Deepak Jain Bio

Deepak Jain, 36 year-old founder and CEO of AiNET, demonstrated a talent for innovation in childhood. When he was in second grade, his parents tired of buying him toys, and got him his first computer. By late elementary school, he had a dedicated telephone line to run one of the first computer bulletin boards in the area.

As a teenager in the 1990s, Jain was a self-described computer geek, who invented things to make high school easier for himself and his friends. He built an alarm system so they could tell when a parent was approaching their rooms. He worked as a DJ at weddings, bar mitzvahs and local clubs, and rebuilt sound systems in his co-workers' cars, and the places where he worked.

Others recognized Jain's talent for innovation early on. He was part of a high school magnet program in computer science and was selected to intern and then work at the National Security Agency (NSA). His job was helping to automate a fault analysis system. He recalls, "I helped transform the system from a big book into a computer application."

The Beginning of AiNET

Jain founded AiNET in 1993 just before entering Johns Hopkins as a pre-med student. Back then, the Internet was a small, collaborative group of tech experts, and it failed often. Early adopters were primarily concerned with building capacity, routing traffic and keeping their sites running 24/7.

AiNET started out as a web hosting firm with a DS-3 line (at 45 Mbps, a huge connection in those days), which he ran first from his mother's basement, and later an office building in Columbia, MD. As the Internet mushroomed, Jain saw web hosting becoming a commodity business, and decided to get more involved in data management, security and storage.

In 2003, Jain bought a data center in Beltsville, MD which also serves as AiNet's headquarters. With more space, power and bandwidth he was able to expand and work with companies such as Lockheed Martin and Verizon's Advanced Research Group.

Jain's business philosophy is simple: If he needs a new technology to make a data center utilize less energy, improve storage capacity or become more reliable and secure, he develops it. He says, "We build machines that run and monitor other machines."

This business approach helped Jain to develop a far reaching operations management system, a cutting-edge storage area network (SAN), and a recently patented solution to a vexing problem in data center power.

A Bold Move to Grow AiNET

Success has made Jain bolder, and his recent purchase of a 300,000 square foot building in Glen Burnie, MD that will become AiNET CyberNAP, demonstrates a strong desire to grow the business and a sense of opportunity.

The AiNET CyberNAP will help create a major data center business in MD and become one of the largest in the region. Jain is investing in MD because he was born in the state, grew up there and has lived in it his whole life. Maryland was underserved in the data center space.