Contract Number 235542

RACE networkRFID

FP7 Thematic Network
ICT-PSP: a European concerted effort on RFID

D8.2 – Project web site launch and maintenance

Due date of deliverable: 31-03-2009 (M1)
Actual submission date: 25-02-2010

Start date of project: March 1st, 2009   Duration: 36 months
                                                            Version: 1

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Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013)		
Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	**PU**
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

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1   Introduction

The RACE networkRFID project web site was developed and launched by ERCIM in the first month of the contract. The web site is online at

http://www.race-networkrfid.eu/

2   Background

The RACE networkRFID web site launched at M1 is the *institutional* web site for the project. Its goal is to present RACE networkRFID from a project perspective, detailing structure, work plan, membership, associated events and publications, etc.

A second RACE networkRFID web site is in preparation and under the responsibility of WP7 "Dissemination". This second web site will promote the activities and impact of the thematic network from an *industrial* perspective, with a view to be of assistance to the many European SME's active in the RFID sector. This industrial web site will be online at the end of the first year of the project, by March 2010. Please refer to deliverable D7.3 for more details.

3   Structure

The RACE networkRFID institutional web site launched at M1 is divided in two distinct parts:

- o Public area, where all project background information and on-going activities are made widely available
- o Private area, protected via username/password, reserved for RACE networkRFID core and associate members to submit and share internal working documents; this private collaborative work space, known as BSCW, is also accessible to the European Commission representatives managing the project.

This structure is clearly reflected on the web site home page, of which a current snapshot is provided below.

3.1 Home page

This home page features a welcome message and highlights the latest news and events of importance to the community.

Figure 1 - RACE networkRFID institutional web site – Home page

A special icon has been added on the home page to facilitate the joining of new members, taking them to a dedicated information page and allowing them to easily find background documents and application forms.

Finally, a calendar of events is available for a global view of planned network or network-related events.

3.2 Public area

The web site area publicly accessible is divided into sections which aim at giving a comprehensive overview of the RACE networkRFID European project. These are:

- o The RACE networkRFID mission, as defined in the description of work,
- o The RACE networkRFID community, detailing core and associate members of the network together with a link on their own web site,
- o The project fact sheet with EC reference data and overview of project governance,
- o The work plan, featuring a brief description of each work package and its remit,
- o A FAQ on RFID,
- o A possibility to download RACE networkRFID public literature and dissemination material,
- o And a number of web links to project web sites associated with RACE networkRFID

We were planning to add a vertical dimension in the way we present our thematic network, with three sets of pages tailored for Citizens, Industry and Research. This segmentation of the RACE networkRFID message will most probably take place in the Industrial web site, currently under development under the umbrella of WP7 and to which the institutional will point in a very visible way.

The public area also features the branding chosen for the project, together with logo and colour scheme.

3.3 Private area

The private area of the web site is reserved for the internal collaborative work between registered members of RACE networkRFID, i.e. those identified on the *Community* pages of the public section.

The menu options related to this private area are only visible to members once they have logged in. Non-members do not see the private menu options.

BSCW
The first option of the private menu gives access to BSCW, the internal shared work space of the project. Access to this area is again protected via username/password.

All documents that need to be shared between project members and with the European Commission are posted in a set of structured folders for easy identification and retrieval. The figure above shows the entry level directory structure of our BSCW work space.

Forum
This feature has been built in for future internal discussions on hot topics, as the need may arise. It is a standard module of Joomla! That allows moderated discussions between project partners. This feature was requested and is therefore available to the members for future use.

Description of Work and by-laws
This section allows easy consultation or retrieval of the contractual documents signed between the consortium and the European Commission.

Submit items
These menu options allow any registered member to submit a new event, article or link; Via this module, the newly submitted item will automatically and instantly be displayed in the relevant section of the public menu (events, news or links).

Account details
This option refers to the user's account set-up and allows selection of preferred language, preferred editor, preferred mail address, etc. Further profile changes may require intervention from the web master.

4 Content and maintenance

4.1 Content management

The initial content has been largely extracted from the Description of Work and has served to feed the project description pages. The more dynamic pages such as news, events, membership, etc. are updated on a regular basis by the project coordinator to reflect the addition of new members and latest changes to the project governance or activities.

4.2 Site maintenance

For more structural modifications to the web site, such as creation of new pages or addition of graphical elements, the coordinator calls upon the ERCIM Office web team, in which three web masters are readily available to quickly implement more complex updates. This service is part of the scope of WP8 "Project Management".

5 Next steps

The RACE networkRFID institutional web site will be fed as described above and maintained in its present structure during the life time of the project, i.e. until March 2012. After that date, it will be placed in static mode, meaning that all pages will still be accessible but will no longer be updated.