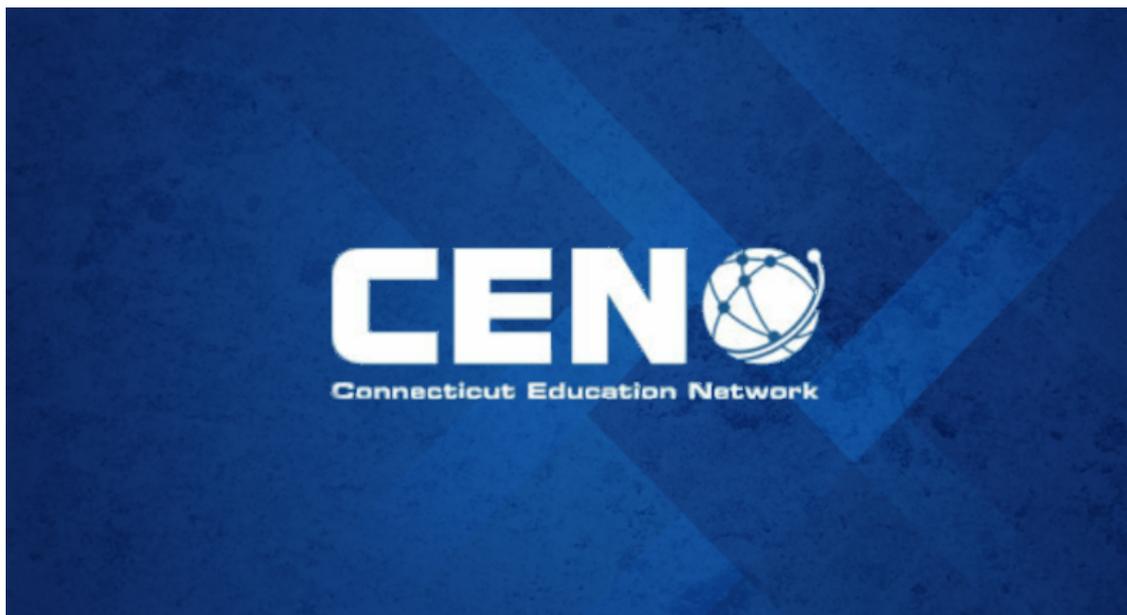


Quarterly CEN newsletter full of all the latest happenings



CEN Member Conference - May 12, 2017

Registration is now open to sponsors and speakers for the Connecticut Education Network's 5th Annual Member Conference on May 12, 2017 at the Hartford Convention Center. This year the Conference revolves around five major themes: Network Security, Instructional Technology, Sustainability, Best Practice, and Technology and Community Outreach.

Speaker proposals are being accepted on a rolling basis until January 20, 2017. Topics of interest should relate to one of the five themes.

There are several tiers of sponsorship opportunities available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Sponsors are vital to keep down attendee registration costs. We offer different levels of sponsorship, with Bronze level and above receiving tabling space in the Sponsor Display Area, logo placement on the Conference T-shirt and program, CEN social media mentions, the option to add company merchandise to the CEN swag bag, and free on-site parking.

Help us to empower members with speakers and sponsors that make our 2017 Conference our best yet by sharing this information with your network. General attendee registration for the CEN 2017 Conference will open December 1, so be sure to save the date of May 12th. More information available [here](#). For any questions, please contact Brynn Deprey (brynn.deprey@uconn.edu).



5th
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CEN 

- Network Security
- Instructional Technology
- Sustainability
- Best Practice
- Technology and Community Outreach

CONNECTICUT EDUCATION NETWORK

The nation's first all-optical research and education network, have a common goal of delivering valuable resources for their members.

Connecticut Convention Center | Hartford, Connecticut

MAY 12, 2017

Member Spotlight: CRCOG and CCAT Offer Cost-Effective IT Services to CEN Members

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), together with the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT), is offering the following IT services to CEN member towns, libraries, and K-12 schools.

The **Hosting Services** program enables CEN members to privately host an IT infrastructure that is customized to their needs. The solution allows municipalities to host applications, data and backup, and to perform disaster recovery. The CRCOG Data Center offers a secure, redundant environment that leverages the fiber and infrastructure of CEN. CRCOG hosting services can be managed by CCAT or by your internal IT staff.

Towns already using this service include: Bethany, Bloomfield, Columbia, Enfield, Killingly, Marlborough, and New Fairfield.

The **Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) service**, provided by IP-Genie and Mitel, enables full-featured and flexible hosted VoIP solutions for your communication needs. Through this offer, municipalities, schools and public libraries can use their CEN connection for robust and secure VoIP. The CRCOG VoIP services also enable advanced communications such as Web and video conferencing, hot desking, "find me-follow me," and more.

Towns already using this service include: Barkhamsted, Hebron, Simsbury, Somers, and Windsor Locks

The **Online Permitting program** enables homeowners and licensed contractors to apply for and receive building permits, track the status of permit applications, and request inspections. Municipalities can choose between two cloud-based permitting technology solutions, ViewPoint Cloud and Muncity 5.

Towns already using this service include: Bolton, Coventry, East Hartford, Glastonbury, Manchester, Newington, Simsbury, Tolland, and Wethersfield.

For additional information, please contact Jay Ghassem-Zadeh at jghassemzadeh@crcog.org or call 860-522-2217 ext. 244.

Farmington Benefits from VoIP by IP Genie

Prior to its upgrade, Farmington Public Schools had standalone phone system installations at each of their nine district locations. Equipment was no longer under warranty nor supported by the manufacturer, and parts were nearly impossible to locate. "Calls could not be transferred between sites and moving a phone or phone number required coordination of new wiring, programming, and lots of patience," explained Matt Ross, Director of Technology, at Farmington Public Schools.

In December 2015, Farmington Public Schools partnered with Connecticut-based IP Genie to replace the aging phone systems. Through careful planning and design between Farmington and IP Genie, Farmington consolidated nine separate systems into a single, premise-based VoIP solution that included necessary network redundancy and efficiency features to improve call routing.

Ross added, "The IP Genie team carefully walked us through the planning process and was accommodating to the K-12 school environment. Plans can change day by day in schools, based on many factors. IP Genie worked closely with us to complete the project while being invisible to the staff and students, working through the summer and finishing in time for the start of school."

For additional information, please contact George J. Taylor Jr. at gtaylor@ip-genie.com, or call (860) 610-6006.

Tech Update

DDoS Mitigation

CEN has recently included distributed denial of service (DDoS) mitigation as part of our core service offering to all members. DDoS attacks can cripple your internet connection by overloading the pipe to CEN, and this service helps maintain business continuity as we work to defend against what has become a new reality in the digital threat landscape. We currently mitigate multiple attacks per week, sometimes multiple per day. We also provide detailed mitigation reports to affected members. As one CEN member attests, "As a result of the work you guys did in mitigating the attacks, we never saw a performance impact to our connectivity. My assumption is, the student(s) [who perpetrated the attack] gave up as there is no fun with no payoff."

NYC Build

CEN is actively working with NEREN on a connection into New York City. This summer, the RFP to replace the existing optical network between Hartford, Storrs, Rhode Island, Cambridge and Springfield was awarded to Cisco. In terms of CEN upgrades, we are working on a 100G ring from 300 Bent Street in Cambridge to Storrs, to 155 Locust Street/55 Farmington Avenue, down to New Haven and 60 Hudson Street in New York City, and back through Albany, New York, to Springfield, Massachusetts. Besides boosting capacity and reducing our overall costs to members, these upgrades will position CEN closer to big cloud providers such as Amazon, Microsoft, and Google. This will allow CEN to expand our ability to directly connect our members with big cloud providers.

New Connections

Naugatuck Valley Community College (Danbury campus)

Fairfield Ludlowe High School

Municipalities

City of Danbury

Enfield Police Department

Montville WPCA

Old Lyme Fire Department

Putnam Police Department

Town of Salem

Southington Police Department

Waterford Fire Departments (5)

CEN is now peered directly with Yahoo via Mass-IX.

Upcoming Events

Juniper Networks and CEN will host "Interested in a Science DMZ for your campus?" on **November 10**. This webinar will enhance or clarify your working knowledge of a Science DMZ for your campus. For more information and to register click [here](#).

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities Annual Convention will be held on **November 14-15** at Foxwoods Resort Casino. More information is available [here](#).

Digital Back Office's Cybersecurity Challenges and Solutions for Connecticut will take place on **November 16** at the Sheraton Hartford South in Rocky Hill, CT. Join the conversation about cybersecurity and the next generation of firewalls. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

Connecticut Technology Council's 2016 Innovation Summit is **November 17** at the Hartford Convention Center. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

The 2017 Connecticut Education Network Conference will be on **May 12, 2017** at the Hartford Convention Center. Sponsor and Speaker Registration are open and Early Bird Attendee Registration begins December 1. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

CEN in the News

- Bethel Public Library received a state grant and is looking forward to connecting to CEN ([Newtown Daily Voice](#), October 28).
- The CT State Library has approved grants for 15 libraries to connect to CEN ([CT State Library](#), October 14).
- The Derby Public Library will use its state grant to connect to CEN by high-speed fiber ([Valley Independent](#), October 12).
- Guilford Free Library and Branford's James Blackstone Memorial Library received a state grant to connect to CEN ([Branford Patch](#), October 10).
- The Town of Sterling updated their computers and connected to CEN ([Norwich Bulletin](#), September 13).
- Sixteen Connecticut High Schools made *Newsweek's* Top 500 all of which are connected to CEN ([Hartford Courant](#), September 12).
- Newington public school students from 3rd to 11th grade will have their own Chromebooks and CEN helps keep them all online ([Hartford Courant](#), August 26).

Connecticut Education Network | 860.622.4560 | info@cteducation.net | www.cen.ct.gov

STAY CONNECTED:



Connecticut Education Network, 55 Farmington Ave, Hartford, CT 06105

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