

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UCD connectivity to HEAnet network increases tenfold to 10 Gb/s

UCD connection to HEAnet network upgraded to 10Gb/s

13 January, 2009, Dublin, Ireland:

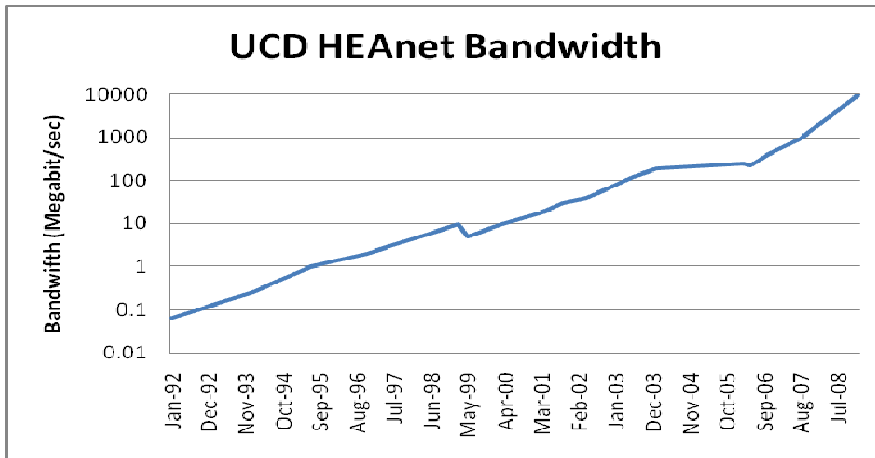
As part of HEAnet's continued network expansion, University College Dublin (UCD) became the first Irish Higher Education Institute (HEI) to avail of a 10 gigabit per second (Gb/s), or 10,000 megabit per second (Mb/s), connection to HEAnet, the Irish National Education and Research Network. Previously, UCD connected to HEAnet at 1 Gb/s. 10 Gb/s sets a new standard of connectivity for Irish HEIs, greatly increasing the amount of data they can share with other institutions in Ireland and around the world.

As an illustration, 10Gb/s connectivity allows the equivalent of the entire 20 terabytes of published material in the US Library of Congress to be transferred in a little under 5 hours.

As research and educational pursuits produce and consume ever-increasing volumes of data, HEAnet must deliver network capacity in line with these challenging demands. HEAnet will roll out 10 Gb/s connectivity to its other members as required.

HEAnet are providing UCD with two diverse 10 Gb/s connections to ensure high availability of this vital service. HEAnet are pleased to be able to provide new standards of connectivity to the academic and research communities in Ireland and anticipate new and innovative uses being made of such high bandwidth connectivity.

The chart illustrates UCD's connection bandwidth to HEAnet over the past 17 years. This month's upgrade continues the growth of Internet usage and innovation in UCD, which is evident in all member institutions of HEAnet. The trend is exponential and amounts to a doubling of capacity every year.



About HEAnet:

HEAnet is Ireland's National Education and Research Network, providing high quality Internet Services to Irish Universities, Institutes of Technology and the research and educational community, including all Irish primary and secondary schools.

HEAnet provide a high-speed national network with direct connectivity for its community to other networks in Ireland, Europe, the USA and the rest of the world.

Established in 1984 by the seven major universities with the support of the Higher Education Authority to promote the interchange of information electronically within third level education, HEAnet play a critical role in establishing Ireland as a global centre of excellence in Internet activity.

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