

PROTONET

Press Release

Protonet Enters the US Market, Becomes a Y Combinator Company

San Ramon, Calif. - February 16, 2016 - Protonet, a leading European provider of project management and collaboration solutions, today announced it is entering the US market with the opening of their new office in the San Francisco bay area. In addition, Protonet is now a Y Combinator company, a member of the tech incubator's Winter 2016 batch of startups.

Protonet SOUL is social project management and collaboration software that provides a single integrated platform for workgroup communication, file sharing, and task management. Protonet SOUL is available on Protonet Private Cloud Servers (a [private cloud](#) solution located within company firewalls) and through SOUL Live (a [public cloud](#) service delivered via the Internet located in data centers following strict privacy policies).

Businesses today are forced to choose between web-based collaboration tools, which host their data offsite on public clouds, and expensive on premise tools which are difficult to deploy and use. Many businesses:

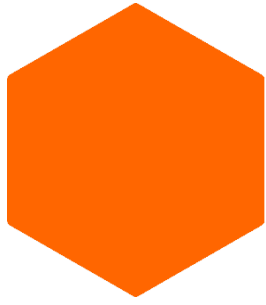
- Have strict data compliance rules that prevent them from hosting data offsite using public cloud services.
- Can't afford expensive and complex on premise solutions.
- Don't want to hand over control of their most important assets to public cloud services that may jeopardize the availability and privacy of their data.

Protonet fills this gap by providing the easiest way for companies to run a private cloud. Just plug in the power and the Internet and the Protonet Private Cloud Server will provide increased productivity and security compliance in an affordable solution.

"Protonet has the potential to disrupt the \$25B Enterprise Content Management space", said Jared Friedman, Partner at Y Combinator. "Protonet's magical orange box is the first product that can run on premise but is easy enough for small businesses to use."

Y Combinator is a venture fund which focuses on seed investments to startup companies. It offers financing as well as business consulting along with other opportunities. Y Combinator has a novel approach to seed funding: they fund startups in batches. Notable alumna include reddit, Airbnb, Docker, Scribd, and Dropbox.

"We started with a new idea and Y Combinator is helping us shape it into a product that will change an industry," said Ali Jelveh, co-founder and CEO of Protonet. "The Y Combinator consultation and process is definitely making our products and business better."



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For more information on Protonet products or to register for your free 2-week trial of SOUL, please visit us at [Protonet SOUL](#) and/or [Protonet Private Cloud Servers](#).

To learn more about Protonet, contact us at <https://protonetinc.com/> or at (925)242-2441.

About Protonet

Protonet, a Y Combinator company, provides out-of-the box solutions that enable organizations and teams to more effectively run their business operations without being IT experts. Protonet was founded 2012 by Ali Jelveh and Christopher Blum. In 2014, Protonet was awarded the crowdfunding World Champion by Seedmatch, with an investment of three million euros and was later elected the 2014 startup of the year. Protonet is headquartered in Hamburg, Germany and has offices in the San Francisco bay area. For more information, please visit <https://protonetinc.com/>.