

GÉANT Reaches Terabit Speeds

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European scientists now can network at even faster speeds-- DANTE completes a 2 terabits-per-second (2Tbps) backbone upgrade on GÉANT, the pan-European network connecting the European National Research and Education Networks (NRENs).



GÉANT services 50 million European research and education users across 32000 universities, schools, research institutes and hospital. It consists of 50000km of backbone infrastructure, with the upgrade replacing legacy equipment with "leading edge" transmission and switching technologies.

Such upgrades include the Infinera DTN-X optical transmission platform and Juniper MX-series routers.

The upgrade will be necessary to handle data from research facilities such as the Large Hadron Collider and the in-construction Square Kilometre Array, the largest radio telescope in the world.

"This project is essentially future proofing GÉANT until 2020," European Commission VP Neelie Kroes says. "It means we can stay ahead of what has been termed the "data deluge" that is emerging from research projects that are using more and more data in new ways."

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