



www.internet2.edu

About Internet2[®]

Internet2 is a research and development consortium led by over 200 US universities working in partnership with industry and government to develop and deploy advanced network applications and technologies, accelerating the creation of tomorrow's Internet. Internet2 is recreating the partnership among academia, industry and government that fostered today's Internet in its infancy.

The Internet2 community is:

- **enabling a new generation of network applications,**
- **creating a leading edge network capability for research and education,** and
- **fostering the transfer of technology and experience to the global Internet**

In addition to university members, the Internet2 community includes over 70 companies and more than 40 affiliated organizations, including US government research laboratories. Internet2 members are working with more than 30 other similar research and education networking organizations in countries around the world. Supported by a core central staff, Internet2 activities are member focused and led. Internet2 members work in concert with national, state and regional initiatives in the United States, and are coordinated with international organizations such as the Internet Engineering Task Force. Internet2 efforts are focused on:

Advanced network applications are enabling collaboration among people and provide interactive access to information and resources in ways not possible on today's commercial Internet. Interactive distance learning, remote access to unique scientific instruments, real-time access to large databases, and streaming high-definition video are all possible with high-performance networks.

New network capabilities such as Quality of Service, multicasting, and IPv6 are being aggressively tested and deployed in the networks used by Internet2 members. These capabilities support advanced network applications today, and will enable tomorrow's commercial Internet to provide the reliable performance advanced applications require.

Middleware, the behind-the-scenes software, is providing security, directories and other services required by advanced network applications. In today's Internet, applications usually have to provide these services themselves, which leads to competing and incompatible standards. By promoting standardization and interoperability, middleware will make advanced network applications much easier to use.

High-performance networks are linking the campuses and laboratories of over 200 Internet member institutions. The high-performance networks participating in the Internet2 project provide the environment in which new network applications and capabilities can be deployed and tested.