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## 1. The Computer Center (CC)

The Computer Center (CC) provides the necessary software, hardware and the central computing services like networking, to facilitate the proper functioning of academic work, the educational programs, and the administrative units and fulfils the computational needs of the users. The CC is closely involved with the latest technological improvements and novelties to bring up the computational facilities in METU.

## 2. Communicating with the CC

**Location** : The CC is located between the Civil Engineering and the Computer Engineering buildings on the ring road.  
**Phone** : + 90 312 210 3301  
**Fax** : + 90 312 210 3303  
**E-mail** : [metucc@metu.edu.tr](mailto:metucc@metu.edu.tr)  
**URL** : <http://www.bidb.odtu.edu.tr>  
: <http://www.cc.metu.edu.tr>

## 3. The Job Description of the CC and the Services Provided to METU:

- Local area networking, domestic connections and access abroad,
- User codes on the central servers for administrative/academic staff and students,
- User codes for units covered by the Electronic Communication Systems,
- Modem services,
- Wireless Computer Network services,
- Training for computer users, booklets and brochures, CC Library,
- PC Rooms,
- "Hot-line" consultancy services (e-mail: [hot-line@metu.edu.tr](mailto:hot-line@metu.edu.tr), phone: 3355),
- Helpdesk Interactive Web Site (<http://helpdesk.metu.edu.tr>),
- Central Laser Print-out services,
- FTP, e-mail services, electronic lists, forum,
- Central licensed software/program packages,

- Academic staff/Student Information System on the web,
- METU-CWIS (METU Campus Wide Information System) pages.
- METU-TV
- Smart Class
- HCI Lab

All other issues (the Network structure and problems related to the structure, department/unit software/hardware problems), other than these services supplied by the CC for the University, are the responsibility of the department/unit computer coordinators.

#### 4. When are the services provided by the CC available?

|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| Local area(campus) and Wide area (internet) connections: | 365 days, 24 hrs          |
| Services provided by the central system                  | : 365 days, 24 hrs        |
| Modem services   | : 365 days, 24 hrs        |
| Consultancy (Hot-Line) services                          | : 09:00-17:00 (Week days) |
| User Code services                                       | : 09:00-17:00 (Week days) |
| The Library  | : 09:00-17:00 (Week days) |
| PC Rooms   | : 09:00-17:00 / 24 Hrs    |

#### 5. What to do, to make use of the services provided by the CC?

The academic/administrative staff who would like to work via the Central Systems or access the internet should first fill out the *User Code Application Form* and have it authorized by the department/unit computer coordinator and submit it to **Room 114** at the **CC** during working hours, presenting their ID card, in order to get their user code and password. Having this code the academic/administrative staff can; send and receive e-mail, use electronic communication lists, utilize the software which run on central systems, connect from off-campus by using dial-up connections, get printouts from laser printer services (due to fee), or transfer files using FTP services. They may access any service available on the Academic/Student Information Services Platform.

Purpose of use of the systems and the licensed software available that academic/administrative staff can get at by using their user codes is listed below:

| System   | Purpose of Use  | Licensed Software*  |
|--|---|---|
| <i>orca</i> (It can be reached by the name <i>cplex</i> )                            | a UNIX based server system authorized to the academic/administrative staff and the interactive use of the students.   | Cplex   |
| <i>simena Simena</i> (It can be reached by the names <i>rorqual, narwhal, orca</i> ) | a UNIX based server system authorized to the academic/administrative staff and the interactive use of the students.   | Abaqus, Ansys, Maple, MSC. Marc/Mentat, MSC. Superform, MSC. Patran, SAS, SPSS, Matlab, Mathematica, Siman/Arena, Gaussian 98 |
| <i>beluga</i>  | a UNIX based server system authorized to the academic/administrative staff and the interactive use of the students. Furthermore, applications that need high processing speeds can be run on this server. It also serves as a license provider for the software being used on other server systems. | Abaqus, Ansys, Maple, MSC. Marc/Mentat, MSC. Superform, MSC. Patran, SAS, SPSS, Matlab, Mathematica, Siman/Arena, Gaussian 98 |
| <i>tasman</i>  | Utilized for the high speed needing applications, software development and package program usage of the academic/administrative staff and the students.   | Abaqus, Ansys, Maple, MSC. Marc/Mentat, MSC. Superform, MSC. Patran, Mathematica, Matlab                                      |

\* You can get further information about licensed software at question 11

## 6. What is the CC Virus Filtering service?

E-mails that are sent to the campus are scanned for viruses by the central e-mail servers. The system has been observed and localized for a period of time, and has been fully operational since 21-03-2003.

Of the e-mail sent to our users, those engulfing viruses/worms or spam e-mails will be filtered and an e-mail will be sent to the user in order to inform the user about the procedure taken. Such e-mail is automatically sent by the software to inform the recipient and should not be replied back.

## 7. Does the CC supply PC Cluster service?

PC Cluster is a unit composed of PCs and, similar to super computers, can enable software that requires processor and memory power to run efficiently. Their benefit is that, their capacity can be enlarged, by adding on more PCs, as the need arises, and their cost is cheaper. "*magellan*" is such a unit of pc cluster operated by METU CC.

*magellan* cluster is composed of 9 PCs with the below hardware specifications:

- 1 GHz PIII processor
- 1 GB memory
- 40 GB IDE hard disk
- 100 Mbit Ethernet

Furthermore, it accommodates 18 GB common use disk space and a 100 Mbit switch to connect the computers to each other.

The software specifications on these PCs are:

**Compilers:** GNU C, GNU C++, GNU Fortran, GNU Java, GNU ADA95 and Free Pascal  
**Libraries:** PVM3, MPI, blas, lapack, python, tcl

To access the server; **magellan.cc.metu.edu.tr**, please contact **hotline** via e-mail (hot-line@metu.edu.tr) or by phone (**210 3355**). After you are authorized to use the system, you can access the server by using a SSH client program, entering your user code and password. To create a new folder with your user code and change its access privileges:

```
$ mkdir user_name  
$ chmod 700 folder_created
```

Later, going in to that folder you may develop, sort, or run your programs and *magellan* will run your program on the most suitable node at that instant.

## 8. Are seminars/training courses organized by the CC?

Courses for Users are organized across METU each year. These seminars are arranged for all parties, staff and/or students, with course hours of suitable options, at a PC room, with hands on application (one PC per person), and free of charge. The training given is at introductory level and in general covers the below topics:

- Windows XP
- UNIX
- MS Word
- MS Excel
- MS PowerPoint
- Internet
- OpenOffice
- PhotoShop
- HTML
- Virüsler
- Linux

To apply for these courses or to get further information about new courses to be held follow the link; <http://seminer.cc.metu.edu.tr>. Besides that address, training courses for users are announced on notice boards through out the university, web pages, and electronic lists ahead of time.

### **9. How to access to the books, manuals etc., which are published by the CC?**

METU CC Library is located at the CC building bridge annex, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, room 109 and it provides our users with manuals of computer operating systems, booklets, computer magazines and periodicals.

A list of book, booklets and CDs on sale at the library can be found at <http://library.cc.metu.edu.tr> address.

### **10. What to do, to get laser printouts via the printers on the Central Systems?**

For users to be able to get printouts, laser printer service is provided by the CC (due to fee). You can get detailed and updated information from <http://print-out.cc.odtu.edu.tr> address about what is required to do in order to make use of this service and get laser printouts from the central server system.

### **11. How to access to the software, package programs which are licensed to METU, and to the software available on the internet?**

Microsoft Software products licensed for in-campus use and some of the Borland software products licensed for multi user application are available in the CDs and diskettes at the CC Library. Regarding these products, using your user code at *orca / beluga / rorqual* central servers you can, search the available products, reserve the needed product, and cancel the reservation from the <http://library.cc.metu.edu.tr> address.

For use within the university campus an FTP site, <ftp://ftp.cc.metu.edu.tr>, has been provided, solely for the academic and the administrative staff, to access licensed **Microsoft and Borland** products. This address enables the specified users to get to the licensed software and program packages from their office, without having to pay a visit to the computer Center.

Besides these, other programs on the central servers are available for the use of academic and the administrative staff on UNIX based servers, through which compiler programs such as Gnu C (gcc), Gnu Fortran (g77), Sun C Compiler (cc) and Sun Fortran Compiler (f77) can be operated.

Below, is a list of software which run on the central servers:

- **Mathematica** a software which provides mathematical solutions and which has graphical capabilities,
- **Matlab** is an integrated technical computing environment that combines numeric computation, advanced graphics and visualizations, and a high-level programming language,
- **SPSS** a software which excels on statistical applications and which has graphical capabilities,
- **NAG** a package program with numeric solution algorithms,
- **SIMAN/ARENA** program for simulations,
- **CPLEX** which is an optimization program for solving linear functions,
- **ABAQUS, ANSYS, MSC. MARC, MSC. MENTAT** ,with graphical capabilities, that provide graphical solutions to engineering problems,
- **MSC. Superform** hammering shaping metal analysis program,
- **MSC. Patran** a program enabling the simulation of mechanic products,
- **SAS** a software, with graphical capabilities, which is used for statistical applications,
- **MAPLE** a software, with graphical capabilities, which provides mathematical solutions,
- **ESSL** a mathematical package program which includes Linear Algebra Subprograms,
- **Gaussian** a cluster of programs designed to model molecular systems by using calculations relying on the basic laws of quantum mechanics,

Furthermore, it is possible to run Abaqus, Ansys, Autocad 2000, MSC. Superform, MSC. Marc/Mentat, MSC. Superforge, Jaws, MSC. Patran, Mathcad, Mathematica, Matlab, Markstrat, McAfee Antivirus, Symantec Anivirus, X-Winpro software on PC platforms.

You may access the CDs and diskettes of the software at the CC Library by applying there with your personnel ID card.

For use within the university campus an FTP site, <ftp://ftp.cc.metu.edu.tr>, has been provided, solely for the academic and the administrative staff, to access licensed software. This address enables the specified users to access to the licensed software and program packages from their office, without having to visit the Computer Center.

Moreover there is another **FTP** site where popular free software (freeware, shareware trials) of the internet world is accessible. The site, which is open to all users, can be reached at the <ftp://ftp.metu.edu.tr> address.

### **12. How to get information about the PC Rooms in campus and their working hours?**

To the users of the CC facilities, services are provided at a total of 19 PC rooms. The updated information about the location, the working hours, and the configuration of these rooms can be reached from the <http://pc-room.cc.metu.edu.tr> address.

### **13. How to connect to the internet off campus?**

Dial-up services are available for users wanting to get access to METU central systems via telephone lines (modem) from inside or outside the campus. By just paying for the call, users having a modem, a user code registered on the central systems, and the necessary programs to make the connection, can access to these systems and the internet by the dial-up services. For the time being, there are two groups of modem lines reserved for the students and/or the staff.

| <b>Modem Lines</b>  |              |                   |             |                      |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| <b>Phone Number</b> | <b>Speed</b> | <b># of Lines</b> | <b>Type</b> | <b>Authorization</b> |
| 0 822 314 10 14     | 56 Kb/s      | 60                | PRI         | Personnel            |
| 210 43 00           | 33.6 Kb/s    | 12                | Analog      | Personnel/students   |

To get detailed information to make use of these services you may either follow, <http://dialup.cc.metu.edu.tr>, or apply to the **CC, room no: 114** to obtain a copy of the document "PPP Connection to METU systems". The detailed information about the billing of the ISDN/PRI line that starts with 0822 can be found at <http://www.turktelekom.com.tr> - > Tarifeler.

You can inquire the "hot-line" service for connections from other domestic internet service providers (ISP) or for connections from abroad to get access to your METU account.

### **14. How can I make use of the METU Wireless Network Services?**

There are two different IEEE 802.11b and 802.11g standard wireless networks in the Middle East Technical University Campus. MAC address based identification confirmation system operates on these networks. The wireless cards, lent out upon submission of ID cards by the Library Dept. and The Cultural Convention Center Coordinators, function perfectly to access the network since they have previously been defined on the identification confirmation system. Personal cards which are not borrowed from METU are not recognized by the identification confirmation system and therefore it does not permit access of the client to the wireless area network. The MAC addresses of such cards need to be registered on the system from <http://netregister.cc.metu.edu.tr>. The Library Dept. and The Cultural Convention Center Coordinators can help the users in this matter. More information may be obtained at the <http://wireless.cc.metu.edu.tr> address.

## **15. What are the procedures of communication via Internet?**

Communication on the Internet can be made not only by mutual e-mail among individuals, but can also be done by use of electronic lists which adjoins users who want to convey messages about a certain topic, platforms of Forum groups. Users who become members of such lists, forums, and/or groups can send their e-mail there or receive email messages sent to these platforms. For such needs, The Computer Center provides services of Electronic Communication Lists, and Forum groups.

### **Electronic Communication Lists Services**

This service is provided by a list server, Mailman which is powerful enough to adjoin thousands of users under a frame, to enable those users to be a member of more than one list and to record and keep track of all that information. General information about Electronic Communication Lists can be accessed from, <http://e-list.cc.metu.edu.tr>.

At the METU Campus, the Electronic Communication System (E.C.S.) has been established to facilitate the electronic communication of academic and administrative staff. General information about this system can be accessed from the link above as well.

### **Forum Services**

Forums are virtual platforms where users can communicate, transfer files, and/or see the announcements posted, by making use of a web interface. They basically function under membership. Messages sent by the members of the forum appear on the forum web page interface. The forum administrator or moderator can check on all the functions in all portions of the forum service. Every forum has a moderator who is responsible of, appropriate technical and administrative functioning, and issues of membership.

METU Forum Service has been put into use at the <http://forum.metu.edu.tr/> address. Frequently asked questions about this service can be reached at this link.

## **16. How to get to METU WWW main page?**

METU Campus Wide Information System (METU-CWIS) which is structured on a World Wide Web (WWW) based application can be accessed at <http://www.metu.edu.tr/> and <http://www.odtu.edu.tr> addresses. By the use of this system METU computer users or outside users connected through the web can have access to resources of information in METU, in the state or abroad.

## **17. Where to consult, to trouble shoot problems about the services provided by the CC, or to convey points of view?**

The CC provides general support to users of any level. Supervisor consultant students are always present at the PC rooms with the purpose of answering probable questions. Moreover you can always e-mail to [pc-oneri@metu.edu.tr](mailto:pc-oneri@metu.edu.tr) for your suggestions and proposals or fill out the form. For topics that need further expertise the mentors at the CC User Support Group may be consulted. For immediate help, calling **210 33 55**, the "Hot-line" service support is possible on week days between 09:00-17:00 hours, e-mailing [hot-line@metu.edu.tr](mailto:hot-line@metu.edu.tr) or applying to the hot-line services office in person are other possible options to get help. Users can also make use of answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) <http://faq.cc.metu.edu.tr/>. Besides these, the HELPDESK service, provided by all the CC groups, to which all questions and problems can be directed, is activated for use on the web at the <http://helpdesk.metu.edu.tr> address.

## **18. How to access Academic / Student information system?\***

Academic / Student information system is a system utilized on WWW by The Student Affairs Department, Academic Units, Academic Staff and the Students. Authorized access to this system is defined according to user groups. Depending on the authorization assigned to the groups, users can access related programs on the system from, <http://oibs.metu.edu.tr/>.

### **19. What is Academic CV System?\***

A project run under the supervision of the Office of the President and the Faculty Deans, this is a system in which all academic staff, except for the research assistants, can enter and browse their academic activities on the WWW platform. It can be accessed at the <http://academic.metu.edu.tr/> address.

### **20. What is Interactive Registration and Approval System?\***

It is a program that enables the students to register on line computer platforms for the courses they have to take each term (the accessibility and the web address of this program is activated and announced on registration periods). Upon completion of their registration, the students get their authorization processed, using the same program, along with their advisors.

### **21. What is Interactive Grading / Grade Submission system?\***

Interactive Grading / Grade Submission system is a program which enables the Academic Staff to submit the grades of the students (the accessibility and the web address of this program is activated and announced at the end of each term).

### **22. What is Smart Class?**

The Smart Class is a system designed to bring the users at different physical locations together in an interactive environment, using videoconferencing and live broadcasting technology. Due to the current videoconferencing capability, joint lectures, seminars and jury meetings can be held together with other classes with similar technologies all over the world. Lectures, seminars, presentations and meetings can be broadcast live on the campus via internet.

### **23. What is Human Computer Interaction Lab?**

Human-Computer Interaction Research and Application Laboratory is a medium established to design, utilize, and evaluate interactive technologies like web sites and other computer software and the lab consists of an experimentation and a control room. During the experiment, it is possible to get a feedback by recording the image of the user, the eye movements, and the monitor screen shots, so as to evaluate the applicability of any given software, <http://hci.cc.metu.edu.tr>.

*\* For the problems encountered with or suggestions about the services mentioned in clauses 18, 19, 20 and 21, you can e-mail to **register@metu.edu.tr** which is monitored by the Student Affairs and the Student Social Services Accounting Unit.*