



1050 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, California 94710 • (510) 848-4411 • [www.alternativetechs.com](http://www.alternativetechs.com)

## The Story of Alternative Technologies Becoming a Worker-Owned Cooperative

Founded in 1989 to provide a variety of technology infrastructure services, Alternative Technologies has grown to become a team of 35 who have earned the trust of nonprofits and progressive small businesses throughout the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond. We provide fully managed IT services, cloud-based backup and cloud platform support, phone systems (both traditional and cloud-based), as well as professional installation of WiFi and low voltage wiring and infrastructure. Alternative has become the IT department to the progressive community in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond, handling everything for our clients from building out the server room, to choosing an internet provider, to handling helpdesk requests, to advising on information security, budgeting and planning.

Working with hundreds of nonprofits and small local businesses, we have become a trusted source of reliable technology, people-centered service, and solutions that fit their budget and needs. Along the way, we have attracted workers who share our founder's vision of supporting the Bay Area's progressive nonprofit and small business ecosystem. They, in turn, found a company where they could be their authentic selves at work, actively live their racial, social, and environmental justice values through their work, contribute to Alternative's success in meaningful ways, and feel supported as people. Our workplace, culture, and operational practices are growing to better honor our employees' and clients' richly diverse intersecting identities.

Our conversion in 2022 to a worker-owned cooperative has been a natural progression that has allowed us to continue our trusted role in our community, walking (and scooting, and rolling) our talk and becoming an organization that embodies the values we support, as well as one that supports our workers in new and important ways. Against the headwinds of the COVID-19 pandemic, racial and economic injustice, and political extremism, we believe worker ownership draws on the strength of our workers to be a beacon of change in our communities and in the United States. We can attract and retain experienced people with integrity, commitment and dedication, whose values align with the customers we serve. With this new structure, we can continue to provide great service, and provide opportunities for more economic stability for more of our workers.

By becoming a worker-owned cooperative, we are strengthening the foundation of our business for many years to come.

**it's all connected**