

# Inter@ctivate Consulting Group

## User Account Information

January 9, 1998

### 1 Introduction

Welcome. You're set up as a regular user of the Inter@ctivate Consulting Group UNIX server. To use your new account you'll need the information summarized in Table 1. *Before you can use the information in this document you must set your password. If you haven't set a password for your user account, you can do so at the ICGoffice in Del Mar.* The rest of this document gives some hints on getting started and where to turn for help if you need it.

### 2 Email

The ICG server allows remote access to your email account through IMAP and POP mail readers like netscape mail, eudora, and microsoft outlook. If your mail reader supports IMAP access, you can manage your mail messages centrally on the server (disk space permitting), which solves many problems for people who access their mail from more than one computer during the week.

See Table 1 for the information you'll need to configure your mail reader. If you're using IMAP mail and need to know where to store mail on the server (IMAP 4 Mail Directory), use the following prepared mail folder:  
mail/

#### 2.1 Attaching Big Files

Please don't. Files attached to email messages are inflated into enormous ASCII files. When you send a 1MB email attachment to 5 ICG recipients, that message will occupy roughly 10MB on our server until each user deliberately

deletes the attachment from their mail spool. Since we pay for bandwidth, we pay for each user to download their copy of the attachment. Consider using your personal  $W^3$  space (Section 3) to share files in a faster, more reliable, and space-saving fashion.

### 3 Personal $W^3$

Your account includes a prepared folder: `public_html` which is picked up and made available via the personal URL listed in Table 1. You can (and should) share large files and documents via this dedicated  $W^3$  space instead of using email attachments, which duplicate a file many times over and can rapidly fill up our limited disk space.

To access your personal  $W^3$  space, you can use an FTP client such as *Fetch* for the Macintosh, *ws\_ftp* for Windows, or *ncftp* for command line environments. Advanced  $W^3$  browsers may support drag-and-drop file uploads through a URL like:

```
ftp://username@interactivate.com/  
home/username/public_html/
```

To tell others about files you've made available via your personal  $W^3$  space, use email and include the personal URL from Table 1 with the specific filename(s) appended to the URL address. You may want to test-drive this process before inviting others to download a file that isn't there.

### 4 Version Control

If you're doing  $W^3$  development or need to place a collaborative project under version control, you can use

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| username:        |   |
| telnet, FTP:     | interactivate.com   |
| email address:   | username@interactivate.com                                    |
| mail server:     | mail.interactivate.com  |
| personal URL:    | http://www.interactivate.com/~username/                       |
| CVSROOT:         | :pserver:username@interactivate.com:/usr/local/cvs-repository |
| password change: | http://interactivate.com:98/htmlmod:userpass:                 |

Table 1: Your Account Information

our implementation of the Concurrent Versions System (CVS). CVS coordinates a working copy of a project on your desktop computer with a central master copy which you (and dozens of others) can update at the same time. CVS includes built-in support for compressed file transfer of *changes only*—so you don't waste time uploading or downloading files that have not changed.

Your personal CVSROOT environment variable, needed to contribute work to a version-controlled project, is included in Table 1. To browse recent changes to client  $W^3$  sites and other projects, you can read the change-log information available via this URL: <http://www.interactivate.com/apps/cvs/> For details on using CVS, see the *howto-cvs-websites* document that should be available from this URL: <http://www.interactivate.com/public/standards/>

## 5 UNIX Shell Access

To use the UNIX shell service, you need to connect via `ssh` (secure shell) protocol, which is a secure drop in replacement for the UNIX `telnet` and `rlogin` commands. `ssh` is available from: <http://www.cs.hut.fi/ssh/>

If your remote desktop computer has a dedicated IP address, you can also have our ISP create a security hole you can telnet into. Send your desktop host-name and dedicated IP address via email to: `root@interactivate.com`

The shell account contains four prepared folders, with intended use described in Table 2.

## 6 Getting Help

If you can't solve a desktop configuration problem, you can ask everyone at once with an email message to: `all@interactivate.com`. If you'd rather flag down a part-time system administrator for ICG, send email to: `help@interactivate.com`. If you're certain that the server computer is causing a problem, you can contact our ISP via the address: `root@interactivate.com`

To get help on the first response, please try to include the following in your message:

1. The problem you want help solving
2. What you're trying to do
3. Where you're doing it from
4. The software you're doing it with
5. Any error messages you've been getting
6. List of things you've already tried doing to solve it, so no-one reinvents the wheel

Sometimes, email can be the problem, in which case the shortcut addresses above will be of little use. In that case, please leave voicemail at the ICG office and we'll try to relay the message on your behalf.



|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| mail/        | for shared use between UNIX mail client (pine and remote IMAP mail readers.    |
| development/ | for your version-control working copies (may be web-browseable in the future.) |
| public_html/ | for personal $W^3$ publishing, as described in Section 3                       |
| secure_html/ | planned for personal file-sharing on a secure intranet (not yet available)     |

Table 2: Shell Account Directories

