

Net Neutrality

WHAT IS NET NEUTRALITY?

Network or Net Neutrality, a term coined by Tim Wu is the guiding principle that preserves a free and open internet - in other words - no discrimination. The idea is that Internet Service Providers should not speed up or slow down web content based on its source, ownership or destination.

What is ECTEL's determination on Net Neutrality?

- ✓ **ECTEL** is committed to the principle of an open internet and maintains that the practice of blocking websites and throttling speeds interferes with regional objectives to utilize Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as a way of transforming economies and transitioning towards knowledge-based economies.
- ✓ At this time, **ECTEL** treats the issue of traffic management through the promotion of information transparency and a review of the Quality of Service Regulations. **ECTEL** has not introduced net neutrality regulations, but reserves its right to do so at a later time.
- ✓ **ECTEL** continues to work to strengthen the capacity of the National Telecommunications Regulatory Commissions to deal with anti-competitive conduct by continuing to work on the passage of the draft Electronic Communications Bill, and to co-operate with the Eastern Caribbean Competition Commission.



Why should I care about Net Neutrality?

One of the most important reasons why you should care to keep the internet open and as fair as possible is that it will continue to allow any website to reach consumers worldwide. This means that websites and the services they offer succeed or fail on their own merit as consumers make their own choices of content.

For more information on net neutrality, please visit <https://www.fcc.gov/openinternet>