

Welcome—To the New Members of the Association for Progressive Communications

Back in 1987, IGC helped to develop an international cooperative effort called the Association for Progressive Communications (APC; see *NetNews* Winter 1987). At that time, the only additional member network was GreenNet based out of London. Since then, the Web in Canada has joined forces with us, and more recently we have added nodes in Sweden, Nicaragua, Brazil, and Australia, bringing total membership of the APC to seven networks. We highlight here our newest members.

Each site, independently owned and operated, maintains its own set of conferences, many of which are networked to all other sites, enabling you to participate in discussions in over 70 countries!

A more complete listing of the users of these new nodes will be available via the (U)sers command within the next month.

EarthNet at Pegasus Networks (peg:<account>)

The youngest member of the APC, EarthNet is operated by Pegasus Networks out of Byron Bay in northern New South Wales, situated on the most easterly point of Australia.

Pegasus began operations on September 1, 1989. Helped by Australia's generally high level of environmental awareness and staffed by people with extensive experience in peace and environment movements, EarthNet has over 120 users and subscription inquiries are arriving thick and fast.

Started by Ian Peter who is well known for his work in helping to stop deforestation, Pegasus Networks was able to interest an ethical investment fund in putting up the capital needed to get EarthNet off the ground. As a result, the environment community is already well represented on EarthNet. Organizations already using EarthNet include:

The Rainforest Conservation Society, Australian Conservation Foundation, World Congress of Organizations for a Peaceful Earth, Freedom from Hunger, Greenpeace Australia, International Permaculture Institute, Rain Forest Information Centre, Friends of the Earth, Sydney Peace Squadron, El Salvador Information Office, and the World Wildlife Fund.

Fredsnaelet (PeaceNet Sweden) (pns:<account>)

PeaceNet Sweden (PNS), which came online in January 1989, is a nonprofit organization founded by the Swedish Peace & Arbitration Society (SPAS) and the Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation. Subscriptions have recently reached 100.

PNS is independent of political, religious or commercial interests. PNS conferences of global interest include:

dc.news	Disarmament Campaigns, bulletin from IKV, Netherlands
spas.nuketest	Swedish Peace & Arbitration Society's monitoring of nuclear testing, based on Swedish seismographical station
pns.baltic	For discussion of PNS networking in and around the Baltic

Alternex (ax:<account>)

Alternex was created this summer by the Instituto Brasileiro de Analises Sociais e Economicas (IBASE), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and IGC to support popular movements in Brazil. The network is housed at IBASE in Rio de Janeiro; however, it is available throughout Brazil through RENPAC, the Brazilian data network.

Alternex can be used to send electronic mail to others within Brazil, or to reach groups and individuals outside of Brazil (via the other related networks, academic networks, and so on). Likewise, any user of one of the IGC networks can freely send messages to organizations in Brazil.

At present, there are about 90 users of Alternex. Current users include: the Brazilian AIDS association, the Institute for Technology for the Citizen, and the UNDP/FAO Project Polonoeste (environmental component of an Amazon Development project located in Rondonia).

Although most Alternex conferences are not yet networked to the rest of the nodes, you may be interested in reading the Cronologia conference ax.crono. Cronologia, a service of IBASE, is a summary of the news stories in the Brazilian press related to unions, land reform, environment, political parties and campaigns. Note that the material is available only in Portuguese, and may be sporadic until mid-October. Another conference available in Brazil is ron.tropicstimer, a conference of the Rainforest Action Network.

If you are interested in helping an affiliated group establish a connection to Alternex, you can send e-mail to the support people at IBASE (ax:suporte).

Nicarao (ni:<account>)

In the summer of 1988, IGC opened electronic mail channels with Sistemas Industriales (SI), a software

cooperative in Managua, Nicaragua. Out of this developed a successful network that came under the operation and management of CRIES (Regional Coordinating Agency for Economic and Social Research) in June 1989. At this time, the network became a node of the APC.

The network's name then changed to Nicarao. IGC board member, Jo-Anne Scott, spent three months in Managua assisting CRIES staff in the set up of operations and transferring of subscribers. IGC volunteer Brian Coan, who accompanied Jo-Anne last May, is still in Managua making final adjustments to the hardware and software.

Currently, there are 70 users on Nicarao, including such organizations as: Tecnica, the Nicaragua Network, Habitat for Humanity and APSNICA (Architects & Planners in Support of Nicaragua). Additionally, CRIES uses the network extensively for electronic publishing

and information dissemination.

While conferencing capabilities are still being fine-tuned, you may look to the following conferences for related information:

carnet.ladb

An extensive press clipping service—perhaps the best place to find out quickly what's going on in Latin America.

*cries.regionews

An English-language conference with information not found elsewhere about happenings in Central America.

cries.nicanews

A conference about news and current events in Nicaragua.

ni.centam-elect

Discussions of the upcoming fall and winter elections throughout Central America.

APC's Who, What, and Where

Alternex

IBASE
Rue Vincente de Souza 29
2251 Rio de Janeiro
BRAZIL
+55 (21) 286 0348
of users: 70
Staff & Volunteers:
Carlos Afonso (ax:cafonso), Project Director
Alessandra Oliveira (ax:aless), Operations Manager
Marcio Lima (ax:marcio), Communications Consultant

FredsNaetel (PeaceNet Sweden)

Timmermansgraend 4
S-116 27 Stockholm
SWEDEN
+46 (8) 720 0001
of users: 100
Staff:
Gunnar Petersen (pns:gunnar), Technical Director
Anders Lundberg (pns:anders or pns:support), Support Manager
Greger Hatt (pns:ghatt), PNS Committee of the Swedish Peace Council
Jim Walch (pns:jim), PNS Board Member

GreenNet

26-28 Underwood Street
London N1 7JQ
GREAT BRITAIN
+44 (01) 490 1510
of users: 740
Staff & Volunteers:
Viv Kendon (gn:viv), Coordinator
Jeremy Mortimer (gn:jeremy), Technical Coordinator

IGC Networks

(PeaceNet, EcoNet, HomeoNet, ConflictNet)
3228 Sacramento Street
San Francisco, CA 94115
+1 (415) 923-0900
of users: 3582
Staff & Volunteers:
Geoff Sears (igc:gsars), Executive Director IGC
Mark Graham (igc:mgraham), PeaceNet
Bill Leland (igc:bleland), EcoNet
Diana Gould (igc:cnstaff) & John Helie (igc:staffcn), ConflictNet
Steve Fram (igc:steve), Chief of Programming
Scott Weikart (igc:scott), Technical Director
Charlie Hancock (igc:chancock or igc:billing), Billing
Jillaine Smith (igc:jillaine), Assistant Director, IGC
Jeff Lohrman (igc:jlohrman), VAN Coordinator
Hal Muskat (igc:hmskat), Volunteer

Nicarao

Proyecto de Telecomunicacion/Nicarao
CRIES
Apartado 3516
Managua, NICARAGUA
+505 (2) 26228
of users: 70
Staff & Volunteers:
Raul Valle (ni:raul), Project Coordinator
Conny Pena Vado (ni:conny), User Support Manager
Edmundo Coliani (ni:ecoli), Network Administrator
Brian Coan (ni:brian), Programmer

Pegasus Networks (EarthNet)

PO Box 424
The Epicentre, Border Street
Byron Bay 2481 NSW
AUSTRALIA
+066 (8) 56789 (support)
of users: 120
Staff & Volunteers:
Ian Peter (peg:iap), Managing Director
Keith Stewart (peg:support), User Support
Maxine Cole (peg:maxine), Administration
Robert McArthur (peg:robert), Technical Director

Web

456 Spadina Avenue
2nd floor
Toronto, Ontario M5T 2G8
CANADA
+1 (416) 929-0634
of users: 478
Staff & Volunteers:
Rory O'Brien (web:robrien), Coordinator
Steve Schmucker (web:steves), System maintenance
Yvonne La Rose (web:yvonne), User accounts & billing
Maureen James (web:maureen), User support, training & promotion
Peter Mendell (web:peter), System programming
Walter Roberson (web:roberson), Volunteer User support
Clyde & Lorna Mobbley (web:exact), Volunteer training & promotion
Doug Carroll (web:doug) —Misc., training