The ASCII Group FAQ:

How did ASCII get started?

The ASCII Group was started in 1984 by a group of unsatisfied computer franchise owners who wanted complete control over how they operated, rather than what was dictated by the master franchisor who was in financial straits.

Who joins ASCII?

The ASCII community is open to all independent IT practices. These practices range in size and in scope (VAR/MSP) from a single person operation to companies that have over 100 employees.

Am I required to use certain services to run my business like a franchise?

ASCII is not a franchise but a group of independent IT providers. We remain vendor agnostic and do not require use of any particular vendor or service to be a part of the community.

Will my membership fees increase if I add additional employees?

No. The ASCII Group has no per user membership fees. ASCII membership covers your entire company, so as your company grows, your membership costs stay the same.

What are my requirements regarding membership meetings and associated costs?

ASCII provides regional training and networking events in various markets around the United States and Canada. Participation in these meetings is completely voluntary and are provided at no additional cost. For companies traveling more than 50 miles to any one meeting, ASCII provides a complimentary overnight hotel stay to help lower any expenses incurred while your company attends.

Are there additional costs for various chapters?

ASCII has a variety of different groups all within our community; there are no specific chapters, simply multiple interest groups you can join and participate in online. Some groups run specific conversations on a particular piece of software or larger conversations that are general and focus on marketing, operations, etc. In either case, ASCII does not charge you for participation in additional group activities.

What happens when I join?

As a member of The ASCII Group, you are assigned a membership support representative. Your support rep is there to help you get the most out of ASCII and the ASCII community. In addition, you will gain access to our membership website which details benefits and services geared to help you save time and money.