Created in 1993, the French Research and Education Network RENATER is managing its own fiber network, providing IP and Layer 2 connectivity to more than 1400 sites located in France and overseas territories in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. When speaking about the high bandwidth and resilient backbone, Patrick Donath, RENATER CEO, says with a smile that “the sun never goes down on RENATER network”.

Moreover, since 2015, RENATER has also successfully providing some of its fibers to the French Inter-ministerial network, then optimizing state expenditures.

On top of the network, RENATER strategy for 25 years has always been to work together with Research and Education, answering their specific needs and innovating services for a secured and reliable digital transformation. In 2016 RENATER received a Public Partner Award for enabling online exams for medicine students. RENATER’s portfolio is always evolving, embedding security and authentication features at design phase.

But RENATER’s story of the past decades is also strongly linked to GÉANT’s. Involved since the early ages of DANTE and TERENA (now the GÉANT Association), RENATER has been an active partner in building the pan-European network, both at governance levels and as part of the series of European projects co-funded by the EU.

As Sabine Jaume-Rajaonia, RENATER Strategy director and member of the GÉANT Board recalls, “we are stronger together!” Research and Education networks are a fantastic asset to our Research and Education community, and RENATER is – since 2011 when signing a MoU with WACREN – very involved in helping this area of Africa to build its own NRENs and Regional backbones.

Words
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Pictures
Main: RENATER network connecting French R&E sites
Right: WACREN and GÉANT on the RENATER stand at JRES