Connecting Comenius Schools

Service Portal • On-line Help
Tools & Training • Guidance & Support
Events, Seminars, Conferences
What is COMP@CT?

- COMP@CT is an educational network, supported by the European Commission under the Socrates programme.
- Its purpose is to help Comenius schools in their ICT-related project work.
- In a previous phase there were two thematic networks:
  - CoMuNet
  - PICT
Institute for Educational Research (FI) is coordinating this network and partners are the following:

Aberdeen City Council (UK)
Amtsentret for Undervisning, Herning (DK)
Asociacia Projektu Infovek (SK)
Centre de Professorat de Palma (ES)
Departament d’Ensenyament de la Generalitat de Catalunya (ES)
Education Highway (AT)
Frequence-Sille (FR)
Oy Ilamark (FI)
Klaipėdos universitetas (LT)
Svietimo Informaciniu Technologijų centras (LT)
Tallinn Pedagogical University (EE)
UniServices Ltd (FI)
University of Leuven, Vliebergh-Sernicecentrum (BE)
Vitikkala School (FI)
COMP@CT’s aim is

• to provide access to advice, support and training for teachers at all levels of the educational system and in all educational institutions involved in Comenius projects;

• to create a virtual base where teachers can share experiences and ideas, raise their awareness of ICT and promote innovation;

• to study experiences with new collaborative learning technologies and their impact on school practice;

• to disseminate innovative results and projects.
COMP@CT activities 2001 - 2002

• Starting to build metanetwork on grass-rot level by organizing training (bilateral activity) of web-based tools
  – Schools using the same tools

• Organizing 3 Special Interest Groups (SIGs) to offer web information of various thematic areas of ICT usage and training

• Creating and implementing online training course for in-service teacher training

• Preparing Contact seminar in Tallinn Oct 2002; cancelled

Preparing evaluation material (joint activity with I-ProbeNet) and Comenius 2.2 course
COMP@CT activities...

- Preparing SIG 2 networking seminar on field of streaming technologies in June 2003
- Producing network website with interactive features and SIG websites
- Producing dissemination material
- Disseminating
Special Interest Groups

- COMP@CT has three Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
  - gathering and sharing information on and knowledge about ICT to be used in Comenius schools
- SIGs
  - SIG 1: Synchronous and Asynchronous Communications
  - SIG 2: Emerging Technologies
  - SIG 3: Collaborative Working Spaces
- The focus is not on technology but on the pedagogical use of ICT.
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Synchronous and Asynchronous Communication (SIG 1)

Activities:

• sharing general guidelines for various types of collaboration and offering basic guidelines for project-work communication;

• disseminating good communication practices;

• providing a database, Kbase, and links to regional/national lists of users of videoconferencing facilities.
Emerging Technologies (SIG 2)

Main focus

This SIG promotes the educational benefits of ICT and the development of classroom methods based on upcoming newer technologies such as mobile learning devices, broadband Internet connections, online audio broadcasting and streaming media by

- sharing information;
- enhancing cooperation (fostering both cooperation between educational institutions and companies and transnational cooperation between interested schools);
- organising training (national and transnational workshops).

Teachers, teacher educators and school administrators are the main target group.
Emerging Technologies (SIG 2)

Activities:

• sharing information and news over the SIG website;

• disseminating recent scientific and educational research findings;

• offering ICT tools and services;

• disseminating examples of good practice;
Emerging Technologies (SIG 2)

Activities (contd.)

• organising events;

• interacting via the SIG website communication area;

• arranging one or two workshops on Streaming Media and Mobile Learning Devices.
Collaborative Working Spaces (SIG 3)

Main focus

- This SIG helps Comenius teachers and students to use web-based tools. These tools are intended to allow users to share and process their projects collaboratively.

- Its working spaces offer collaboration facilities:
  - communication tools
  - sharing documents and other resources
  - open or restricted websites for processing and publishing documents.
Collaborative Working Spaces (SIG 3)

Activities:

- training students and teachers to work in collaborative environments;
- applying and disseminating models of project work that enables Comenius partners:
  - to collaborate on project documents etc.;
  - to communicate by using e-mail, mailing lists, discussion forums etc.;
  - to publish their project results and products on the Internet;
Activities (contd.):

• conducting a survey:
  – to collect information in order to compare and evaluate the web-based tools made available and use of the collaborative working spaces offered by COMP@CT;
  – to identify their advantages and disadvantages and provide suggestions on how to make better use of them and their facilities;

• disseminating examples of how the various tools can be exploited.
Project Website

http://compact.eduprojects.net

• Project information
• News
• SIG websites
• Service Portal
  – COMP@CT Collaboration Environment (CCE)
    Tools such as chat, publishing tools, discussion boards
  – COMP@CT Calendar (Training and other events)

Database of COMP@CT schools