



COLUMBUS INTERNET COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER TO ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT INTERNET EXCHANGE

*Steering Committee Established to Draft Charter and Governance with Goal of Launching
by End of 2015*

COLUMBUS – October 6, 2015 – Columbus, Ohio, is a step closer to solidifying its emerging position as an important “edge market” for Internet traffic where content and applications are delivered closer to end users.

In a Town Hall hosted by [Cologix](#) and [OARnet](#), representatives of the local Internet community affirmed their interest in launching OHIO-IX as a non-profit, member-run Internet Exchange. OHIO-IX is contemplated to operate with technical support from OARnet and in data-center space committed by Cologix. Eight organizations representing content origination and unique regional and last mile networks volunteered to serve as members of a Steering Committee, which was charged with developing a charter and operating governance model for the exchange. The group will convene to submit their proposals in the coming months, with a target go-live date inside 4Q 2015.

The objective of OHIO-IX is to establish a regional Internet exchange that will allow Internet traffic to be passed between members without having to traverse to exchange points in cities like Chicago or Washington, D.C., and then back to Columbus. For content and applications destined for Internet users in Ohio, this change would improve latency and performance. For networks exchanging traffic, OHIO-IX would provide optimized network paths and lower costs. Columbus looks to follow the path of similar cities like Minneapolis, Montreal, Seattle, and Vancouver, which have seen robust growth in their non-profit Internet Exchanges, creating better user experiences and economic development opportunities.

Columbus is a natural location for an Internet Exchange. First, the capital city of Ohio is the 15th largest city in the United States and sits at the network crossroads of Ohio, providing proximity to Internet populations in Cincinnati, Cleveland and Dayton. Second, according to ESRI Business Analyst, nearly half of the population of the entire United States (47%) is within a 10-hour drive of Columbus, the highest percentage among major cities, making the market ideal for edge nodes and caches to deliver content close to end users. Third, Columbus hosts a large number of independent and regional network providers and ISPs, which are often too small to directly interconnect with the largest content providers. An exchange would enable content providers to interconnect to those networks and ISP’s without transit fees.

The Steering Committee expects to work in sessions over the next two months to develop a model for community comment. For more information or to express interest in the OHIO-IX, please contact [Kim Gerhart](#) at Cologix.

About OARnet

The Ohio Academic Resources Network (OARnet), a member of the Ohio Department of Higher Education’s Ohio Technology Consortium, provides technology solutions for Ohio’s education, public broadcasting, health care and government communities. Since 1987, OARnet has identified and deployed shared services that reduce costs, deliver quality programs, increase productivity and improve customer service. Communities voluntarily participate in the OARnet consortium because they value these benefits and services. Ultimately, OARnet promotes community and economic development by expanding access to affordable technology. For more: www.oar.net. Follow OARnet on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

About Cologix Inc.

Cologix Inc. is a network-neutral interconnection and colocation data center company headquartered in Denver. Cologix provides scalable interconnection services and secure, reliable colocation services. Cologix operates densely connected, strategically located facilities in Columbus, Dallas, Jacksonville, Lakeland, Minneapolis, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. With more than 350 network choices and 21 prime interconnection locations, Cologix currently serves over 950 carrier, managed services, cloud, media, content, financial services and enterprise customers. The company’s experienced local

July 1, 2014

Page 2 of 2

service teams are committed to providing its customers the highest standard of local customer support. To arrange a tour of the center closest to you, contact us at sales@cologix.com. Follow Cologix on [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#).

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