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## 1. Description of the project

### THE PROJECT

The project "Centre of Excellence in ICT" (ICT COE) is the first of its kind in Croatia and will act as a pilot for similar projects in the region. The aim of the project is improvement of ICT education for pupils and students as one of the most effective ways to create a knowledge based economy in Varazdin, Croatia. Therefore measures were undertaken to ensure that ICT becomes a vital part of the education system. In early 2009, the ICT Centre of Excellence was established in Varazdin. The centre aims to provide ICT education to advanced pupils and students at the primary and secondary educational level. Within the "ICT COE" project new pedagogical approaches are introduced to ICT mentors. Subsequently mentors apply these methods during ICT classes for pupils and students. As a result young people become skilled professionals who are able to face future challenges in a globalizing world.



## 2. News

### TRAINING OF THE MENTORS

In May 2011 recommendations were formulated on how to integrate ICT in the curriculum of Croatian education based on a benchmark analysis. In that same period visits to schools in the Varazdin region were organized. They allowed the Flemish partners to understand the Croatian primary and secondary educational system.

Both steps provided our partners with valuable information in order to develop a competency profile based on European Certification of Informatics Professionals (EUCIP) for the target groups of the project. The training programme that was developed for the ICT mentors was also inspired by both the benchmark analysis as the working of the Croatian educational system. On our project website you will find the final version of the competency profile and the training programme.

In November 2011 ten mentors attended the "training of the mentors", which took

place in the premises of First Gymnasium in Varazdin, Croatia. The training offered a mix of content and IT-training and didactic skills training. In order to obtain the Cisco-certificate, which is an important matter for the future of the Centre of Excellence, the training also focused in this aspect. All of the mentors are still working on their lesson plans while keeping in touch with tutors from HUB.



The overall evaluation was positive from both sides. Mentors as well as trainers mentioned the quality of the training course, the high level on which the course was given and the excellent applicability.



## 4. Next steps

### IMPLEMENTATION

Every mentor that took part in the “training of the mentors” prepares 3 lesson plans which describe goal, content and didactical method of the unit. The trainers will provide them with feedback. This activity is closely coordinated with tutors from HUB and based on previous training mentors attended during May.



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UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB  
FACULTY OF  
ORGANIZATION  
AND INFORMATICS  
VARAŽDIN



Varaždinska  
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## PILOT SEMESTER

A pilot semester for pupils and students participating in the advanced ICT education will start up very soon. The partners will organize a training programme of 8 sessions, which is adapted to the knowledge level of the pupils and will implement some of the activities mentors have been working on to test their work in practice.

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING IN MAY

Since mentors have good ICT knowledge they were able to learn fundamentals of internet and networking based on the CISCO certificate, the mentors are eager to deepen their knowledge. An additional training will be organized in May 2012 where they will focus on the internet routing implementation techniques and didactic tips/materials linked to it. This training will take 3 days.

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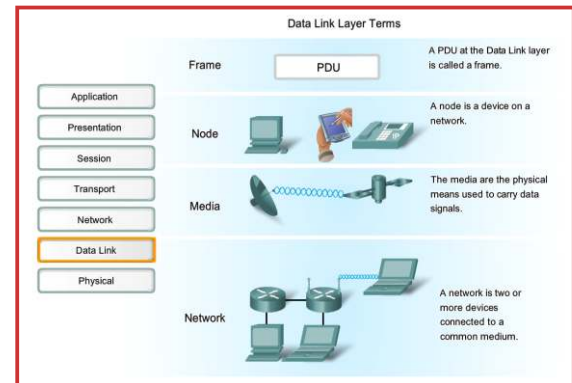
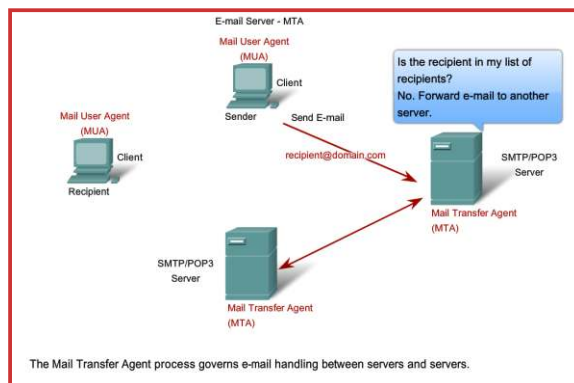
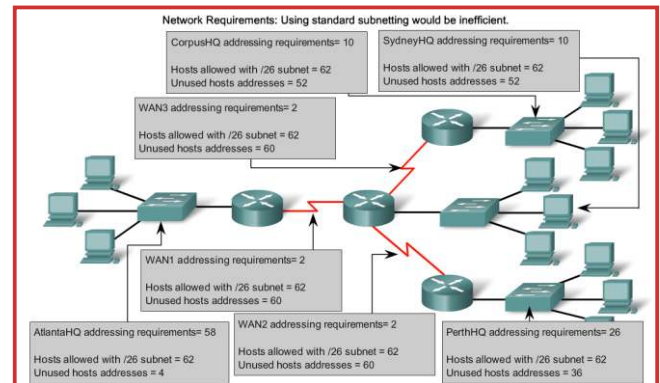
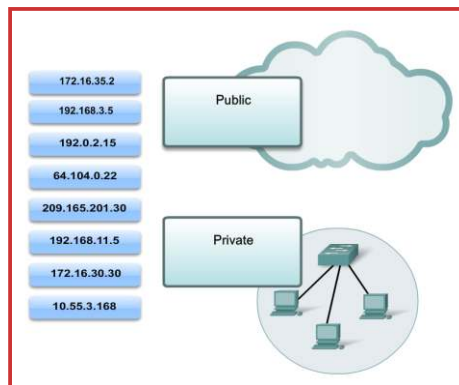
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Project Web:

<http://ict-coe.eu>



2. Implementing internet routing	3. Implementing LAN switching and wireless networks	4. Implementing wide area networks
1. Internet and networking fundamentals		



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