

100 Gigabit/s Line between KIT and Heidelberg

BelWü State University Network Is Extended by a High-speed Data Line Between KIT and Heidelberg University for Data-intensive Research

The first long-distance data transmission line of 100 gigabits per second (100 G) has now started operation. Since July, it has been connecting Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) with Heidelberg University within the Baden-Württemberg State University Network (BelWü). The data transmission rate of this high-performance infrastructure facility exceeds that of a conventional private internet connection by a factor of about 10,000, which is needed for data-intensive research.

“Scientific big data are the basis of modern research. Their management and analysis are the keys to new findings and innovations,” says Professor Dr. Wilfried Juling, Chief Information Officer of KIT, who is responsible for digital information and communication. “The increased data rate will help us support and optimize data-intensive processes in research and science. Information technology and informatics at KIT develop reliable methods and efficient algorithms and support users in storing, supplying, analyzing, processing, and visualizing their data.”

The state of Baden-Württemberg invested about EUR 500,000 in the extension of the network. The first high-speed data line is established between Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) and Heidelberg University, both of which are locations of the Large Scale Data Facility (LSDF). In the near future, the complete BelWü network is planned to be extended to 100 G.

Storage and use of large data volumes is the basis of scientific research in many areas. In 2010, the Large Scale Data Facility (LSDF), a novel concept for the storage, administration, archiving, and analysis of scientific data, was developed and taken into operation. The Computing Center (URZ) and BioQuant of Heidelberg University and the Steinbuch Centre for Computing (SCC) of Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) are involved in the further implementation and development of this storage concept.

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Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) is a public corporation according to the legislation of the state of Baden-Württemberg. It fulfills the mission of a university and the mission of a national research center of the Helmholtz Association. Research activities focus on energy, the natural and built environment as well as on society and technology and cover the whole range extending from fundamental aspects to application. With about 9000 employees, including nearly 6000 staff members in the science and education sector, and 24000 students, KIT is one of the biggest research and education institutions in Europe. Work of KIT is based on the knowledge triangle of research, teaching, and innovation.

This press release is available on the internet at www.kit.edu.