

# Special Interest Group **Green IT** of the Swiss Informatics Society Annual report 2012 (Geschäftsbericht)

## 1. Introduction

This is the second annual report of the Green IT Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Swiss Informatics Society (SI). The SIG started at the end of 2010 and is now two years in operation.

The specific narrow objectives of the Green IT SIG are:

- To provide guidelines and checklists to assist IT professionals to supply IT services in their companies in an ecological and energy efficient way (Green in IT)
- To establish opportunities to use ICT solutions to save energy in general and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> specifically, and to use this knowledge to inform and influence the respective companies and the community at large (Green by IT)

The long term objectives are formulated in the separate document called long term plan 2013 – 2017. Some of the long term objectives have been selected for the 2013 plan. Our website **greenit.s-i.ch** contains most of the results of our activities such as the checklists, tasks, publications, workshops and individual services.

## 2. Organization and Membership

The SIG is a “Verein” according to the SI bylaws. The SIG is organized into four entities: Green in IT, the management or core team, the data center team and the smart grid team. For the development of the Green IT CAS curriculum at the University of Lucerne six of the members will be lecturers.

Four meetings of the whole Green IT team have been held in 2012 and several meetings of the specialist teams. Special topics with invited guest speakers were: material flows and grey energy, energy measurement, and the new federal energy strategy 2050.

The membership developed to 22 members by the end of 2012. A key challenge for most of the members was to find the time to participate due to their busy business schedule.

## 3. Objectives 2012

Seven objectives were defined for 2012:

### 3.1 Website: Complete English and French Translation activities

Today we have a website which supports German, French and English. Substantial work has also been done to make the site easier to use.

The data center part is currently going through a revision. At a workshop in Beatenberg with 7 participants the strategy and method of the data center information on the website has been defined. In principle, the new approach will allow data center professionals to review their maturity in energy efficiency by filling out a checklist on the website. In addition, they will be directed to the relevant specific documents. The student Ruzica Dimova will develop a proposal about the next steps based on the Beatenberg workshop and this will be at the same time the thesis for her bachelor diploma.

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### **3.2 Green IT information session Geneva**

This objective will be taken over into 2013.

### **3.3 Marketing effort**

As planned we participated mostly in conferences and workshops of other organizations rather than organizing own conferences. Examples are the Greens day of the ICSE conference in Zurich, meeting with Energiemodell Zürich, and in early 2013 the participation at the ICT4S conference with a crash course Green IT and the running of a workshop about introduction of Green IT activities in the companies at the Swiss Day. The flyer to describe the Green IT SIG activities has not yet been developed and this activity needs be completed in 2013.

### **3.4 Coordination of green data center activities in Switzerland**

It appears that we are the only non-supplier group concentrating fully on green activities. We have now on-going relationships with other ICT-infrastructure working groups such as ASUT, Sitic, RZ Experience Exchange Group and international organizations.

### **3.5 Increasing the number of members**

The membership has increased from 17 to 22 and continues to rise. This objective will continue in 2013.

### **3.6 Education**

This objective absorbed a lot of effort. Bernhard Hämmerli, SI president, encouraged us in a number of meetings to build up a Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) Green IT curriculum at the University of Lucerne. This curriculum has been developed, 15 lecturers assigned, a lecturers meeting organized and various documents established on the website of the University of Lucerne ([hslu.ch/green-it](http://hslu.ch/green-it)). The goal is now to start a course in September 2013.

### **3.7 Finances**

We continue to finance our activities to a large extent on our own. The preparation work for the CAS Green IT at the HSLU and contributions by the SI allowed us to have at the end of 2012 funds in the order of CHF 13'000. These funds are intended to build up our website. We still need to find a way to fund the longer term investments.

## **4. Other results in 2012**

Many other non specifically planned results have been achieved. For example:

- On June 12, Niklaus Meyer and Doris Slezak presented a concept for the introduction of Green IT activities in Switzerland at the BFE in Bern. Unfortunately the person responsible for the case left the BFE soon afterwards and we were asked to wait with further activities
- Doris Slezak and Beat Koch developed the ICT Effcheck for the Proofit (Öbu) platform
- Doris Slezak and Peter Bertschi contributed to the Schweizerische Medieninstitut für Bildung und Forschung ([educa.ch](http://educa.ch))
- Christian Blumer reviewed the French documentation of the Green IT certificate of the British Computer society

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- Niklaus Meyer participated in the organization committee of the Greens Day of the ICSE conferences 2012 and 2013 and in the program committee of the ICT4S conference

## **5. Conclusion**

The highlights of the year 2012 were the development of a complete CAS Green IT curriculum at the University of Lucerne and the presentation of the Green IT developments at several conferences and workshops. Many new opportunities developed and some will be taken on in 2013.

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