



OneNet™

Information Tools & Community

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• FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE • Contact: John Clelland, Public Relations – voice 415-948-5086 – BBS 415-949-1349

LOS ALTOS, CA – With a goal of establishing an electronic global nervous system, the OneNet Member™ Network of Macintosh bulletin board systems is rapidly developing through the efforts of BBS administrators worldwide.

The network is hooking up BBSes which use the graphical interface FirstClass™ groupware and telecommunications program developed by SoftArc Inc. of Canada, taking advantage of the software's gatewaying (server-to-server communication) features.

“We want to grow a Macintosh-based distributed network system that provides low-cost, high-quality access to information, tools and community,” says OneNet Executive Director Scott Converse. “It's about creating an online, virtual community of people connected to share knowledge and resources.”

The OneNet Member organization, running a large BBS in Los Altos, California, near Apple's Cupertino headquarters, hopes to tie together not only individual BBSes, but schools, hospitals, universities, governments, and other FirstClass networks and other networks that already exist or that are already forming. “Our goal is to serve as one of the methods you can use to glue the various networks in the world together into The OneNet; our word for the ubiquitous global nervous system that's slowly forming around low cost servers, networks, laptop computers and the upcoming PDA's” says Converse.

OneNet Marketing Director John Clelland adds that “OneNet hopes to do for electronic information exchange what the Mac did for computing – that is, to make telecommunications fun and easy. The FirstClass software’s familiar Macintosh human interface makes this possible.”

The OneNet Member Network is currently establishing a regionalized hub backbone to which any public or private FirstClass BBS can link and receive conferences – special interest forums that are gatewayed from the originating system in Los Altos, or published by any other OneNet Member BBS.

Global multipoint access to information with just a local phone call will become a reality as more BBSes join the network, which is already comprised of several dozen FirstClass systems worldwide. Current membership in the OneNet Member network is approx. 50 systems with over 15,000 users.

Some BBSes in the OneNet Member Network also offer gateways to large existing networks such as InterNet and FidoNet, whose inclusion expands OneNet’s goal of a global electronic community.

A core set of conferences is shared by all BBSes in the network, containing discussions of interest to most all Macintosh users. These include Macintosh hardware and software assistance, modem information, and FirstClass support from SoftArc Inc., the developers of the FirstClass communications system.

Additional subject areas such as medical advice, Macintosh developer forums, classifieds, politics and culture are being gatewayed as the online community develops, and interest in a wider range of subjects grows.

To establish an account, modem 415-948-1349. For additional information, contact OneNet Los Altos BBS voice line at 415-948-5086, or mail inquires to: OneNet Los Altos, 4546 El Camino Real, # 127, Los Altos, California 94022.