## Entropia

Location: Karlsruhe, Germany

Tagline: "bl0rg!"

Contact: info@entropia.de Web: http://entropia.de

Back in 1998 some people wanted their own Chaos Computer Club meeting in Karlsruhe and so a Chaostreff was born. After meeting regularly for a while, they wanted to have a permanent place to meet and hack stuff. Finally, in 2001, they found a neat little place in the Gewerbehof, a self-run facility providing space for several social initiatives, a community radio and businesses. In the same year - now settled down - Entropia became the official fraction of the Chaos Computer Club in Karlsruhe. In order to have a legal status, they also founded an incorporated club with no hierarchy and elected leaders only for the sake of legality.





The main problem we had when we started was money, so people tried to get some dot-com companies to pay. Nowadays it is paid for by monthly membership fees at six to ten euros depending on student-status. Also, we had to struggle with German law-of-associations bureaucracy which we defeated in the end.

Over the years our hackerspace gathered a huge amount of awersome (sic!) old-skool hardware lying around, immediately catching the attention of visitors. Sadly it isn't functional at all. Additionally, we feature cute party leftovers as decorations and a mind-blowing music spectrum at

## /world/europe/germany/Entropia

your fingertips. When not partying, we also engage our soldering irons and mess with the oscilloscope to build blinking, annoying and sometimes useful devices.

We're open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for regulars (with a key). While we're open to new people whenever some regular is in the space, new people are encouraged to stop by on Sunday evenings because it's "The Tradition". Irregularly, lectures, workshops, parties and other gatherings occur.

One challenge we have faced is windows left open. Once (ok, twice) they were open during an evil German storm. The mac filled with water, and during a reconnaissance mission it switched on due to the special electrical characteristics of water. This caused the death of many a piece of innocent hardware. And the carpet was completely destroyed. Ever since, Entropians only refer to this disaster as "The Incident" and now are in the process of deploying N.E.R.D.S, an No-Incident Early Response Detection System.

Apart from creating a hackerspace with just a few lazy students and almost no budget we are especially proud of our hacker meeting "Die GulaschProgrammierNacht" which attracts about 120 people each year. Additionally, lots of small projects are conducted and procrastinated by small groups or individual members with very diverse interests.

Creating such a hacker space is easy, if you follow the rules: bring many people together and abstain from hierarchies or leaders.

