

E-COMMERCE LABORATORY (ECL)
FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND INFORMATICS
PLOVDIV UNIVERSITY “PAISII HILENDARSKI”

The E-Commerce Laboratory was created at the end of 1998. The Laboratory is part of the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics at the Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski,” Plovdiv, Bulgaria. The main purpose of the laboratory is to integrate more closely research and higher education.

The laboratory is active in three main areas:

- Support to the education of graduate students in the masters’ program “Advanced Information Technologies.”
- Research oriented towards creation of advanced object-, component- and agent-oriented development tools.
- Experimentation with the developed tools in pilot projects and design of prototypes in the fields of e-Learning, e-Commerce and Intelligent Telecommunications Services.

One of the high priority activities of the laboratory is the creation and support to scientific contacts with European universities, laboratories and research groups. The ECL Laboratory actively seeks opportunities for participation in international projects jointly with foreign partners. The Laboratory has established close contacts with the Humboldt University, the Berlin University and the Technical University – Magdeburg (Germany).

Currently, the research and development efforts of the Laboratory are concentrated on three pilot projects:

- *Culture, historical heritage and natural landmarks of Bulgaria.* The goal of the project is to develop an intelligent portal and supporting services for presentation of the cultural and historical heritage of Bulgaria. Various e-Catalogues are developed within the framework of this project.
- *XCTL* – a reengineering project. The main goal of this project is to provide students with hands-on experience in this new field of Software Engineering.

This project is being developed jointly by seven universities from Germany, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Macedonia.

- *Virtual University* – an effort to support the education of students by providing various e-services over the Internet. The project includes development of new component- and agent-oriented architectures.

Additional information is available at the ECL Website: <http://ecl.pu.acad.bg/>