

SURFnet and NORDUnet give researchers fast access to datasets.

SURFnet and NORDUnet deploy 100G optical network to London for research and education

Utrecht 4. December 2013 – SURFnet and NORDUnet (the network for education and research in the Nordic countries) today deployed an optical network between Amsterdam and London, initially comprising two 100 gigabit-per-second (Gbps) connections. Each organisation now has its own 100G connection to the LINX Internet node in London, with near-infinite upgrade potential. The partners already operate similar optical networks between Amsterdam and Copenhagen.

Earlier this year, NORDUnet and SURFnet were part of a group of leading R&E networks that demonstrated an intercontinental 100 Gbps link between Europe and the US.

This latest network deployment by SURFnet and NORDUnet offers yet more proof of the advantages of collaborating in providing state-of-the-art technology to the research and education community. Indeed, optical networks provide almost unlimited capacity for research and education compared to traditional network connections.

The connections to London have been implemented as part of a joint effort in which the two partners have pooled resources. As joint owners, SURFnet provided the transmission equipment while NORDUnet furnished the optical fibre. The deployment project was also conducted in collaboration, with staff from both partner organisations working closely together.

“These new connections mean that we can continue to drive the market forward”, said Erik Huizer, SURFnet’s CTO. “At the same time, the new connection boosts the position of the Netherlands as the ‘digital gateway to Europe’. The collaboration with our Nordic colleagues has also enabled us to set up the new connection cost-efficiently.”

“Today’s achievement was the next logical step in executing the NORDUnet global network strategy of providing the best possible network connection to the Nordic R&E community in collaboration with international partners”, added Lars Fischer, CTO of NORDUnet. “It demonstrates once again the power of inter-NREN collaboration, and we are happy to see our long collaboration with SURFnet continue to bring tangible results to the R&E community and beyond.”

About SURFnet

SURFnet ensures that researchers, instructors, and students can work together simply and effectively with the aid of ICT. SURFnet links ICT services, scientific

instruments, and people with reliable ICT infrastructures, made up of a network infrastructure and a collaboration infrastructure. SURFnet also demonstrates what is possible by developing and testing innovative ICT services. SURFnet is part of SURF, the Dutch higher education and research partnership for ICT, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2012. More information about SURFnet: <http://www.surf.nl/en/about-surf/subsidiaries/surfnet>

About NORDUnet

NORDUnet is a collaboration between the National Research and Education Networks (NRENs) of the five Nordic countries; – Denmark (DeIC), Iceland (RHnet), Norway (UNINETT), Sweden (SUNET), and Finland (Funet). NORDUnet operates a world-class network and e-infrastructure service for the Nordic R&E community. The five NRENs develop and operate the national research network infrastructures, connecting more than 400 research & education institutions with more than 1.2M users. NORDUnet and the Nordic NRENs continuously work to further develop leading edge services and to push the technology envelope. NORDUnet provides global network connectivity, and is a key contributor to international partnerships such as GÉANT, GLIF, and GLORIAD.

For additional information, please visit <http://www.nordu.net>