



European research networking and the role of DANTE

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DANTE: a not-for-profit company

- **started operations in July 1993**
- **established by European national research networks**
- **European national research networks are shareholders**
- **European national research networks are customers**

EuropaNET

- **Connecting organisations in 21 European countries**
- **2-6 Mbps connections to 11 countries**
- **Gateways to other European networks**
- **Largest link between European and US part of Internet research backbone**
- **Connections to Canada and Korea**

The PNO Problem (1)

- DANTE survey, end 1994:
 - capacity (fibre) in place
 - PNOs unwilling to make it available
 - no prices
 - no reference sales

The PNO Problem (2)

- **International voice traffic is very profitable**
- **Liberalisation will allow by-pass**
- **A 34 Mbps circuit can carry >1000 high quality voice circuit**
- **Multinationals looking for (one-stop) international service providers**
- **New providers need access to basic infrastructure**

TEN-34

- **EC DG III and DG XIII Call for Proposals**
- **National Networks and others invited the to collaborate in the preparation of bids**
- **Planning by EuroCAIRN**
- **Submission draft proposal by DANTE**

TEN-34 phased plan

- **Connect initially National Networks with demand, international links and adequate co-funding available**
- **Include other National Networks as and when they are ready**

TEN-34 Consortium established

- **18 countries participate**
- **DANTE is coordinating partner**
- **TEN-34 proposal submitted**
- **Favourable evaluation received**

European (De)regulation

- **National regulation dominates**
- **EU plays an increasing role**
- **Worries about voice resale and PNO cost reduction**

Meaning for the Research Community

- **Need special pricing**
- **TEN-34 initiative**
- **Co-operate with the EU**

New Pan-European Operators

- **Metropolitan Fibre Systems**
- **HERMES**
- **Resellers**

1998

- **Liberalisation of Telecomms**
- **Role of national regulators?**
- **Emergence of EU Regulator**
- **Willingness to implement EU legislation**

European Union (EU)

- **Open network provision initiative**
- **Liberalisation in 1998**
- **Subsidiarity Rules - OK**
- **Open network provision in practice**

National Competition

- **UK, Nordic countries - real national competition**
- **Digital mobile - true competition**
- **National mobile - partial competition**

Pan-European - Global Alliances

- **BT - MCI**
- **Deutsche Telekom/France Telekom**
- **Unisource (NL, SE, ES, CH) + AT&T**
- **Still not stable**

European Telecommunications

- **Basically national businesses**
- **80% revenues domestic**
- **30%+ profitability international**