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Appendix 1: Internet Standards

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Most protocols used by computers and network technology now follow a standard framework known in short as the OSI Model, invented in the 1970's. Further overview of the model can be found at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OSI_model

The use of standardized protocols means that equipment from different manufacturers will inter-operate. It is this standardization that made the Internet possible. Human nature being what it is, there is always someone re-inventing the wheel, along with people and companies seeing an advantage in having a unique product they can monetize. So not all Internet protocols fit the OSI model and not all products are completely interoperable. As electronics and computers advance technically, they are getting smaller and much more complex and unfortunately less interoperable.

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