The HEAnet Accelerate Connectivity Programme

Bringing Academic and Industry Researchers Closer Together

National & International Network Reach

HEAnet is Ireland's National Education and Research Network, providing cutting edge Internet, ICT and e-Infrastructure services to Educational and Research organisations throughout Ireland.

Established in 1983 by the Irish Universities with the support of the Higher Education Authority, HEAnet provides essential shared services across all levels of the Irish education system.

> **Our high quality resilient network connects all Irish Universities, Institutes of Technology and other higher education institutions (HEIs), along with research organisations, and all primary and post-primary schools across Ireland.**

HEAnet's Client list is available on our website:
www.heanet.ie/about/client-list

The HEAnet network also provides direct connectivity for its client community to other networks in Europe, the USA and the rest of the world.

Approximately 200,000 students and staff (at third-level) and approximately 800,000 students and staff (at first & second-level) rely on the HEAnet network each day for access to online learning and research resources.

Connecting Academia & Industry Researchers

The Accelerate Connectivity Programme is a new HEAnet initiative inviting applications from HEAnet client members for provision of network connectivity between their research entity and their chosen industry research partner(s).

The objective of the programme is to provide HEAnet network connectivity between academic and industry research organisations to enable deeper collaborative pre-commercial research, or to facilitate pre-commercial technology testing that does not lend to experimentation over a general Internet connection.
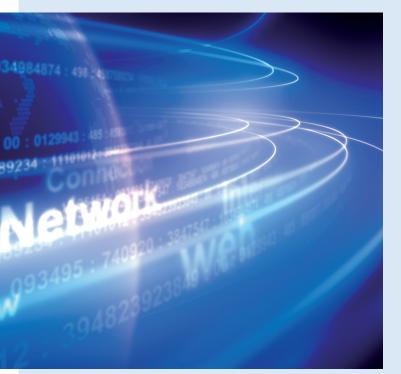
The HEAnet network differentiates from general Internet connections in terms of superior network speed, security and privacy, which may be necessary considerations for your research collaboration. The aim, therefore, is to create a collaborative pre-commercial research environment through a shared domain to accelerate innovation and faster progression of research into commercial products and services.

The nationwide reach of the HEAnet national network allows for cost-effectively connecting industry research partners, oftentimes by means of a single network hop to the closest academic institution (already connected to HEAnet). The Accelerate Connectivity Programme thus offers a cost-effective conduit to your chosen industry research partner by leveraging the national and international reach of the HEAnet network.

Enabling a Collaborative Network & Integration of Test-Beds

Academia-industry connectivity use-cases could serve to connect researchers to new technology test-beds or create a network of integrated test-beds. HEAnet currently connects the SmartBay test-bed in Galway Bay and the ICHEC super-computer in Waterford.

Interconnectivity of academic and industry test-beds may give rise to new areas for collaborative research and technology experimentation. Further ambitions under this programme include the establishment of a middleware broker component, (to be developed by TSSG), to facilitate access to test-bed resources and interoperation of Future Internet enablers.

The ultimate goal of the Accelerate Connectivity Programme is to foster collaboration across academic and industry research organisations by leveraging the nationwide HEAnet network in a cost effective manner.

This initiative aligns with national policy which aims to position Ireland as a global leader in emerging technologies by allowing Ireland to build capability in high potential industries such as: big data and analytics, smart sensors, cloud computing and the Future Internet.

The Accelerate Connectivity Programme serves to provide a secure, technology-neutral integration platform for academic and industry researchers in Ireland to accelerate innovation and faster progression of pre-commercial research into commercial products and services.

The ultimate goal of the **Accelerate Connectivity Programme** is to foster collaboration across academic and industry research organisations by leveraging the nationwide HEAnet network in a cost effective manner

In considering applications for academia-industry connectivity, HEAnet advise potential applicants of the following:

- Applications shall only be considered from HEAnet client members;

- Applications shall only propose research activities that relate to pre-commercial research. (HEAnet are precluded by its *Acceptable Use Policy* from carrying commercial traffic over their network and this will be prohibited **http://www.heanet.ie/about/policies/acceptable-usage-policy**)

- Applications shall describe the nature of pre-commercial research requiring HEAnet connectivity (under NDA if applicable);

- Any intellectual property arising from collaborative research should be mutually agreed by those research parties prior to negotiating access via this Accellerate programme.

- Applications involving more than a single HEAnet client and a single industry partner are encouraged;

- The applicant will be required to cover the full cost of connectivity, installation, recurrent rental and operation. HEAnet recover costs on a not-for-profit cost-recovery basis;

- The required contract term for connectivity must equal or exceed one year's duration;

- Applicants will be required to complete an Accelerate Connectivity Application Form (available upon request);

- Successful applicants and their industrial organisation will be required to adhere to the terms as set out in a Memorandum of Understanding (available upon request).

Get in Touch

If you are involved in a research program that would benefit from having access to national or international test-beds or desire improved bandwidth access to industrial partners, please contact:

NOC@HEAnet.ie or telephone: 01 660 9040.

HEAnet
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