Netherlands National Computing Facilities Foundation

NCF, founded in 1990, is an independent foundation under the umbrella of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). NCF is responsible for the high-end computing infrastructure for e-Science in the Netherlands. NCF is also responsible for the granting process for accessing the publicly funded computing resources of the Netherlands' research grid.

NCF conducts the following activities:

Formulate and realise a long term policy for advanced computer infrastructure for scientific research in the Netherlands, within the European context.

Assessment of scientific computing requirements, preparation and publication of Requests for Proposals, process procurements, pro-active benchmarking of systems.

Acquisition of state-of-the-art supercomputer systems
- National Compute Cluster (Lisa, 20 Tflop/s)
- IBM Power 575 Hydro-cluster (Huygens, 60 Tflop/s)
- Big Grid (ca. 3000 cores and 4000 TB disk storage)

All operated by SARA Computing and Networking Services, Amsterdam.

Databases and publications
- Annual paper publication entitled *Academic Supercomputing in Europe*;
- Annual paper publication entitled *Overview of Recent Supercomputers*;
- e-IRG Knowledge Base (http://knowledgebase.e-irg.eu) with European national policies of HPC and grids, and HPC resources (computing systems).

Close collaboration with Research Councils, HPC-centres and Universities
- PRACE (Principal Partner)
- EGEE/EGI
- E-IRG