

Official Announcements

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Network Regulations

of RWTH Aachen University

Dated July 9, 1997

in the Second Revised Version to Amend the Network Regulations

Dated October 4, 2010

Published as a Complete Version

Please note: This publication is an English translation. Only the German original of these regulations as published in the Official Announcements of RWTH Aachen University ("Amtliche Bekanntmachungen") is legally binding.

On the basis of § 2 para, 4 of the law governing the Universities of the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia (HG) in the version dated October 31, 2006 (Law and Official Gazette of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia 2006 p. 474), most recently amended by Art. 2 of the Act to Create a University of Applied Sciences for Health Professions in North Rhine-Westphalia dated October 8, 2009 (Law and Official Gazette of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia 2009, p. 516), RWTH Aachen University has issued the following regulations:

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§ 1 Definition of the Data Network

The data network of RWTH Aachen University is an infrastructure facility of the university, which serves to facilitate internal and external data communication. It includes the technical equipment, transmission media, terminal devices and services used for this purpose.

§ 2 Competences, Responsibilities

- (1) Technically, the IT Center is directly responsible for operating the main distribution network as well as external connections and feeder lines to building and institute networks via various media; in some cases, additional internal and external services are used (e.g. Telecommunications Center, Telekom). Local networks of individual higher education institutions are connected at specified transfer points. These local networks are set up by the higher education institutions themselves and operated on the basis of these network regulations. Each institution shall appoint a contact person to the IT Center who is responsible for its network and its terminal equipment and who coordinates the connection and operation of network components and terminal equipment in accordance with the technical and administrative specifications of the IT Center.
- (2) The IT Center is responsible for
 - a) the planning and implementation of the data network,
 - b) its adaptation to the state of the art; and
 - c) the operation of the data network.

It may delegate responsibility in sub-areas to the departments, the university administration or other university institutions in consultation with the bodies assuming responsibility. In the Central University Administration and the medical institutions, responsibility for planning and operation is transferred to the divisions and teams responsible there. Details are set out in existing regulations or will be set out in supplementary regulations to be drawn up.

§ 3 Operations

- (1) The IT Center and the subnetwork operators ensure that network operations are as secure and uninterrupted as possible. Foreseeable restrictions on the availability of the network and individual services shall be announced by the operator in good time. Special requirements or expected extraordinary loads on the network must be reported to and coordinated with the operator as early as possible.
- (2) The generally applicable protocols and services (basic services) are defined and announced by the IT Center. Requirements going beyond this require special agreements.
- (3) The IT Center can collect and evaluate traffic data as part of network management (troubleshooting, capacity investigations).
- (4) Hardware and software for monitoring the entire network may only be used by the IT Center. The operation of hardware and software for monitoring subnetworks must be coordinated with the IT Center.

- (5) Necessary measures to secure the network are taken by the IT Center in accordance with technical developments and brought to the attention of the Rector's Committee for the IT Center. The users in the university will be informed of the necessary measures in good time. Those who do not comply with these measures and obligations will have only limited access to the network and limited possibilities for action and use of the university's resources until the inadequacies have been remedied.

§ 4 Services

- (1) All network services offered must be approved by the IT Center.
- (2) The provider of a service is responsible for its content and quality. Services which are not basic services may only be offered if the provider is named. They determine the terms of use; in the case of chargeable services, they arrange for billing.

§ 5 Access

- (1) Authorization to access the network and the basic services is granted by the operators of the respective terminal equipment. Access to other services is provided by the service providers.
- (2) Access via terminal equipment outside the RWTH network is available via the external connections provided by the IT Center for this purpose. The IT Center establishes regulations for this access. The IT Center adapts the scope and technology of these access points to the extent possible. The establishment and operation of further access facilities require the approval of the IT Center.

§ 6 Use

- (1) A user of the data network is any person who uses or offers services in this network. All members of RWTH Aachen University as well as third parties are entitled to use the library after explicit approval by the Rectorate.
- (2) The use of the data network must be based on economic and ethical considerations. It must be appropriate to the tasks of the university.

§ 7 Exclusion from Use

- (1) Anyone who violates the network regulations, including their implementing provisions, may be temporarily or permanently excluded from further use of the network. Further consequences under employment and service law remain unaffected.
- (2) An infringement is deemed to have occurred in the case of uneconomical use or use unrelated to the fulfillment of the University's tasks or in the case of an infringement of laws or other legal provisions, in particular:
 - a) the violation of property rights (copyrights, etc.), data protection, personal integrity, and privacy of other persons,
 - b) the use of networks and services to monitor the performance and behavior of individuals, the non-observance of the concluded service agreements,
 - c) the non-observance of the statutory participation rights of the staff representatives, the dissemination of racist, extremist, sexist, pornographic, and discriminatory data content,
 - d) the unauthorized use of software.
- (3) If the University incurs costs as a result of the misuse, the person responsible is obliged to reimburse the costs.

§ 8¹ Implementing Provisions

The implementing provisions of the network regulations apply. These are to be published in the official announcements of RWTH Aachen University and brought to the attention of users when they are granted access.

§ 9 Entry Into Force

These regulations come into force as an Official Announcement of RWTH on the day following their publication.

At the same time, the network regulations of July 9, 1997 (Official Announcements of RWTH Aachen University, No. 457, p. 1636), in the version of the first regulations amending the network regulations of August 1, 2005 (Official Announcements of RWTH Aachen University, No. 1002, p. 8033-8034) shall cease to be in force.

¹ The implementing provisions of the Network Regulations are published in Official Announcement no [2010/070](#)

Issued on the basis of the resolution of the Rectorate of RWTH Aachen University dated July 21, 2009 and after confirmation by the Steering Committee for the IT Center.

Rector
of RWTH
Aachen University

Aachen, dated

October 4, 2010

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