Directives concerning student use of IT resources LEX 6.1.1

10 September 2007, status as at 1 July 2012

The Direction of the Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne,

based on Art. 3 par. 1, item a of the Ordinance of 13 November 2003 on the EPFL and EPFZ (RS 414.110.37),

hereby adopts the following :

Article 1 Scope of application and definition

[1] The present directive applies to EPFL students and visiting students using EPFL IT resources for their work.

[2] IT resources comprise all equipment and services made available to students by the EPFL, whether these are accessed from inside or outside the campus.

Article 2 Rules concerning usage

[1] Care : all persons referred to under Art. 1 exercise the appropriate degree of care when using the IT equipment placed at their disposal. The equipment must not be modified ; the disconnection of IT equipment is particularly prohibited.

[2] Connection of private equipment: private computers (desktops or laptops) that are connected to the EPFL network (on campus or remotely) must be protected against viruses by up-to-date anti-virus software. The student must apply any updates concerning the security of operating systems and software.

[3] Use for studies : IT resources are primarily provided for work connected with studies. Non-profit-making use for private purposes is tolerated provided that this entails only minimal costs for the EPFL, does not make excessive demands on IT resources (network, storage…) and does not jeopardise the security of the IT infrastructure.

[4] Access : the terms and conditions for access to EPFL equipment are defined by its administrators or those persons responsible for the IT resources of the unit concerned.

[5] Passwords : these are strictly confidential. Their communication to other persons and their use by the latter are forbidden. Furthermore, the user ensures that he has terminated his session before leaving the computer.

[6] Security system : all acts connected with the bypassing of security systems (software and hardware) are prohibited. Should any irregularity of this type be encountered, it must be reported to the person responsible for the unit concerned.

[7] Use of software : software, whether free or proprietary, has user and distribution licences and copyrights, which all users are obliged to respect.

[8] Internet communication tools (blogs, forums, wikis, emails, personal sites, etc.) : electronic communication tools whose management depends on the EPFL may be used to express personal opinions within the limits defined by the freedom of expression, laws and regulations, and on condition that their author identifies himself and that his surname and first name are clearly in evidence. Opinions expressed in this way commit only their author, who does everything possible to avoid committing the EPFL or any of its entities.

[9] The user checks beforehand that any data he creates or uses does not violate Swiss laws (see Art.3).

Article 3 Reminder of legal framework

[1] Copyright

- Access to all software and works (literary, scientific, video, musical, architectural, etc.) is governed by the Swiss law on copyright (http://www.admin.ch/ch/f/rs/c231_1.html). Information on this subject can be found at http://tto.epfl.ch/.
- The use, creation, possession, display or dissemination of any data must also respect the Swiss law on the protection of brand names (http://www.admin.ch/ch/f/rs/c232_11.html).

[2] Digital data concerning persons

- The use, creation, possession, display or dissemination of any data concerning a person or persons are governed by the Swiss law on data protection (http://www.admin.ch/ch/f/rs/c235_1.html).
- Data concerning a person or persons must not constitute an unlawful attack on their personality, according to the Swiss Civil Code (Articles 28 to 28f http://www.admin.ch/ch/f/rs/210/index1.html).

[3] Penal Code

- Users must not create, conceal, possess, search for, display, access without authorisation or disseminate computer data in violation of the Swiss Penal Code (http://www.admin.ch/ch/f/rs/311_0/index2.html), that is particularly data detrimental to moral standards of behaviour, the dignity of the individual, the EPFL and its members or constituting defamatory, libellous, abusive, racist, sexist, violent, or pornographic remarks. Unwarranted access to a computer system also constitutes an infraction.

Article 4 Consequences of usage contravening the present Directives

[1] Responsibility for the use made of the IT resources provided resides solely with the user, in accordance with all the legal provisions applicable on the subject.

[2] The user is responsible for any damage he causes in violation of the present directive.

[3] Any user infringing the present directive is liable to incur disciplinary measures in accordance with the Ordinance on discipline at the EPFL (http://www.admin.ch/ch/f/rs/c414_138_2.html), as well as legal sanctions.

[4] The use of EPFL IT resources constituting a privilege and not a right, network access may be refused to any user failing to comply with the present Directives. The EPFL reserves the right to withdraw any hosted data that in its opinion fails to comply with the present directive.

Article 5 Damage caused to the user

[1] The EPFL declines all responsibility concerning any illicit usage made by third parties accessing hosted numeric data.

[2] Having taken all reasonable measures to provide a high-performance computer system, the EPFL declines all responsibility concerning any direct and indirect damage resulting from usage of its IT services by the user. Although endeavouring moreover to make equipment secure, it provides no guarantee in other respects as to the security and reliability of equipment and technical facilities linked with the numeric data hosting.

Article 6 Abrogation and coming into force

[1] The Directives of 9 December 1996 are hereby abrogated.

[2] The present directive came into force on 18 September 2007, status as at 1 July 2012.

On behalf of the EPFL Direction :

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President

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