The Internet is for Everyone!

Join with us to keep the Internet open, thriving, and benefitting people around the globe.

To achieve our mission, the Internet Society:

• Champions public policies that support a free and open Internet
• Facilitates the open development of Internet standards and protocols to allow everyone to connect to everything online
• Offers discussion forums on issues that affect Internet evolution, development, and use in technical, commercial, societal, and other contexts
• Works globally on Internet issues, leveraging Regional Bureaus and Chapters for collaboration and engagement that strengthens our impact and relevance at the local level
• Promotes professional development and builds community to foster participation and leadership in areas important to the Internet’s evolution

A global, cause-driven organization, the Internet Society is a leading advocate for the ongoing development of the Internet as an open platform that serves the social, economic, and educational needs of people throughout the world.

Founded in 1992 by several Internet pioneers, the Internet Society works in the areas of technology, policy, development, and education to promote an open, accessible Internet for everyone. A shared vision of keeping the Internet open unites the 60,000 individuals, 90 Chapters, and more than 130 organizations around the world that are members of the Internet Society. Together, we represent a worldwide network focused on identifying and addressing the challenges and opportunities that exist online today and in the years ahead.

www.internetsociety.org
The Internet Society at Work

Advocating Open Internet Standards
The Internet’s open standards are essential to allowing devices, services, and applications to work together across a dispersed network of networks. The Internet Society is the organizational home for the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet Architecture Board (IAB), and the Internet Research Task Force (IRTF). Virtually everything we do online today is because of work done in the IETF constellation.

Advancing Policy Issues
The multi-stakeholder Internet governance model must be preserved. Over the years, we’ve been major contributors to high-level discussions on Internet governance, digital content, privacy, and many other issues. We promote, influence, and shape discussions through participation in international fora such as the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

Promoting Key Internet Technologies
We actively promote technologies that are vital to the open, global Internet, such as IPv6 and Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC). The Internet Society hosted World IPv6 Day in 2011 and World IPv6 Launch in 2012, which garnered worldwide attention. Our Deploy360 Program provides real-world deployment information on key Internet technologies and is the top DNSSEC resource for IT professionals today.

Improving Internet Access
The Internet becomes increasingly more valuable and useful for all users when more people, businesses, institutions, and ideas are connected to it. We work to foster robust, efficient, and cost effective interconnection and traffic exchange environments in developing countries, including assisting the development of Internet Exchange Points (IXPs). The Internet Society was selected by the African Union to conduct 60 workshops in 30 African countries to support establishing IXPs to help provide a more locally operated and economically accessible pan-African Internet.

Supporting Trust and Confidence Online
The collection and use of identifying online data is one of the fastest growing sectors of the Internet economy. The Internet Society works in both the technical and policy arenas, supporting the development of tools and policies that empower people to manage their online identities and the ‘digital footprint’ they leave behind.

Impacting Lives
By encouraging innovative thinking and training future leaders, we can impact an entire community or an individual’s career path. The Internet Society supports initiatives that address educational and societal issues related to Internet development and online connectivity in underserved communities. Community Grants support a broad range of projects from providing Internet access to visually impaired people in Armenia to empowering youth in Somalia by building Internet training centers. Our Fellowship programs give engineers from emerging regions the opportunity to advance their professional growth, build experience, and make valuable connections.

Recognizing Industry Leaders
Extraordinary people have helped to shape the Internet we enjoy today. The Internet Society is home to multiple high profile recognition programs, including the Internet Hall of Fame, which honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the development and advancement of the global Internet; the Postel Service Award, named for Dr. Jonathan B. Postel to recognize service to the data communications community; and the Itojun Service Award, in honor of Dr. Jun-ichiro “Itojun” Hagino to recognize service to the IPv6 community.

Get Involved!
We must be vigilant in defending the Internet’s core principles that have so clearly contributed to its growth. We all have a stake in preserving the Internet. Join with us as we work to ensure a global, open Internet that continues to grow and bring benefits to the world.

Learn more at www.internetsociety.org