Operating Systems ClassWork 2 – User Interface Page 1 of 2

**Using Command Prompt Interface (CLI) in Windows**

**This lab will involve practicing some DOS commands in the Windows Command Prompt. We will also create a simple structure of files and folders that will be used for practicing the commands.**

**Getting Started**

To open the Command Prompt in Window use

Start -> Run and type in **cmd** (under Win XP)

Start and then type in **cmd** in the bottom search box (under Win 7)

**OR**

Start -> Programs ->Accessories->Command Prompt

Type **help** to get a list of all the commands that are available.

Type **help *yourcommandname*** to get help for a specific command.

For example, type: **help dir** to get documentation regarding the **dir** command.

Use the help command any time when you want to find out what a command does or how it should be used.

**Find a place to practice**

The **cd** (it stands for change directory) command is used to move within the files structures on the computer.

Type **h:** to move to your home folder. Now, the prompter will indicate that you are located in the **h** folder (your home folder).

Type **dir** to find out what directories (folders) exist in your home directory.

If there is NO directory ( folder) with the name **temp**

* Use the **md** command to make one as follows. Type **md temp** to create a new sub-directory (folder) called temp.
* Type **cd temp** to move into the **temp** directory (folder) from your home folder (h:). Now your prompt in the command window should be ***h:\temp>***

If there is a directory ( folder) with the name **temp**

Type **cd temp** to move into the temp directory. Now your prompt in the command window should be **h*:\temp>***

**Create a directory (folder) and a file**

Type **md myfolder** to create a new folder within the temp folder, named myfolder

Type **cd myfolder** to move into that folder and make myfolder your current directory

Use **textpad** program (or any other text editor application) to create a file called myfile.txt and save it in the following folder ***h:\temp\myfolder***.

Check in the command prompt window that the file was created by using **dir** command.

If you type in **dir** command and press enter it will list the files that are contained in the directory you are in (the current directory)

Next, you are going to practice more commands. Use the **help** command to get details about a particular command.

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| 1. The **copy** command will copy a named file to another named file.  What is the command to make another file called myfile2.txt which will be a copy (has the same content) as myfile.txt? Try your solution to check if you are correct |
| 2. The **md** command will make a new sub directory in the current directory.  What is the command you type in to create a new subdirectory called *mysecond* within the current directory?Try your solution to check if you are correct. |
| 3. The **move** command can be used to move files from one folder into another directory (folder).  What is the command to move  h:\temp\myfolder\myfile2.txt to  h:\temp\myfolder\mysecond\myfile2.txt?  Try your solution to see if you are correct**.** |
| 1. Use the **erase** command to erase one of the files in the current directory.   What command did you type in? |