BARRNet, the Bay Area Regional Research Network

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Description

BARRNet is the Northern California regional hub of the NSFNet, the National Science Foundation Network. BARRNet's purpose is to facilitate scientific and educational communications using high-performance computer networking technology and wide-area telecommunications utilities, and to promote collaboration, sharing of information, and wide access to computer resources for research and educational purposes. BARRNet was established in 1986 under a grant from the NSF by a consortium of six members: Stanford University, the NASA Ames Research Center, and the Berkeley, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, and Davis campuses of the University of California. Since then BARRNet has grown to include several additional government and private research laboratories and more than twenty-five corporate affiliates.

Four BARRNet sites—UC Berkeley, Stanford University, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and NASA Ames—are connected in a ring by data circuits running at T1 speed (1.544 Mbps). UC Davis, which is connected to UC Berkeley by a T1 line, is also considered a core site; the remaining sites are connected to one of the core sites, typically by T1 or 56kbps lines, but in some cases by microwave or direct Ethernet (10 Mbps) connections. BARRNet is connected to the NSFNET by an NSS (Nodal Switching Subsystem) located at Stanford University. Stanford is also the site of the BARRNet Network Operating Center, or NOC.

Beginning in April of 1990, BARRNet's membership fees will be adjusted to reflect size and type of organization, as well as connection speed. Also during the spring and summer of 1990, BARRNet will be implementing low-speed (9600 bps) dedicated line services, with dial-up services available shortly thereafter.

An Administrative Committee oversees BARRNet policy, finances, and general operations. A Technical Committee advises the Administrative Committee, and oversees day-to-day operations such as routing.

Network Access

Any host on a network connected to BARRNet can reach (and be reached from) any host on any network on NSFNet and most other parts of the Internet.

Who Can Use BARRNet

BARRNet's primary use is for scientific research or instruction by its non-profit members. Use of BARRNet in support of a not-for-profit member's research or instruction is acceptable. Use of BARRNet for scientific research or instruction at for-profit affiliate sites may or may not be consistent with the purposes of BARRNet, and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Commercial uses such as billing or advertising are prohibited.

Miscellaneous Information

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