



# News from BITNETS

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## The Early Days

**BITNETS Inc.** ([www.bitnets.ca](http://www.bitnets.ca)) was originally founded as BITNETS in 1999 by principal and visionary Gary Bajaj. BITNETS was in its early days considered an acronym for Bajaj Internet Technology and Network Solutions, and to this day, the name is stylized in uppercase in recognition of the original acronym and as a tribute to the early pioneering efforts of the business. BITNETS, as the expansion of the name suggests, is an Internet technology consulting and network solutions provider.

BITNETS started out by specializing in providing consulting services to small businesses, helping them leverage the Internet to lower costs in business processes relying on data communications technologies.

The in-house network solutions that include managed, secure e-mail hosting, started out as a backup mail service, using internal e-mail systems to accommodate an overseas client. The service was augmented to address the specific mail hosting requirements of the client, and ultimately became a sophisticated redundant, multi-homed, multi-location secure e-mail hosting infrastructure.

## Services

Internetworking solutions are based on ongoing evaluations of clients' requirements to provide the most suitable and optimized combination of services and products, whether these be in-house support and managed services, on-site servers deployed at clients' premises, off-site backup servers, outside products or off-shore services. The process starts with an initial evaluation, followed by secure deployment and ongoing support.

The BITNETS secure e-mail implementation augments SSL-secured over-the-wire encrypted mail transfers with the unique combination of virus scanning, malicious and high-risk content blocking and anti-spam measures.

The security is more appealing to security conscious small businesses and is intended for ten to thousands of employees. Consumer pricing for single mailboxes has always been offered to bring similar benefits to the one person office or senior individual who would like to outsource, so as not to be consumed by the administrative, technical and licensing issues.

## Expansion

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The consulting business operates as BITNETS Consulting ([www.netguru.ca](http://www.netguru.ca)) and services include security consulting for Internet servers. BITNETS has, as a proponent of open source software, expanded its foray to include FreeBSD as a supported server operating system, besides supporting all versions of Windows Server. BITNETS has moved forward from being a consulting-only business to being one of few commercial Managed Service Providers worldwide offering secure e-mail hosting. The flagship secure e-mail hosting service was in mid-2003 switched to a more robust open source FreeBSD base and re-branded MAILHOSTING.CA ([www.mailhosting.ca](http://www.mailhosting.ca)).

BITNETS sells mail server software ([www.mailservers.ca](http://www.mailservers.ca)), network products, PC parts, SSL server certificates and domain registrations.

## Community

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BITNETS offers no charge consulting to charitable and qualifying non-profit organizations, and discounted rates to seniors. BITNETS is 100% St. Albert based.

BITNETS has operated BITNETS PC Express, a retail computer store and BITNETS Cyber Kids, a computer training school for children of ages 2 to 6, in downtown St. Albert. The retail locations brought much needed services to the downtown and business communities, being the only service bureau offering fax, photocopying, printing, scanning and web surfing. The computer school has hosted field trips for every

interested pre-school in St. Albert and is a member of the St. Albert and District Further Education Association.

Gary Bajaj has been writing the Computers and Internet column in the *Ask an Expert* feature of the *St. Albert Gazette* and has since 1999 been a notary, doing identity assertions to create awareness and promote the use of digital IDs used in secure e-mail and authentication applications.

## Testimonials and Awards

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To have received the St. Albert Chamber of Commerce 2003 Info-Tech Award of Distinction is a great honour for BITNETS.

There is no greater testimonial of commitment to quality and service excellence, than renewals of mail hosting contracts for five consecutive years since the inception of BITNETS, that too by large international corporate clients with a hundred employees and offices in twenty locations all being served by BITNETS.

## Online Resources

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The BITNETS web site at [www.BITNETS.ca](http://www.BITNETS.ca) is your resource for more information on services, products, rates, frequently asked questions, news and press coverage.

Contact us

Local and International +1 (780) 418-5151  
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