What are internet technologies? Internet technology is the ability of the Internet to transmit information and data through different servers and systems. Internet technology is important in many different industries because it allows people to communicate with each other through means that were not necessarily available.

The Internet is essentially a large database where all different types of information can be passed and transmitted. It can be passively passed along in the form of non-interactive websites and blogs; it can also be actively passed along in the form of file sharing and document loading. Internet technology has led to a wealth of information available to anyone who is able to access the Internet. It has allowed people who were accustomed to textbooks and libraries to learn anything they could want from the comfort of a computer.

Internet technology is constantly improving and is able to speed up the information highway that it has created. With the technologies powering the Internet, speeds are faster, more information is available and different processes are done that were not possible in the past. Internet technology has changed, and will continue to change, the way that the world does business and how people interact in daily life.

TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) is the basic communication language or protocol of the Internet. It can also be used as a communications protocol in a private network (either an [intranet](http://searchwindevelopment.techtarget.com/definition/intranet) or an [extranet](http://searchenterprisewan.techtarget.com/definition/extranet)). When you are set up with direct access to the Internet, your computer is provided with a copy of the TCP/IP program just as every other computer that you may send messages to or get information from also has a copy of TCP/IP.

E-business is about using Internet technologies to provide superior customer service, streamline business processes, increase sales, and reduce costs. E-business uses tools such as email, online banking solutions, websites, supply chain management software and web-based customer relationship management. It improves the overall business performance through internal and external process more efficiently and effectively and works more closely with suppliers and partners for better satisfy needs and expectations. A key requirement in today's business environment is the ability to communicate more effectively, both internally with the organization’s purposes and externally with the trading partners and customers. The following describes about the intranet and extranet and how both the items helps the e-business.  
  
 Intranet is the generic term for a collection of private computer networks within an organization. It uses network technologies as a tool to facilitate communication between people or work groups to improve the data sharing capability and overall knowledge base of an organization's employees. Intranets utilize standard network hardware and software technologies like Ethernet, WiFi,TCP/IP, Web browsers and Web servers. An organization's intranet typically includes Internet access but is firewalled so that its computers cannot be reached directly from the outside.  A simple intranet consists of an internal email system and perhaps a message board service. More sophisticated intranets include Web sites and databases containing company news, forms, and personnel information. Besides email and groupware applications, an intranet generally incorporates internal Web sites, documents, and or databases. The business value of intranet solutions is generally accepted in larger corporations, but their worth has proven very difficult to quantify in terms of time saved or return on investment.  
  
An extranet is a computer network that allows controlled access from the outside for specific business or educational purposes. Typically a company extranet is used for people to connect to the company to conduct any number of tasks behind a password protected area. A common application of an extranet is a partner area where partners and resellers can download sales resources such as graphics and content to aid in the sales process. Sometimes referred to as a portal, an extranet can also be used to service clients who need support for products and services purchased from the organization. An enterprise level extranet application can be built upon most technology available today, including dot net, asp, php, html, and other systems.

Extranets are extensions to, or segments of, private intranet networks that have been built in many corporations for information sharing and ecommerce. Most extranets use the Internet as the entry point for outsiders, a firewall configuration to limit access, and a secure protocol for authenticating users. Using extranet technology an organization can break out its internal limit of communication access that may enable its improved productivity. http://compnetworking.about.com/od/filetransferprotocol/Intranets\_and\_Extranets.htm Among business to business (B2B), business to consumer (B2C), customer to customer (C2C) and finally customer to business (C2B) are the business or stakeholder transaction types which is involve in the business operation. Each of these business segments can have specific characteristics that are influenced by the players, their capabilities, and their general requirements. The following discuss about the above aspects:-  
  
B2B (business-to-business)- B2B includes two modes basically, one is the commerce communication between enterprises directly (such as the manufacturer's online procurement and online supple, etc.), and the other is through third e-commerce website platform for business activities, for example, the www.alibaba.com is one of B2B platform, and the different enterprises will publish or query information on it, then communicate or negotiate with potential customers. The vast majority of products and services sold are usually considered to be B2B.  
  
B2C (business-to-customer) - Is short for Business - to - Consumer, or the popular retailing part of e-commerce on the Internet. It can be interpreted as business sells products or provides services to consumers directly. Such as www.Amazon.com is the most famous B2C e-commerce site.  B2C is the enterprises who are via the Internet to provide consumers a new type of shopping environment online shop. Consumers could shop from the Internet through the online shopping and payment, especially for busy office worker, this model can save valuable time for them.  
  
C2C (customer-to-customer) – Is the abbreviation for Consumer - to - Consumer. It is the e-commerce communication between consumers but through some third platform. Take www.ebay.com for example, the consumers could post their own items on this site for sale and wait for other consumers bid to purchase it. The third platform eBay just charges a flat fee or commission from these consumers. This form is becoming more and more popular among common people, especially for those young students in universities, because lots of young people want to start their own business at their spare time from a low region. So C2C offers the opportunity to them  
  
C2B (customer-to-business) – The best way to define customer to business is for example, a consumer posts his project with a set budget online and within hours companies review the consumer's requirements and bid on the project. The consumer reviews the bids and selects the company that will complete the project. Elance is one of the website which empowers consumers around the world by providing the meeting ground and platform for such transactions. Freelancer website also allows sellers to advertise their skills and prospective buyers to advertise projects.  
  
Overall it can be said that using the various technology via internet, any business owner can take various advantages of business models which I have discussed above.