

Guidelines to Screening for the Corporate Use of Supercomputers at the Information Technology Center, The University of Tokyo

Enacted by the Screening Committee for Eligibility to Use the
Supercomputer Systems of the Information Technology Center, The University of Tokyo
October 8, 2008

1. Objectives of the Corporate Use

While there are growing expectations on the use of large-scale computational simulations by industries and researchers in the field of engineering, there has been little progress in the use of such systems, and there has not necessarily been a popular trend to introduce supercomputers in corporations. One of the reasons behind this is the large number of users who wish to process a large volume of small-scale computational simulations at the personal computer level. As users carrying out small-scale computational simulations do not have the opportunity to engage in large-scale computational simulations, they are therefore unable to consider the cost-effectiveness of such large-scale simulations. Furthermore, the methodology for computational simulations has not yet penetrated many fields of work.

On the other hand, MEXT has set out a policy for expanding the advanced research equipment owned by public research institutions such as universities and independent administrative institutions to private corporations, in a move to enhance Japan's international competitiveness in global sectors that are facing intense competition for research and development.

Against this backdrop, the Information Technology Center, The University of Tokyo, provides corporations with the computing resources that are necessary for large-scale, high-performance parallel computing, with a view to nurturing users who can contribute to the development of next-generation supercomputers. The corporate use not only shoulders the burden of corporate computing demand, but also supports themes that correspond with the following items.

- (1) Contributes to the development of science and technology in the future.
- (2) Contributes to the development of the large-scale, high-performance parallel computing field.
- (3) Contributes to innovation through large-scale, high-performance parallel computing.

2. User Categories

Corporate use is restricted to the following users.

- (1) ASP businesses.
- (2) Application developers or users.

3. Screening Criteria

The Screening Committee reviews the proposed themes submitted through the designated appended application form, based on the following items. Where necessary, an interview is also conducted.

- (1) The objective of use is to carry out large-scale parallel computing.
- (2) Characterized by cutting-edge industrial use.
- (3) For ASP businesses, equipped with a system to support corporations that have never engaged in manufacturing through computational simulations before.
- (4) Does not infringe the Terms of Use for Supercomputer Systems of the Information Technology Center, The University of Tokyo.

4. Selection Policy

Projects that have been screened in accordance with the screening criteria are selected based on the following criteria.

- (1) An order of priority is assigned to potential projects, and the final projects to be selected are then determined. In doing so, the available computational resources are taken into consideration, and the applicant may be requested to make adjustments to the contents of the submission.

5. Project Management

The Screening Committee conducts a survey on the status of corporate use by the end of the fiscal year. Corporations that have been deemed to have deviated from the objectives of corporate use may be suspended from use in the next fiscal year.