CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

CICS Transactions Hit a Record High for Fall 2002

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UF Information Technology

UFIT

2046 NE Waldo Rd, Suite 2100
Gainesville Florida 32609-8942
(352) 392.2061
<editor@cns.ufl.edu>
CICS Transactions Hit a Record High for Fall 2002

This fall, the combined NERDC Customer Information Control System (CICS) production regions hit a new record number of transactions.

According to Steve Ware, Systems Coordinator with the NERDC CICS team, the production CICS regions processed more than 2.8 million transactions on Monday, August 26, 2002. That's approximately 250,000 more than the prior record, set the first week of Spring classes in January 2002.

It probably won't surprise you to know that the beginning of the fall season is one of the busiest times of the year at NERDC. You might not realize that you are a part of that busy time. If you ever pick "ADMIN" from the NERDC Interactive Services Menu, use the UF Menu System, ISIS, or Telegator, or register for classes at UF or UNF using a telephone, a terminal, or a personal computer, then you are a CICS user at NERDC. CICS is an interactive transaction-processing system from IBM, which has been used at NERDC since the early 1970's.

The CICSplex at NERDC provides critical transaction processing services to many departments at the University of Florida, including the Office of the Registrar, Student Financial Affairs, Administrative Affairs, Academic Affairs, Sponsored Research and Graduate Education, College of Medicine, and others. It also provides these services to other universities and state agencies in Florida, including the University of North Florida, the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), and the Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA). These services provide online access to the critical data infrastructure required to keep these universities and agencies running.

We continually monitor and attempt to tune CICS to run at maximum performance at all times, in anticipation of extremely heavy transaction volumes which typically occur near the start of classes at UF and UNF.

We consider CICS to be similar to something like an electric utility -- it should always be available ("on") and never falter ("brown out"). For more information, see the NERDC CICS home page at http://cics.ufl.edu.

Your Comments are Welcome

We welcome your comments and suggestions on this and all UFIT documentation. Please send your comments to:

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