An Internet based Competition

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Real applications that make full use of Internet are still rare. This is also true in the field of education. We report on, and demonstrate an Internet based competition in computing science for high school students. Such a competition exceeds the boundaries of a single school by enabling the participation of schools on a national or even international basis. The competition system provides support for an editorial board to control the competition, for authors to send in proposals for problems, for students to inspect problems and send in solutions, and for correctors to score solutions. Except for the document editor which must be the same for all parties (set to MS-Word by default), only freely-available components are used: a Java-enabled Web-browser for all user-interaction (of authors, students, correctors and board members), a (central) CGI-capable Web-server and the Postgres database system. The competition system can easily be adapted to various kinds of competitions and to local circumstances such as school structure, language, and security requirements.