

First Time at SC?

We're Here to Help

What's the difference between a Cray Black Widow and an IBM BlueGene? How would one detect anomalies and emergent behavior from distributed data in near real time? Interested in how NSF enables cyber-discovery? Ever thought about prediction in the complex world of crop genetics or the impacts on your child's first words or why teens can sometimes be so terrible? Did you know that the Department of Energy is the largest supporter of scientific computing in the U.S.? If you have questions about far-reaching areas such as these in computing, science, engineering and technology, SC07 can help you with those answers—if you know where to look.

To a first-time attendee, SC07 may seem like an overwhelming conference to navigate. With 213 Technical Program sessions, 130,400 square feet of exhibits on the show floor, more than 8,000 participants from around the world, and countless other opportunities to learn about new technologies and make new connections, it's hard to know where to start. We suggest you focus your time and energy on the events that are most important to your professional areas of expertise, and allow you to connect formally or informally with others who share your interests.

Here are a few tips we've found useful for getting started at SC:

- Even before you arrive in Reno, you can create your personalized SC agenda using our interactive schedule, available online at http://sc07.supercomp.org/schedule/my_itinerary.php
- When you arrive at the convention center, stop by the Broader Engagement kiosk in the main registration lobby for advice and information. Stations are available for using the SC07 interactive schedule to develop your own personalized agenda, or printing the agenda you've already developed on our web site. (see below for hours).
- Before heading out into the Exhibit Hall, explore the SC exhibits map on our web site [or in the printed guide in your conference bag], and make a list of the exhibits you'd like to visit. If you have questions for specific vendors or organizations, jot them down so you'll have them on hand when you meet with the booth representatives. The Exhibit Hall is organized by booth number; just look up towards the ceiling for the large numbered signs.
- Remember to bring your business cards, and consider tucking a few resumes or CVs in your bag if you're interested in exploring new employment opportunities.
- Most conference attendees need to keep up with life back home while they're at the conference. SCinet, the network of the SC conference, provides wireless networking throughout the convention center.
- Directions to nearly all SC07 activities will be posted on signs throughout the convention center, so you should be able to find your way. If you get confused, just ask someone - everyone at SC was a first-time attendee once!

During SC07, the Broader Engagement kiosk is open to help you from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 7 p.m. Monday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, and 10 a.m. to noon Friday.

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