From the early days, Nigel Titley brought a "Telco view to this most un-Telco like of activities". His goals for a LINX that gained strength, year on year, were supported by his involvement and activity in all aspects of LINX governance and operations. This saw the growth of LINX, from its first rack installation and eight port ethernet hub, to the present multi-site switched architecture. His commitment is in evidence everywhere - an engineer at heart, his contribution to the solid stable engineering principles, that are our trademark today and a blueprint for IXPs across Europe - and his active participation in implementing and contributing to social responsibility, through development of LINX Traceability BCP and global promotion of LINX route aggregation.

"Nigel played a pivotal role in ensuring that LINX became one of the world’s leading Internet exchanges and LINX owes much of its success to Nigel’s extensive industry expertise and sound judgement. It is my honour to present this award to Nigel in recognition of his conspicuous contribution” - Grahame Davies -

When BTnet started up in 1994, the existing four players in the British ISP community had kept UK Internet traffic in the UK via a number of ad-hoc bi-lateral arrangements. It was clear with BT as the fifth player these would not scale, and also that the UK had a leadership opportunity to set up a world-class national IXP.

In many other countries, the belated arrival of the "PTT" into the ISP market was often the chance that the UK had a leadership opportunity to set up a world-class national IXP.

As well as being the driving force behind BT’s participation in the original LINX “gang of five” founding ISPs, wherever Nigel has worked he has always managed to set commercial differences to one side and put the best interests of LINX, the UK and the wider Internet community first. Nigel’s patience, diverse interests, wise counsel and ability to see through wrong headedness are legendary, and it is very fitting he should be the first recipient of this LINX award.

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to the development of the London Internet Exchange since the organisation’s inception in 1994, LINX have honoured Nigel Titley with:

“The Conspicuous Contribution to LINX Award”

For his steadfast and continuous support in the development and growth of LINX
Nigel Titley - ‘A Conspicuous Contributor’

From the first LINX meeting which took place on Friday 5th August 1994 at the University of London Computer Centre, Nigel has committed both time and input into the formation of LINX and the subsequent successful running of the organisation. These early meetings, focused very much on physically and commercially setting up LINX, and are what has shaped LINX today.

The contribution that Nigel provided was endorsed by his election to the first Council of LINX at LINX06, which was held on 29th November 1995.

Nigel helped lay the foundations for what was to come. In May 1996 Nigel was co-opted onto the Oftel subcommittee, consisting of legal representatives from Cable Online, Cable Internet and UUNET (PIPEX). Some of you may recall that, at the time there was considerable debate about the classification of Internet and IP services and the success of this early subcommittee was highlighted by Keith Mitchell to Members at LINX12 when it was reported that as a result of the successful lobbying by the subcommittee, Oftel had agreed to class IP actions as supplementary services and Intranet as systems business. Oftel had said that it made a big difference dealing with LINX directly rather than going through a lobbyist.

In 1999 Nigel contributed to the development of the BCP document on traceability which covered the widespread adoption of the best current practice towards the global accountability of users for their actions, and thus creating a more secure and stable Internet.

Always at the forefront of fashion, Nigel raised the subject of LINX’s image and, following Industry best practice investigated and took action to source the first LINX t-shirt - sealing the fate of marketing people for generations to come.

Nigel’s conspicuous contribution to the good of the Internet has benefited LINX in many ways, not only through his service to the community but in his support to LINX staff - from reviewing LINX code to representing LINX globally on a wide variety of topics such as the Route Aggregation policy in Perth at APRICOT 2006.

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The Racks Subcommittee

LINX06 was a ground-breaking meeting in many ways as the event also saw the formation of the Racks Subcommittee which included Peter Galbavy, Andrew Birch, Richard Almeida as well as Nigel whose work resulted in the first rack installation – two racks on the 2nd floor in Telehouse North.

“I’ve known Nigel possibly for longer than I’ve known anyone else in the UK Internet industry. In 1988 he was sanity-checking my TCP/IP code, but it was during my six years with LINX between 1994 to 2000 that his sanity-checking counted for rather more!”

- Keith Mitchell -

Thank you Nigel!
‘A Conspicuous Contributor’