Westnet

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Description

Westnet is a regional network with nodes in the states of Arizona, Colorado, southern Idaho, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming.

Westnet is a Wide Area Network operating at moderate (56 kbps) and high (T-1, i.e., 1.544 Mbps) data transmission capacities, providing connectivity from end nodes to the NSFNet backbone. Westnet has connections into the backbone at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colorado, and at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah. The goal of Westnet is to provide the regional infrastructure to support research and scholarly activity.

The member organizations are universities, research laboratories, and commercial organizations. Westnet is governed by the Westnet Steering Committee, with representation from the seventeen primary university nodes in the six-state region.

A variety of organizations already participating in this network include: in Colorado: Ford Aerospace, the US Department of Agriculture, and US West Communications; in Idaho: the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory; in New Mexico: the Air Force Weapons Laboratory, the Apache Peak Observatory, the Los Alamos National Laboratory, the National Sunspot Observatory, Rockwell International, and the Santa Fe Institute; and in Utah: the UMC Research Station.

Westnet interoperates with the state networking agencies of: AriZona Telecommunications Educational Cooperative (AZTEC), Colorado SuperNet (CSN), and New Mexico Technet (NMT). State networking organizations are presently being considered in Idaho and Utah. Westnet interacts with these state networks to provide access to special resources (for example, the NSF Phase II Supercomputer Centers) and to other regional networks (for example, Northwestnet in the northwestern region of the United States).

Network access

Any IP host of any member organization may access Westnet.

Who Can Use the Network

Any of the members can exchange traffic with any other member in the support of research, education and/or scholarly activity. Any member may use any of the long-haul networks Westnet has connections to, subject only to the restrictions of the owner of the long-haul network. Members within the states of Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico may use the intrastate network for additional purposes particular to those states.

Miscellaneous Information

See also, Colorado SuperNet and New Mexico Technet.