Internet2®
www.internet2.edu/about

Internet2 is a member-owned advanced technology community founded by the nation’s leading higher education institutions. An exceptional partnership spanning U.S. and international institutions who are leaders in the worlds of research, academia, industry and government, the Internet2 community is developing breakthrough technologies that support the most exacting applications of today—and spark the most essential innovations of tomorrow.

Focused on members’ technology needs since 1996, Internet2 provides a collaborative environment for U.S. research and education (R&E) organizations to solve common technology challenges, and develop innovative solutions in support of their educational, research, and community service missions. Activating the same partnerships that produced today’s Internet, our members are forging the future Internet through community, an unsurpassed innovation platform, and transformative, above-the-network services and applications.

**Unparalleled community**
In addition to over 440 member institutions—leading universities, corporations, government research agencies and not-for-profit networking organizations—the broader Internet2 community includes over 93,000 institutions across the U.S. and international networking partners representing more than 100 countries. Thought leaders from the domains of science and academic research, arts and humanities and health sciences—as well as advanced network researchers and developers—join forces with Internet2’s core staff to offer unparalleled possibilities for exploration and innovation.

**Advanced innovation platform**
Internet2 provides a unique set of global capabilities to members for the development of new applications and services specifically designed to meet the needs of U.S. researchers and educators—including a 100 gigabit-per-second network that not only delivers reliable production services for high-performance needs,
but creates a powerful experimental platform for the development of new applications.

The fourth generation of the Internet2 Network has now been deployed, providing an unprecedented 8.8 Terabits of capacity, reaching into underserved areas of the nation. Built through a federal stimulus grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration’s Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), the infrastructure uses standards-based technologies and protocols, supports a wide range of IP and optical services available today—from leading-edge IPv4, IPv6 and multicasting to static and dynamic point-to-point circuits—and is already stimulating a new generation of innovative capabilities.

Internet2 Advanced Layer 2 Service allows members to build Layer 2 circuits between endpoints on the Internet2 Network and beyond, providing users with cost-effective, highly reliable solutions—whether it’s the “big data” needs of global science researchers, or allowing innovators to program the network itself through software-defined networking (SDN) technologies such as OpenFlow. All this reliability and flexibility is now available in one innovation platform. See internet2.edu/network for more.

Transforming service models
Building on this world class foundation, the Internet2 community has tapped its considerable forces to craft new service-delivery mechanisms that promise to transform the way research and education does business. Internet2 NET+ cloud solutions supporting every mission area and function are now evolving—with some already a reality. From federated identification management and security services to cloud offerings for storage and collaboration, electronic textbook delivery and computing resources... The result? Educators and researchers can collaborate in unprecedented ways, education costs and red tape can be reduced, new markets can be developed—and society’s most intractable problems can be solved more rapidly. Visit internet2.edu/netplus for more information.

Enabling tomorrow’s discoveries
Back to the people side of the equation, member community-based working entities are spreading these technologies around where they can do some good. In very real ways, the K20 Initiative helps to bring the new, global schoolhouse to a street address near you. Comprising 39 state education networks, teachers and innovators team with Internet2 members to extend advanced networking technologies right into local libraries, museums and classrooms. Over 93,000 community anchor institutions (CAIs) are already connected, and—as mandated by the BTOP grant—the Internet2 Network will support connectivity for all of the approximately 200,000 U.S. CAIs, enabling them to provide citizens across the nation with telemedicine, distance learning and other important applications, and creating new economic opportunities. The grant proposal calls for (but does not fund) the creation of U.S. Unified Community Anchor Network (U.S. UCAN), an organization that builds on the R&E network model to serve the expanded number of CAIs. Visit usucan.org to learn more.

In similar ways, the Science and Engineering, Health Sciences, and Arts and Humanities Initiatives are facilitating the use of advanced networking applications in support of distributed lab environments, remote access to rare scientific instruments, and distributed, large-scale computation and data access; clinical practice, telemedicine, medical and biological research, health education and awareness; and long-distance, collaborative live performances, master classes, remote auditions, and interactive performing arts education and media events. Visit internet2.edu/communities for more details.

Discover your future
In all these communities, traditional barriers to the sharing of ideas and expertise are being broken down through the innovative use of advanced technologies. But as expansive as these activities and accomplishments are, there may still be something missing. Is it you? Visit internet2.edu/membership today and find out how you can connect your community to the future.
The true value of Internet2 membership comes from the unique combination of advanced technologies and a community of active and engaged members pushing technology to the next level. Built by and for the research and education community, the Internet2 Network offers 8.8 Terabits of capacity and 100 gigabit Ethernet technology on its entire footprint. Offering uninhibited performance on a deeply programmable platform, the network was designed to provide next-generation production services as well as a fertile nationwide testbed for developing new networking ideas and protocols—a resource not available anywhere else.

The Internet2 community and the network are fundamentally intertwined. Internet2 was built on top of the strong relationships between members who envisioned—and ultimately delivered—a different future by connecting R&E institutions over advanced networks they built and operated to meet their unique needs. By working toward a common purpose, together they achieved more than any could alone. This organization belongs to our members: we exist to ensure that they achieve their goals, and we thrive because of their active participation.

Internet2 Membership opens the door to an active community that accelerates research discovery, advances national and global education, and improves the delivery of public services. The Internet2 community is a fabric woven of connections between countries, regions, states, institutions and individuals. Our ranks include leading U.S. universities, corporations, government agencies, and not-for-profit networking organizations, as well as international partners.

**WHAT IS INTERNET2 MEMBERSHIP?**

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**PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER**

Internet2’s integrated approach to technology delivers complimentary solutions that make network and cloud use efficient, robust and meaningful in support of your research and education goals.

- **Performance Monitoring:** Reduce your diagnostic and troubleshooting costs with our suite of performance tools, including perfSONAR, which allows network engineers to quickly identify service problems across national and international networks.

- **Trust, Identity & Middleware:** Our full range of enabling middleware tools—including InCommon, Shibboleth, Grouper and C0manage—provides secure, portable identities for over 6 Million individuals in the research and education community, allowing them to authenticate locally and access resources globally.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS

Internet2 Community Engagement is your personal guide through Internet2’s programs and services, a resource for you to draw upon, and a sounding board for your ideas and feedback. We are available to help you take maximum advantage of your Internet2 membership, and to help you make and nurture the connections that underpin our thriving community.

- **Working Groups:** Internet2 supports 30 working groups, 20 special interest groups and a dozen advisory groups focused on supporting disciplines and leading-edge user communities.

- **Community Events:** When we gather at Internet2 events, we share, we debate, and we connect with each other on the issues that we face. From an Annual Forum, where R&E leadership explore critical issues within the broad R&E landscape, to a Technical Meeting that fosters discussion of the issues that will shape our technical future, Internet2 events offer each member a way to join in these important conversations.

- **Research Support:** Internet2 provides support for individual research funding proposals and reaches out to funding organizations and agencies to share the latest information on advanced networking.

WHERE YOU BELONG: MEMBERSHIP LEVELS & CATEGORIES

Internet2 membership is divided into four levels based on Basic Carnegie Classification assignment for Higher Education members, annual operating budgets for Affiliate members and annual revenues for Industry members. Within each level, members are categorized by organization type: Higher Education, Research and Education Network, Affiliate, and Industry. Membership dues and network participation fees are determined by membership level.

**Membership Categories**

- **Higher Education:** U.S. institutions of higher education that lead Internet2’s effort to develop networking capabilities and advanced applications that take advantage of the high speed Internet2 Network. As a condition of Higher Education membership, a connection to the Internet2 Network must be established through a regional Research and Education Network member/connector. Higher Education membership categories are based on the Carnegie Foundation Basic Classifications.

- **Research & Education Networks:** Research and Education Networks include nonprofit organizations that are sub-state, state or multi-state in scope and have a principal mission to provide network infrastructure and services primarily to the research and education community.

- **Affiliate:** Non-profit organizations that are research- and/or education-oriented, with a strong interest in Internet2’s mission and goals. They are committed to promoting the development and deployment of advanced Internet applications and network services in the conduct of research and education. Non-profit organizations wishing to apply for Collaboration Site Status (i.e., having a connection to the Internet2 Network) must meet the same requirements as Higher Education members.

- **Industry:** For-profit organizations that are committed to promoting the development and deployment of advanced research and education network applications and services. Internet2 Industry members make significant contributions and commitments to the Internet2 member community.

**Membership Levels**

- **Level 1:** Includes Higher Education members with Carnegie Classifications of Very High Research Activity (RU/VH), Affiliate members with annual operating budgets greater than $1 billion and Industry members with annual revenues greater than $1 billion.

- **Level 2:** Includes Higher Education members with Carnegie Classification of High Research Activity (RU/H).

- **Level 3:** Includes Higher Education members with Carnegie Classifications of Doctoral Research Universities (DRU), Large Master’s Programs (Master’s L), Special Focus Institutions - Medical Schools and Medical Centers (Spec/Med) and University System Offices. Also includes Research and Education Network members, Affiliate members with annual operating budgets greater than $100 million and less than $1 billion and Industry members with annual revenues that are greater than $10 million and less than $1 billion.

- **Level 4:** Includes Higher Education members with any Carnegie Classification not identified in Levels 1 through 3, Affiliate members with annual operating budgets less than $100 million and Industry members with annual revenues less than $10 million.

BECOME AN INTERNET2 MEMBER

Internet2 provides our members with the premier national network infrastructure, connectivity to international research networks, access to a community of leaders and innovators in research and education, and the support to utilize these resources to their fullest. Please join us!

To learn more about Internet2 and how your organization might benefit from membership, email membership@internet2.edu.
Internet2 Membership opens the door to broad, future-facing collaboration. The Internet2 community is a fabric woven of connections between countries, regions, states, institutions and individuals. Our ranks include leading U.S. universities, corporations, government agencies, and not-for-profit networking organizations, as well as international partners. Together, we are working to accelerate research discovery, advance national and global education, and improve the delivery of public services. Through these extensive partnerships, Internet2 offers a glimpse over the horizon at how the world will use tomorrow’s Internet and advanced applications to work, learn, and communicate.

Industry membership means immediate access to this highly targeted and highly committed ecosystem.

THE VALUE OF PARTNERSHIPS

In today’s rapidly evolving business landscape, strategic partnerships are as important for established corporations as they are for new ventures. And with the high-bandwidth access and high-definition media capabilities of the Internet2 Network, every person and organization connected to the Internet2 Network becomes a potential collaborator.

Members of Internet2’s unparalleled human network form valuable partnerships within its specialized communities of interest—including working groups, special interest groups, and advisory groups. Through these partnerships, organizations contribute to development projects, stay abreast of advances in specific disciplines and industry sectors, build visibility within targeted market niches, and even influence the development of technology protocols and standards.

Industry members build expertise and human capital by collaborating with leading technologists, scientists and researchers at distributed labs across the globe. They use innovative forms of advanced media to extend their reach through just-like-being-there collaborations. As part of the Internet2 research community, members can explore new network protocols, services and applications, and interact directly with technology providers on practical applications for research and development of new solutions.

THE VALUE OF GROWTH

Internet2 members are influential early adopters of new technologies who afford a unique range of market research and development opportunities. Internet2 industry members have a powerful arsenal at their disposal when it comes to developing new business and enhancing existing business channels. By leveraging Internet2 advanced network technologies, cloud and identity services, and community relationships, industry members can reach tomorrow’s consumers in compelling ways. With a growing base of over 450 Higher Ed institutions, Internet2 membership provides a critical platform to enable organizations to engage, collaborate, and accelerate new business opportunities with mutual benefits for the organization and the R&E community.

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The millions of researchers, faculty and students who participate in the Internet2 community represent a powerful, technology-savvy market segment. They include students at the nation’s top universities, many of whom will become the entrepreneurs and leaders—and purchasing agents and end users—of tomorrow.

Industry members also have opportunities to discuss and demonstrate their work at Internet2 events throughout the year. By spotlighting the reality and potential of their high-performance products and solutions industry members expose their work to a highly targeted national and international audience, and attract new project collaborators. When you engage in meaningful ways with this community, you build lasting credibility and brand recognition as a leading corporate organization committed to advancing research and innovation opportunities.

THE VALUE OF SERVICE

The Internet2 NET+ Initiative is an exemplary model of collaboration and partnership fueling industry growth. Through this initiative, Internet2 has extended our community’s heritage of advanced networking excellence to the cloud, with the promise to redefine the way scientific research and university business is done and how education is delivered. But it only works because industry members are afforded the opportunity to work in close collaboration with higher education members.

When an industry member is sponsored by an institution to pilot a service, they:

• Work hand in hand with the community ecosystem to customize their products and solutions for a defined end user audience and potentially deploy those services on a national scale.
• Gain guided access to a highly targeted customer base that can be otherwise costly and complex to navigate.
• Simplify the negotiation and contracting process and eliminate friction by working through Internet2.
• Glean an understanding of how and why users and organizations adopt and embrace new technologies and applications.
• Learn about future marketplace needs and requirements through direct feedback from their academic and research partners.
• Provide services over the most advanced innovative network platform designed by and for the global research and education community.

THE VALUE OF ACCESS

Of course, close industry/academic partnership in the Internet2 community is not limited to the NET+ portfolio. Industry members play a key role in moving new Internet technologies from the lab to the marketplace. By participating collegially, industry members learn what’s happening in leading-edge research—offering a pivotal opportunity to commercialize tomorrow’s applications—identifying new technologies for integration into commercial products and testing new products and services to lead the commercial marketplace.

Industry members are using Internet2 Network connections to explore revolutionary forms of interactive technology that enable a whole new range of business benefits—from remote control of sophisticated equipment to real-time collaborations with colleagues around the world. The benefits? Greater economies of scale with improved productivity, increased operational efficiencies, reduced costs, faster prototyping, shorter product development cycle and faster times-to-market.

THE VALUE OF INNOVATION

The ability to tailor new products to the technology—and technology leaders—of the future is a critical strategic advantage for the industry leaders of tomorrow. As citizens of the gigabit broadband future, Internet2 industry members share important insights on the impacts advanced networking has on the way they do business.

Industry representatives are key members of the complex ecosystem that is the global research and education community. Via the Internet2 community, members join a conversation among global technology leaders about what the future holds. Debate, discussion, trial and error are all part of moving the state of the art forward, together. We are saving you a seat at the table; please join us.

EXAMPLE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP:

• Executive leadership interactions and introductions to higher ed CIO’s, decision makers and influencers
• Ability to connect with a campus membership base of 450+ institutions and over 2 million network subscribers who look to Internet2 to provide leadership on technology and innovation
• Dedicated resources to support industry goals and objectives in line with community expectations
• Ongoing set of programs such as webinars, focus groups, and workshops in order to facilitate dialogue with the global Internet2 ecosystem of like minded forward thinking educators, C-suite, research agencies, labs and national and global affiliates
• Priority opportunities and visibility at Internet2 anchor events such as the Global Summit and Annual Technical Conference—from speaking and panel sessions, to application demonstrations to sponsoring networking events
• Ability to access resources and leverage years of higher ed institutional relationships to collaborate and participate in forward thinking discussions shaping tomorrow’s technology roadmap

To learn more or become an industry member today, email industry@internet2.edu