

## EVOLUTION OF INTERNET

The internet is a network of computers. The first network had only three computers. The complex history of the evolution of the internet involves many aspects such as technological, organizational, social, and political. Internet is defined as private network of computers within an organization with its own server and firewall and Internet is a world-wide global system of interconnected computer networks.

Internet uses the standard Internet Protocol (TCP/IP). Every computer in internet is identified by a unique IP address. IP Address is a unique set of numbers which identifies a computer location. A special computer DNS (Domain Name Server) is used to give name to the IP Address so that user can locate a computer by a name. Internet is accessible to every user all over the world.

In 1957, after the Soviet Union launched Sputnik From the early days back in the 60s, till the present, the Internet as we know it has been ever changing, ever since. Initially, the "internet" had only 4 nodes, or hosts. As of January 2002, there were 147, 344, 723 hosts.<sup>2</sup> In 1991, "Father of the Internet", Timothy Berners Lee, and other researchers at the European Laboratory for Particle Physics made it possible to connect content throughout these networks using hypertext links.

From the early to mid-nineties, the Internet has literally soared. In just June of 1993 there were merely 130 web sites; by 1994, there were 3,000. Presently, there are millions of web sites on the Internet. These web sites are categorized into domains based on the nature of their content. .com, .net, .edu, .mil, .org, and. int are the three level domains that are currently in use.

In 1962, JCR Licklider of MIT was already talking about the creation of an Intergalactic Network Computers (INC). ARPANET was the first stage in the rapid development of the internet. It came in 1969. It was a project of the Department of Defense (DoD) in the US. It was aimed at networking computers used in research centers for military purposes. The ARPANET network grew slowly in the 70s, but for security reasons, remained strictly controlled by the military network and inaccessible to large sectors of the international community and the US academic class.

Computer Science Network came into existence in 1983, with the adoption of the protocols TCP / IP on the ARPANET which separated the component strictly from military use and formed MILNET. The creation of CSNET (Computer Science Network) and its connection to the ARPANET led to the full development of the true Internet.

Over the years, the rate of growth of the internet has been speeding up. It has facilitated swift coordination and cooperation of structures between the increasing number of networks and the integrated operators. As early as 1983, the internet Activities Board was created. It later came to be known as the Internet Architecture Board. In 1989, the Internet Engineering Task Force was established alongside the Internet Research Task Force (Duguid 357). The agencies were at the forefront of speedy development of the internet and its usage. The creation of EUnet (European UNIX Network) took place in 1982 while in 1983; the European Academic and Research

Network came into existence. An American academic network responsible for expanding ties of universities to the internet was ushered in 1986.

In 1984, another institution related to public administration in the US known as the National Science Foundation began the NSFNET network linking five supercomputers within five research centers and making the information available to any school that needed it. Supercomputers have a size similar to a mainframe computer although they have much higher processing speeds

The NSFNET has become very popular. Instead of increasing the number of computers connected to the network supercomputers, other networks have been created and connected together. All the interconnected networks are known as INTER-NET-WORK or simply the internet

In 1991, the first commercial internet service was created after a lot of pressure from the academic and corporate world. This led to the appearance of PSI NET. In 1993, the World Wide Web (WWW) protocol was adopted. The protocol has increased the number of subscribers to the network. In fact, there is no specific creator of the Internet, nor is there a date when the Internet came into being. It evolved over thirty years from the government's way of post-nuclear war communication to today's Information Superhighway. The number of hosts now far exceeds ten million, and hundreds of millions of users from over 150 countries are connected