

# Istanbul Technical University



Sun Microsystems Success Story



## ITU – SUN CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

### AT SERVICE OF TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPERS

*"ITU-Sun Center of Excellence went live to help academicians and researchers at first phase. The near future plan is to be ready to provide service for the industry."*

Associate Professor Dr. Serdar Çelebi,  
ITU Computing Institute Deputy Director

Istanbul Technical University and Sun Microsystems have established the **"ITU-Sun Center of Excellence" - ITU-Sun Excellence Center on High Performance Computing**, in order to enlighten individuals on performing advanced technical research and to increase industry's research & development power in Turkey.

ITU Computing Institute Deputy Director, Associate Professor Dr. Serdar Çelebi stated that :

*"ITU-Sun Excellence Center is targeting to bring together the academic staff and industry members. It was established in the body of ITU Informatics Institute Computational Science and Engineering Master of Science and Doctorate Program.*

*We were planning to divert theoretical learning into practice. Therefore, we had communicated with various interested parties in the direction of fulfilling this basic need.*

*We formed a concept with an idea in this direction. By investing and searching for a strategic partner who would provide the Center with various technological systems of competitive pricing, our intention was to create and establish a mutual association with such a firm.*

*We succeeded in this mutual cooperation with only Sun Microsystems. At this point Sun's approach was very important. Since the company's roots were reaching out to the Stanford University, we had a firm belief that they had high regards for the University and the Academy and they had invested on such establishments for over a long period of time by major collaborations in academic environments."*



#### Key Highlights:

In order to educate individuals in performing advanced technical research and to support the industrial research & development platform in Turkey, Istanbul Technical University and Sun Microsystems have established the **"ITU-Sun Center of Excellence"**; designed for **Excellence on High Performance Computing**.

#### Features:

- The purpose of establishing a center for research & development in Turkish Republic started by conducting an indepth feasibility for a mutual cooperation between ITU and Sun Microsystems in 2000.
- The State Planning Organization of Turkish Republic have sponsored and supported this cooperation since 2001.
- With the primary objective of forming a technical community, the Center targets to unite the Academy and the industry.
- Future cooperation with other academic communities are being planned for further development of the Center.

***“ITU - Sun Excellence Center is targeting to bring together the academic staff and industry members. We were planning to divert theoretical learning into practice. Therefore, we had communicated with various interested parties in the direction of fulfilling this basic need. By investing and searching for a strategic partner who would provide the Center with various technological systems of competitive pricing, our intention was to create and establish a mutual association with such a firm. We succeeded in this mutual cooperation with only Sun Microsystems. Since the company's roots were reaching out to the Stanford University, we had a firm belief that they had high regards for the University and the Academy and they had invested on such establishments for over a long period of time by major collaborations in academic environments.”***

**says, Dr. Serdar Çelebi, ITU Informatics Institute Deputy Director and Associate Professor**

## **Working With The Most Advanced Technology**

Serdar Çelebi explained the mutual cooperation with Sun Microsystems:

***“Our field of work is advanced engineering technologies and their applications. We completed all infrastructure work after finalizing the cooperation with Sun Microsystems. We have prepared the necessary Equipment & System Center and performed a training program for our team. Now, 130 researchers and research groups are actively benefitting from the Center. We teach them how to benefit from the latest up-to-date technology. For instance, we present them parallel algorithms, running scientific codes, new parallel languages and related tools, visualization tools, general scientific computing, technical calculation tools and serial codes. In addition, we provide training on how to benefit from our center. Our center becomes a reference for scientific studies.***

***Sun Microsystems provided million dollar systems with competitive low prices and donated some of the systems to the Center. Sun's iForce business partner "TURCom Inc." supported and donated the delivery and installation of these systems. The Center operates with the most recent technology.***

***There are two main systems in our Center. The first one is a SunFire 12 K, 32 processors server named "Moonstar". The other one is a cluster server with 48 processors named "Stargate". These servers are connected to a terminal in the computing room. There is a Sun Blade 2000 server in the operation room. We also have 7 Sun Workstations. There is a total of 90 High Performance Sun Processors in the Center at the moment.***

***We have a Lab with 20 Sun Ray Thin Clients. We continue to train and service the Industry and will do so in future with our Thin Client Lab. We have got all these as donations.”***

### **Benefits:**

- Opportunities for employing the latest creation of High Performance Computing & design tools in an advanced technological environment.
- A total of 130 researchers & research organizations are presently benefitting from the Center.
- By employing an Outsourcing Management model, the Center supports to reduce the research & development costs significantly.

### **Sun Products:**

- SunFire 12K (full)
- V210 x 24 (grid cluster)
- Sun Blade 2000 x 7
- Sun Rays x 20

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### Target: Cooperation with the industry

Serdar Çelebi said that at first phase, ITU-Sun Center of Excellence began to operate for the benefit of academicians and researchers; but their plan is to service the industry as well. The objective is set to form a technical community at this center and also to cooperate with the other universities.

Çelebi also said: ***“One our our main targets is to reach the industry, to develop design tools required by industry and to improve researchers' technology environments. Most of the time standard commercial softwares are used at other places where regular research activities are performed and these softwares are run over servers purchased with limited budgets. Technology develops so rapidly and these design tools could only be renewed once or twice in every 2 years. Companies do not need to spend much to renew their systems. Our Center offers Outsourcing Services. Companies also do not need to invest great amounts for R&D in terms of Computing Systems. Some companies have already reached the Center and started to work with the Center. The company which aims to compete with the international standarts needs to develop original products, services and systems. This is only possible by using the most recent technologies. Here, at ITU-Sun Center of Excellence, we have the most recent technology.”***

Levent Coşkun of TURCom Inc. expressed his views as: ***“As TURCom Inc. we are very proud of ITU-Sun Center of Excellence since their first days. This cooperation and our support added value to the Turkish National Education and industry. We believe that in our country with its more than half of young population, economic prosperity is closely related to the investment on education.”***



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