

Secure Housing for BNIX

BELNET manages BNIX, the central node through which all the ISP traffic in Belgium passes. When its own legacy data centre had become too small, BELNET asked Interxion to give the node a new home.

The Challenge

“When we started our own national research network in 1993, the Internet was still in its infancy,” Jan Torreele, Technical Manager of BELNET explained. “To connect to the Internet, you needed a digital leased line to the United States. Every Internet service provider (ISP) had its own line and could connect its customers to the Internet. This method was relatively expensive, the bandwidth was limited and it was slow.”

So, together with other Belgian ISPs, BELNET opted for a local Internet node in Belgium. BELNET started to manage the Belgian National Internet eXchange (or BNIX for short) in 1995, and communication between Belgian ISPs has been direct, faster and cheaper ever since.

“In the early years, the BNIX consisted of only one switch in our data centre here at BELNET. When it failed, there was no BNIX any more.” Jan Torreele said. “The Internet became crucial for the operability of companies and organisations all too quickly. We therefore had to expand the number of switches and locations in order to guarantee continuous availability for our customers.”

The Solution

Round the turn of the century, BELNET paid a visit to the Interxion data centre in Paris and liked what they saw so much, that it became an Interxion customer as soon as the Belgian data centre opened in Zaventem in 2001.

“Interxion has a clear strategy and is a strong international player. Our clients now have secured access to BNIX at all times. The Interxion data centre is protected against breaking and entering and against fire. It is equipped with professional cooling installations, and can deal with a power outage.”

“Briefly put, it guarantees continuity and availability of our infrastructure. As a satisfied customer, we have every intention of continuing our cooperation with Interxion.”



What BELNET does...

BELNET is the Belgian National Research Network, an independent Belgian government service that provides high-bandwidth Internet connections to universities, colleges, research centres and the government. BELNET also manages the Belgian National Internet eXchange (BNIX), the Belgian node that enables high-speed data interchange between Internet service providers (ISPs) in Belgium. www.belnet.be

What Interxion delivered...

- Best-in-class equipment housing with the ability to scale and reconfigure space as required
- Multiple physical security layers and 24-hour security support with controlled customer access 24/7
- Guaranteed power availability up to 99.999% with N+1 backup generators and cooling and 2N UPS
- Redundant cooling equipment with free cooling maintaining temperature and humidity
- Convenient access to carriers/ISPs that are customers of Interxion (currently 34)
- ISO 27001-certified information security management systems.

About Us

Interxion is a leading European operator of carrier-neutral data centres and managed services. We serve our customers from 26 facilities located in 13 cities across 11 European countries.

Every Interxion data centre meets the most stringent industry requirements, offering the highest levels of security, power availability and energy efficiency.

Interxion's customer community also has access to 18 major European Internet exchanges and over 350 carriers/ISPs giving exceptionally convenient, cost-effective and reliable connectivity.

Our Customers

Over 1,100 organisations, ranging from global carriers and ISPs to leading FMCG and financial services firms house their mission-critical infrastructure with Interxion, including:

- Akamai
- BT
- Cable & Wireless
- Coca Cola
- Fortis
- HP
- IBM
- Level3
- Nasdaq OMX
- Real Networks
- RTL Interactive
- Sage Software
- Siemens
- SunGard

Quality of Service

Over and above expert local staff, Interxion provides a unique European Customer Service Centre (ECSC) that monitors customer security and systems 24x7 and provides quick-response support in five languages.

Following a rigorous independent assessment process, Interxion has been awarded ISO 27001 for Information Security Management Systems and Business Continuity.

Contact Us

To find out more about our facilities, and our full range of services and solutions, please contact us with your requirements:

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Accreditations & Associations



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Contributor, EC Joint
 Research Centre on
 Sustainability



Patron of the European
 Internet Exchange
 Association