERNET SOCIETY?

The Internet Society was founded in 1992 to promote the evolution and growth of the Internet as a global communications infrastructure, to provide support for the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), and to encourage responsible and effective use of the Internet through education, discussion, and advice to public policy makers. ISOC’s activities—particularly in developing countries—have helped expand the reach of the Internet, bringing a wide range of important social, economic, and educational benefits to people around the world. ISOC enjoys a well-deserved reputation for integrity and service to the public interest and is recognized as a strong advocate for the core values of an open and accessible Internet.

MISSION AND ROLE

ISOC’s mission is to promote open development, evolution, and use of the Internet for the benefit of all people throughout the world. Together with its Organization Members, Chapters, and Individual Members—in addition to its relationship with the Internet Engineering Task Force and its associated bodies—ISOC stands at the forefront of the development, education, and public policy areas affecting the Internet and Internet users. As part of its desire to protect and preserve the elements that have made the Internet the success it is today, ISOC works closely with many Internet organizations: Internet service providers, network operators, root server operators, country-code top-level domains, the Network Startup Resource Center, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, and the Regional Internet Registries, as well as with national and international governments and civil society groups. Operating both on the local level and in the global arena, ISOC supports the formulation and adoption of poli-

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Arnoud van Wijk, Disabilities Project Coordinator, Europe
Terry Weigler, Office Manager, North America
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Henri Wohlfarth, Web Developer, Europe
cies that make the Internet accessible to everyone; that safeguard the integrity and continuity of Internet developments and operations; that support and contribute to the continuing evolution of the Internet as an open, decentralized platform for innovation, creativity, and economic opportunity; and that bring authoritative, unbiased information about the Internet to individuals and organizations in every part of the world.

**CORE VALUES**

ISOC’s core values are the fundamental principles that guide all of the organization’s activities. They are the beliefs and commitments on which ISOC’s mission is based.

- The quality of life for people in all parts of the world is enhanced by their ability to enjoy the benefits of an open and global Internet.

- Well-informed individuals and public and private policy makers make up the foundation of an open and global Internet society.

- If the Internet is to continue to be a platform for innovation and creativity, its open, decentralized nature must be preserved.

- Enduring and sustainable progress toward ISOC’s vision is best achieved by a combination of global initiatives and activities at a local level that engage people in their home regions.

- Technical standards and Internet operating procedures should be developed and asserted through open and transparent processes, with minimal barriers to participation or to access to information.

- Excessively restrictive government or private controls on computer hardware or software, telecommunications infrastructure, or Internet content substantially diminish the social, political, and economic benefits of the Internet.

- Rewarding and productive use of the Internet depends on the ability to trust critical services.

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

ISOC pursues its mission and upholds its core values through programmes and projects that are designed to achieve goals in the three specific areas that define its scope: standards, education, and public policy.

- Policy, Regulation, and the Access Environment
- Technical Capacity Building
- Underserved Communities

**InterNetWorks.** Focus on the continued operation of the Internet in three programmatic areas:

1. Common and Open Internet
2. Global Addressing
3. Security and Stability

**Trust and Identity.** Identify and promote activities and partners working to resolve some of the most persistent issues in key areas, including:

1. Identity: Managing Trust Relationships;
2. Architecture and Trust: Emerging Research; and
3. Operationalizing Trust.

**Enabling Access.** Address the fundamental impediments to Internet growth and usability in three programmatic areas:

1. Policy, Regulation, and the Access Environment
2. Technical Capacity Building
3. Underserved Communities

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES AS OF DECEMBER 2007**

With representative region, term of office, and officer title

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region/Society</th>
<th>Term of Office</th>
<th>Officer Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fred Baker*</td>
<td>U.S.A./Americas</td>
<td>2002–08</td>
<td>Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hiroshi Esaki</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>2007–10</td>
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<td>Patrik Fältström</td>
<td>Sweden/Europe</td>
<td>2006–09</td>
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<td>Ted Hardie</td>
<td>U.S.A./Americas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Karrenberg*</td>
<td>Germany/Europe</td>
<td>2005–08</td>
<td>Chair</td>
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<td>Franck Martin*</td>
<td>Fiji/Oceania</td>
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<td>Desirée Miloshevic*</td>
<td>Serbia/Europe</td>
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<td>Alejandro Pisanty</td>
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<td>Glenn Ricart</td>
<td>Switzerland/Europe</td>
<td>2001–President/CEO</td>
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<td>Bill St. Arnaud</td>
<td>Canada/Americas</td>
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<td>Patrick Vande Walle</td>
<td>Luxembourg/Europe</td>
<td>2004–07</td>
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<td>Baoping Yan</td>
<td>China/Asia</td>
<td>2006–09</td>
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*Executive Committee member.