

Internet2.

The Internet2 consortium has suggested that the best solution to the Internet connectivity debate is to upgrade network infrastructures to the point where they no longer suffer from capacity constraints or data congestion. The model for this proposal is the not-for-profit 100-1,000 Mbps Internet2 network that connects 208 universities, 70 companies, and 51 affiliated organizations. This group wants to set a national goal for deploying 100 Mbps bandwidth connections (with symmetric speeds for uploading and downloading) to every home, business, and school in the country in five years and 1,000 Mbps connections in ten years. They suggest that the costs of deploying high-speed lines, or upgrading existing ones, would be relatively low – once fiber wirelines are laid. In their view, the widespread deployment of such advanced, highspeed Internet services would obviate the need for any kind of prioritized data transmission. In addition, they suggest that the FTC, the FCC, or both should issue specific and enforceable guidelines that would require the maintenance of “open and nondiscriminatory networks.”