Case Study on Intranet, Extranet and Internet.

What is intranet

An intranet is a private network that can only be accessed by authorized users. The prefix "intra" means "internal" and therefore implies an intranet is designed for internal communications. "Inter" (as in Internet) means "between" or "among." Since there is only one Internet, the word "Internet" is capitalized. Because many intranets exist around the world, the word "intranet" is lowercase.

Some intranets are limited to a specific local area network (LAN), while others can be accessed from remote locations over the Internet. Local intranets are generally the most secure since they can only be accessed from within the network. In order to access an intranet over a wide area network (WAN), you typically need to enter login credentials.

Intranets serve many different purposes, but their primary objective is to facilitate internal communication. For example, a business may create an intranet to allow employees to securely share messages and files with each other. It also provides a simple way for system administrators to broadcast messages and roll out updates to all workstations connected to the intranet.

Most intranet solutions provide a web-based interface for users to access. This interface provides information and tools for employees and team members. It may include calendars, project timelines, task lists, confidential files, and a messaging tool for communicating with other users. The intranet website is commonly called a portal and can be accessed using a custom intranet URL. If the intranet is limited to a local network, it will not respond to external requests.

Advantage of intranet network

1. Improves internal communication

### **2. Connects your company across locations and time zones**

### 3.  Helps employees find information

### 4.  Boosts recognition and reward

### 5.  Simplifies employee onboarding

### 6. Provides organizational clarity

### 7. Encourages knowledge sharing

### 8. Reinforces your brand and values

### 9. Reduces emails and meetings

### 10. Brings your workplace culture to life

### 11. Improves employee engagement

Example of intranet network

Examples of intranet services include Microsoft SharePoint, Huddle, Igloo, and Jostle. While some services are open source and free of charge, most intranet solutions require a monthly fee. The cost is usually related to the number of users within the intranet.

What is extranet

An extranet actually combines both the Internet and an intranet. It extends an intranet, or internal network, to other users over the Internet. Most extranets can be accessed via a Web interface using a Web browser. Since secure or confidential information is often accessible within an intranet, extranets typically require authentication for users to access them.

Extranets are often used by companies that need to share selective information with other businesses or individuals.

Example

Project Extranet

A construction project uses an extranet to share documents with stakeholders such as project management teams and subcontractors. The extranet consists of a document management system connected to the internet with security features that limit access to authorized individuals.

Supplier Extranet

A retailer offers an extranet to supply chain partners to facilitate processes such as invoice payment and reverse logistics. The extranet consists of a custom built website that is restricted to authorized partners with techniques such as two-factor authentication.

Integration

An ecommerce site integrates with a major retail partner to automatically exchange inventory data using a secure overlay network on top of the internet.

Advantage of Extranet

* communicate and collaborate more effectively - with clients, customers and stakeholders via a secure network
* integrate supply chains - eg consolidate processes such as online ordering, order tracking and inventory management
* reduce costs - eg make manuals and technical documentation available online to trading partners and customers
* improve business relationships - because of the close collaborative working that extranets support
* improve customer service - eg give customers direct access to information and enable them to resolve their own queries
* simplify processes - eg use a single user interface between you and your business partners
* secure your communications - exchanges take place in a controlled and secure environment
* share news - for example, of product development exclusively with partner companies
* work flexibly - extranet allows remote and mobile staff to access core business information 24 hours a day, irrespective of location

What is internet

The Internet is a global wide area network that connects computer systems across the world. It includes several high-bandwidth data lines that comprise the Internet "backbone." These lines are connected to major Internet hubs that distribute data to other locations, such as web servers and ISPs.

In order to connect to the Internet, you must have access to an Internet service provider (ISP), which acts the middleman between you and the Internet. Most ISPs offer broadband Internet access via a cable, DSL, or fiber connection. When you connect to the Internet using a public Wi-Fi signal, the Wi-Fi router is still connected to an ISP that provides Internet access. Even cellular data towers must connect to an Internet service provider to provide connected devices with access to the Internet.

In the early days of the Internet, most people connected to the Internet using a home computer and a dial-up modem. DSL and cable modems eventually provided users with "always-on" connections. Now mobile devices, such as tablets and smartphones, make it possible for people to be connected to the Internet at all times. The Internet of Things has turned common appliances and home systems into "smart" devices that can be monitored and controlled over the Internet. As the Internet continues to grow and evolve, you can expect it to become an even more integral part of daily life.

The Internet provides different online services. Some examples include:

* Web – a collection of billions of webpages that you can view with a web browser
* Email – the most common method of sending and receiving messages online
* Social Media – websites and apps that allow people to share comments, photos, and videos
* Online gaming – games that allow people to play with and against each other over the Internet
* Software updates – [operating system](https://techterms.com/definition/operating_system) and [application](https://techterms.com/definition/application) updates can typically [downloaded](https://techterms.com/definition/download) from the Internet

Difference between Intranet, Extranet and Internet.

Internet

1. Internet can be described as a global system of interconnected computer network.
2. Internet is the largest network in as far as the number of connected devices is concerned.
3. Internet is a means of sharing information throughout the world.
4. It is not regulated by any authority.
5. Content in the network is readily accessible by everyone who is connected.
6. Internet has no known ownership.
7. Internet is unregulated and uncensored.
8. Users have unrestricted access and can access internet anonymously.
9. Security is dependent of the user of the device connected to network.
10. An example of internet is the network you use to google words with.
11. Internet contains different source of information and is available for all.
12. Users need no training on how to work with the network.

Intranet

1. Intranet can be described as a network of computers or a private network designed for a specific group of users (organization).
2. It is a small network with a few number of connected devices.
3. Intranet is a means of sharing sensitive or confidential information throughout the organization.
4. It is regulated by a specific organization.
5. The content in the network is accessible only to members of the organization.
6. Ownership of intranet is by a single organization.
7. Intranet is regulated by the organization policies.
8. An intranet may be accessible from the internet, but it is protected by a password and accessible only to authorized users.
9. Security of the network is enforced through a firewall.
10. An example intranet is a company like ExxonMobil using internal network for its business operations.
11. Intranet contains only specific group information.
12. Time is required to train users on how to work with the network.

Extranet

1. Extranet can be described as a private network that uses public network to share information with clients (suppliers and vendors).
2. It is a small network with a few number of connected devices.
3. Extranet is a means of conveying information between members of the organization and external members.
4. It is regulated by multiple organizations.
5. The content on the network is accessible to members of the organization and external members with access to the network.
6. Ownership of extranet is by a single or multiple organizations.
7. Extranet is regulated by contractual agreements between organizations.
8. An intranet may be accessible from the internet, but it is protected by a password and accessible only to authorized users.
9. Security of the network is enforced through a firewall that separates internet and extranet.
10. Example of extranet is when companies like HP, Intel and Lenovo decide to use the same network for related business operations.
11. Extranet contains only specific group information.
12. Time is required to train users on how to work with the network.