



Post-og teletilsynet

Network Neutrality **– the Norwegian Approach**

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Preface

The discussion about net neutrality is often spoiled because of misunderstanding about what network neutrality actually *is*.

One must agree on what network neutrality is before discussing how to achieve it!
(and *maybe* regulate it)

This presentation does not present NPT's regulation of net neutrality. It presents the *Norwegian guidelines* on net neutrality.



Net Neutrality basics

- **Internet is vital for the modern society**
- **Preserve the open Internet!**
- **Traffic should not be discriminated**
- **The user decides (not the ISP)**
 - Compare with the telephone network:
What if you're no allowed to call any number?**
- **But the user decides
within the constraints of the law**



The Norwegian Approach

- **Soft regulation approach**
- **NPT initiated a dialogue with the stakeholders**
 - **Access providers (ISPs)**
 - **Content and service providers**
 - **Industry organizations**
 - **Consumer organizations**
- **Focused on achieving a balanced view**
- **Voluntary agreement with the industry**
- **The common guidelines defines what NN is**



Net Neutrality Principles

1. No degradation

2. No blocking

3. No throttling

Exceptions:

- block activities that harm the network (e.g. denial-of-service attack)
- comply with orders from the authorities (e.g. laws or court decisions)
- ensure the quality of service for specific applications that require this (e.g. real-time applications like VoIP and IPTV)
- deal with special situations of temporary network overload

The measures of this type shall be published and disclosed to users.

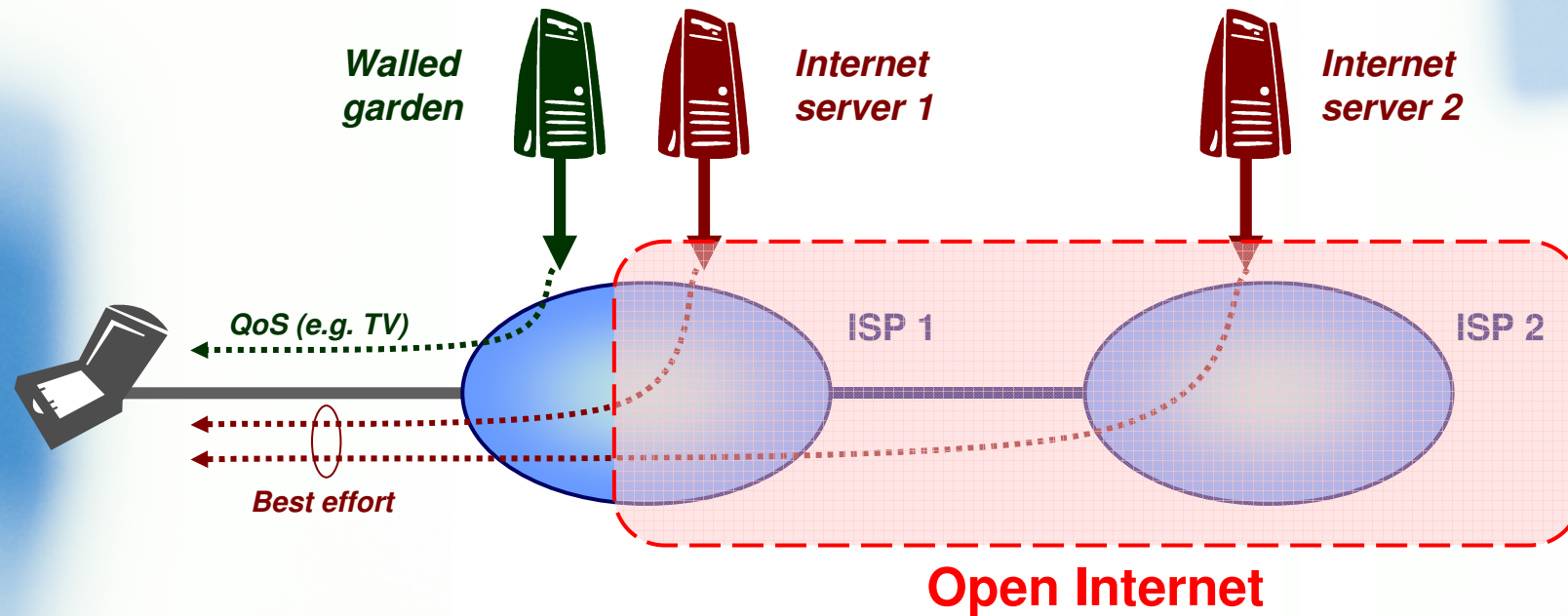
Full text:

www.npt.no →  → **Services → **Internet** → **Guidelines for network neutrality****



Internet for Dummies

- Net Neutrality in practice





Extras



Principle 1 – No degradation

A touch of EU

The Internet users are entitled to an Internet connection with a predefined capacity and quality.

This means that

1. The capacity and quality of the Internet connection is to be clearly specified.
2. If the physical connection is shared with other services, it must be stated clearly how the capacity is shared between Internet traffic and the other services.

1. This lays the foundation for the capacity regulated by principles 2 and 3.
2. Internet access shared with services with QoS (e.g. IPTV, NGN services)

NEXT PRINCIPLE: The network itself should be transparent, it is not sufficient that the conditions are transparent

Inspired by the Annenberg Center Principles for Network Neutrality, 27th March 2006 and Proposal in "Telecom Packet", presented by the Commission, COM(2007) 698 final, 13th November 2007



Principle 2 – No blocking

A touch of US

The Internet users are entitled to an Internet connection that enables them to

- send and receive content of their choice
- use services and run applications of their choice
- connect hardware and use software of their choice that do not harm the network.

However,
this does not mean that the principle can be used to legitimize unlawful or harmful actions.

Examples on unlawful or harmful actions:
IPR violations, child pornography, spam etc.

**NEXT PRINCIPLE: It is not sufficient that communication is non-blocked,
it must also be non-throttled**

Inspired by the Federal Communications Commission Policy Statement, 23th September 2005



Principle 3 – No throttling

A touch of Japan

The Internet users are entitled to an Internet connection that is free of discrimination with regard to type of application, service or content or based on sender or receiver address.

This means that there shall be no discrimination among individual data streams that use the basic Internet service.

Exceptions:

- block activities that harm the network (e.g. denial-of-service attack),
- comply with orders from the authorities (e.g. laws or court decisions),
- ensure the quality of service for specific applications that require this (e.g. real-time applications like VoIP and IPTV)
- deal with special situations of temporary network overload

The measures of this type shall be published and disclosed to users.

Inspired by Report on Network Neutrality from the Japanese Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, September 2007