

23.08.06

Deliverable DN2.0.5: GÉANT2 Website Content and Functionality Development



Deliverable DN2.0.5

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Authors: Simon Pauley (DANTE), Ruth Kirkman (DANTE)

Abstract

This document serves as notification of the development of the content and functionality of the GÉANT2 websites, containing publicly available content describing the activities funded under the GN2 contract, and password-protected internal project documents.

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0 Executive Summary

This document reports on the progress to date of the development of web content and functionality of the GÉANT2 sites: www.geant2.net and intranet.geant2.net. The GÉANT2 internet sites continue to meet the primary objective of supporting the project, both in terms of promoting benefits and achievements and providing a secure information and document repository for the project partners.

The site has continued to develop and expand over the past year with a comprehensive media centre covering publicity activities and materials. The document library has evolved into an invaluable resource with over 30 publicly available deliverables, 115 project presentations and 12 project publications. Particularly significant milestones are advertised as short articles and are promoted in news section on the homepage as well as being posted on wider community news feeds.

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1 Introduction

This document outlines the progress made by the GÉANT2 websites and the planned future direction and development for both the public site and secure project intranet. It provides detail of developments of content and functionality over the past 12 months and also proposes possible future directions for the site.

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2 Aims and Approach

The overall objective of the GÉANT2 internet site continues to be to make the benefits and achievements of the GN2 project known to relevant target groups, including policy makers, NREs, end users and other actors in and around the European research and education environment. The password-protected project intranet provides a repository and access point for project related information, for use by the project partners. It also contains sections which will be accessible to the European Commission and the project reviewers.

The overall objectives of promoting the project and providing a central secure access point for project related information continues to be met by the combination of the two GÉANT2 sites. The operating and hosting arrangements have remained the same for the period under review and it is not envisaged that this will change for the foreseeable future. The providers of the CMS software have made several improvements that have made the platform more stable and easier to use..

Both GÉANT2 websites have been developed extensively during the period with additional sections added to most areas of the site (for a full site map with new sections highlighted in blue, see Appendix A).

The site continues to be hosted by DANTE and the various sites are distinguished from one another by use of different colour schemes, forming separate but complementary sites.

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3 Target Audiences

The core target audiences remain the same including NREs, user community, policy makers at government and EU levels and the media. The websites provide information for all these groups, but are particularly aimed at several high-priority segments.

3.1 Public Site

The public site has been planned with two groups in mind, in particular: users and the media. GÉANT2 strongly emphasises end user needs. The site's media centre has been developed extensively and currently includes:

- The latest version of the GÉANT2 video
- Press releases and news articles
- Links to articles available online that reference or provide information about GÉANT2
- A document library, including presentations that have been made at public conferences and events about GÉANT2.

Server logs for the GÉANT2 website continue to highlight the overwhelming interest in the network itself, and within this category, in the topology in particular. The *Watch the GÉANT2 Video* page has now become the most popular with a third more hits than the opening Network page, while the new topology map is consistently the most downloaded file, accessed over three times as often as the next most popular item

The public website provides some technical information to address technically-literate visitors who are not actively participating in GÉANT2. This information has continued to grow as the research and service activities have evolved and have reached their various milestones.

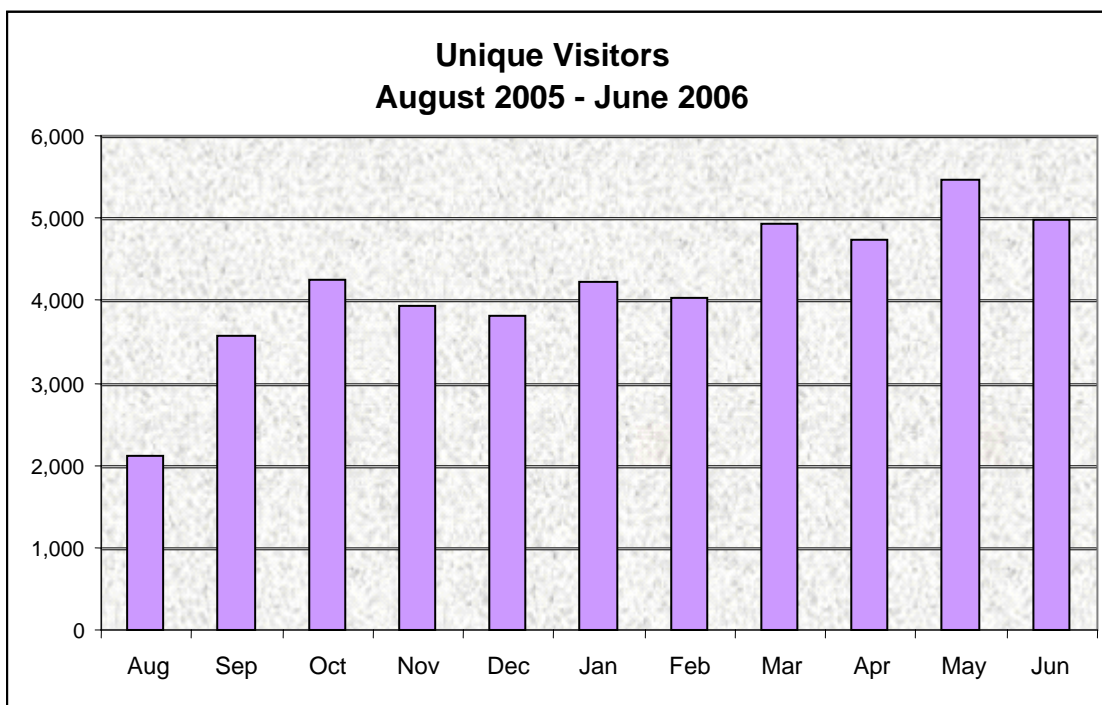
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3.2 Project Intranet

The intranet site (<http://intranet.geant2.net/>) is only visible to authorised visitors once they have logged in, and the actual information available to each site visitor depends on their individual access rights. It continues to be the main repository for the sharing of documents and information. Developments in this area include the creation of a specific area to contain all Project Management related information in a single location on the site, enabling more efficient and effective usage of the available resources. If this development proves to be successful then the concept could be rolled out to other areas of both the public and private sites.

3.3 Usage Statistics

There is now an extensive array of site statistics available on all aspects of the sites. Some key highlights include:



3.3.1 Top Ten Search Engines, Search Terms and Downloads

| Search Engines | Search Terms | Downloads |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Google.com (8,150) | geant2 (2,979) | Topology August 05 (6,225) |
| Google.co.uk (2,992) | GEANT 2 (348) | GÉANT2 Brochure 2 nd ed (3,409) |
| Google.de (1,185) | geant (240) | Topology October 2004 (3,061) |
| Google.fr (1,185) | GÉANT2 (232) | GN2-05-176 (2,728) |
| Google.es (703) | NREN (188) | Topology December 04 (1,762) |
| Google.it (636) | gn2 (159) | GN2-05-139 (1,187) |
| Google.co.in (621) | Géant2 (147) | Topology May 06 (1,174) |
| Google.be (511) | ason standards ppt (120) | GN2-05-199 (1,104) |
| Google.nl (511) | geant2.net (108) | GN2-05-026 (724) |
| Google.ca (445) | mario campolargo (98) | GN2-05-267 (662) |

3.4 Usability Enhancements

3.4.1 Technical Workshops

The website has now fully supported to the first two technical workshops including the presentation of logistics and registration information as well as the full programme, individual session agendas and all workshop presentations. The website also managed the online feedback for delegates and also catered for a meeting outside of the project that was held at the end of the second technical workshop. It is envisaged that the next workshop will incorporate the online registration and payment elements of the whole process.

3.4.2 Graphical Content

There has been an increase in the amount of graphical content included on the site to break up the sites heavy textual content. This extra content has included photo galleries of events and site visits, and animated graphics in both Flash and Gif formats for illustration and navigation purposes. Key examples of this sort of graphic include:

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- Technical workshop gallery (<http://www.geant2.net/gallery>) showing photographs of the teams, workshops and gala dinner.
- Press Kit image Library (<http://www.geant2.net/server/show/nav.1261>) showing a mix of up-to-date photographs, maps and logos to be used by the media. The photographs in this section also present the first examples of embedding a GÉANT2 “watermark” to retain project identity if the image is reproduced.
- An animated roll-out of the network has also been created to build on the static images of the network evolution that were already available. This gives graphical representation of how the network is evolving over the course of the project (<http://www.geant2.net/server/show/nav.1555>).
- There is also a trial use of animated buttons to evaluate the potential improvements to user navigation of flagging up key site locations. The present example on the GÉANT2 homepage is for a direct link to the press kit and is targeted at creating an immediate navigation for journalists entering the site at the home page.

3.4.3 ‘Friendly’ URLs

It is proposed to increase the use of ‘friendly’ URLs to enable users to access certain areas of the site more easily. An example of this would be the Policy Committee section of the site which can be navigated to directly using the link <http://intranet.geant2.net/pc> (actual address: <http://intranet.geant2.net/server/show/nav.798>.)

3.4.4 Display Printer Friendly Version

For certain web pages within the GÉANT2 sites there is an identified need for a printer friendly version of the page to also be available. This enables the user to print off selected information in the correct format without the navigation elements of the page and is particularly useful for printing without the need to create another format (i.e. pdf) for printing. The need for this functionality was identified during the second Technical Workshops when users requested a printable version of the programme to be made available.

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4 Conclusions

After its launch the site has continue to develop and expand with more publicity material, including a press kit, case studies and a video, while publicly-available Deliverables that have been approved by the EC will also be published in the Document Library.

As the activities progress, particularly significant milestones will be advertised under the 'Achievements' heading and, where appropriate, on the homepage.

The site has continued to evolve in terms of both the level and breadth of content and also the overall usage. The usage reports illustrate that the demand for information about the project continues to be extremely strong with downloads of maps, leaflets and videos about the project continuing to be at a high level.

The content is continually reviewed and revised to ensure that it is up-to-date and continues to meet visitors' requirements. The inclusion, where possible, of more graphical content is an attempt to use more visual tools and techniques.

Appendix A Site Maps

This appendix shows the updated sitemaps for the public GÉANT2 websites (new menu items in blue).

A.1 GÉANT2 Public Website Sitemap

- Project
 - Partners
 - Management
 - **GÉANT2 Technical Workshops**
 - **Who's Who**
 - NREN Support
 - Providing Foresight
- Network
 - Topology
 - Procurement
 - Migration
 - **Roll-out**
 - Global Connectivity
 - **International Collaboration**
 - Operations
 - Services
 - Quality of Service
- Users
 - User Support
 - **Who Uses GÉANT2?**
 - **BioCASE**
 - **CERN LHC**
 - **DEISA**
 - **EVN**
 - **MUPBED**
 - PERT
 - **PERT Roles**
- **eConcertation**
 - **Participating Projects**
 - **Second eConcertation Workshop**
- Contact User Support
- Achievements
 - Key Facts
 - Results
- Research
 - Performance Measurement
 - Security
 - Bandwidth On Demand
 - Testbed
 - Roaming and Authorisation
 - End-to-End
- Media Centre
 - News Archive
 - Press Articles
 - **Watch the Video**
 - **Screensaver**
 - **GÉANT2 Launch Event**
 - **Programme**
 - **Speakers**
 - **Demos**
 - **Photo Gallery**
 - **Video Clips**
 - **Events Calendar**

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- **Press Kit**
- Document Library
 - Publications
 - Presentations
- **Deliverables**
- Order Publications

A.2 GÉANT2 Intranet Sitemap

- Docs
 - **Contract**
 - **Technical Annexes**
 - Deliverables
 - Technical Deliverables
 - NA1 - Management
 - **NA2 - Dissemination**
 - **NA3 - User Support**
 - **NA4 - NREN Support**
 - **NA7 - Events**
 - SA1 - Procurement
 - **SA3 - End-to-End QoS**
 - **SA4 - Global Connectivity**
 - **JRA1 - Performance**
 - **JRA2 - Security**
 - **JRA3 - BoD**
 - **JRA4 - Testbed**
 - JRA5 - Roaming
 - **Executive Committee**
 - **Documents for Review**
 - Policy Committee
 - **All 2006 PC Documents**
 - **All 2005 PC Documents**
 - Agendas
 - Minutes
 - Presentations
 - **GÉANT Monthly Service Reports**
 - **Related Projects**
 - **MUPBED**
 - **NOBEL**
 - **OIF Documents**
 - NA1 - Management
 - Policy Documents
 - Agendas
 - Minutes
 - Presentations
 - NA2 - Dissemination
 - NA3 - User Support
 - **NA4 - NREN Support**
 - SA1 - Procurement
 - Minutes
 - Presentations
 - **SA2 - Operations**
 - **Monthly Service Reports**
 - SA3 - End-to-End QoS
 - JRA1 - Performance
 - JRA2 - Security
 - JRA3 - BoD
 - JRA4 - Testbed
 - JRA5 - Roaming
 - **Monthly Reports**
- Management
 - **Admin**
 - **NDA**
 - **Activity Leaders**
 - **Templates**
 - Policy Committee
 - **PC Meeting 22/23 May 2006 - Berlin**
 - **PC Meeting 9 March 2006 - Prague**
 - **PC Meeting 12 December 2005 - Amsterdam**
 - **PC Meeting 20 October 2005 - Budapest**
 - **PC Meeting 8 July 2005 - Brussels**
 - **PC Meeting 9 May 2005 - Pisa**

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- [PC Meeting 31 March 2005 - Amsterdam](#)
- [PC Meeting 11 February 2005 - Bled](#)
- PC Meeting 3 December 2004
- PC Meeting 22 October 2004
- PC Meeting 15 September 2004
- Executive Committee
 - [Policy Documents](#)
 - [Work In Progress](#)
 - [All Documents](#)
 - [Deliverables Status](#)
 - [Meetings](#)
- [Technical Committee](#)
- [GÉANT2 Architecture Planning](#)
- [GÉANT2 Technical Workshops](#)
 - [Programme](#)
 - [Logistics](#)
 - [Registration](#)
 - [Feedback](#)
 - [Photo Galleries](#)
- [EC Reviews](#)
 - [Second EC Review - September 2005](#)
 - [First EC Review - July 2005](#)
- [International Collaboration](#)
- Ops
 - APM Meetings
 - [Meeting Archive](#)
 - Operational Procedures
 - Fault Reporting
 - Monthly Service Reports
 - [MSRs pre-Sept '04](#)
 - Technical Policies
 - DWS Information
- JRA1
 - Meetings
 - Documents
 - [Presentations and Papers](#)
 - Management
 - [Communication Options](#)
 - Related Activities
 - Useful Links
- W11 - Requirements
- W12 - Design
- [W14 - Evaluation](#)
- JRA2
 - Meetings
 - Documents
 - Participants
- JRA3
 - Meetings
 - Documents
 - W12 - Requirements
 - W13 - Service Specification
- JRA4
 - Meetings
 - Documents
- JRA5
 - Meetings
 - Documents
 - [Monthly Reports](#)
 - [Deliverables](#)
- SA3
 - [Performance Monitoring](#)
 - Meetings
 - Documents
 - [Deliverables](#)
 - Products
- [NAs](#)
 - [PR Network](#)
 - [Key Messages](#)
 - [Meetings](#)
 - [Members](#)
 - [Press Kit](#)
 - [GÉANT2 Publications](#)
 - [Photo Gallery](#)
 - [Priority Order Form](#)
 - [Exhibition Displays Booking](#)
 - [Workplans](#)
 - [User Segmentation](#)
 - [User Support](#)
 - [PERT](#)

Appendix B Screenshots



Figure B.1: GÉANT2 public website homepage

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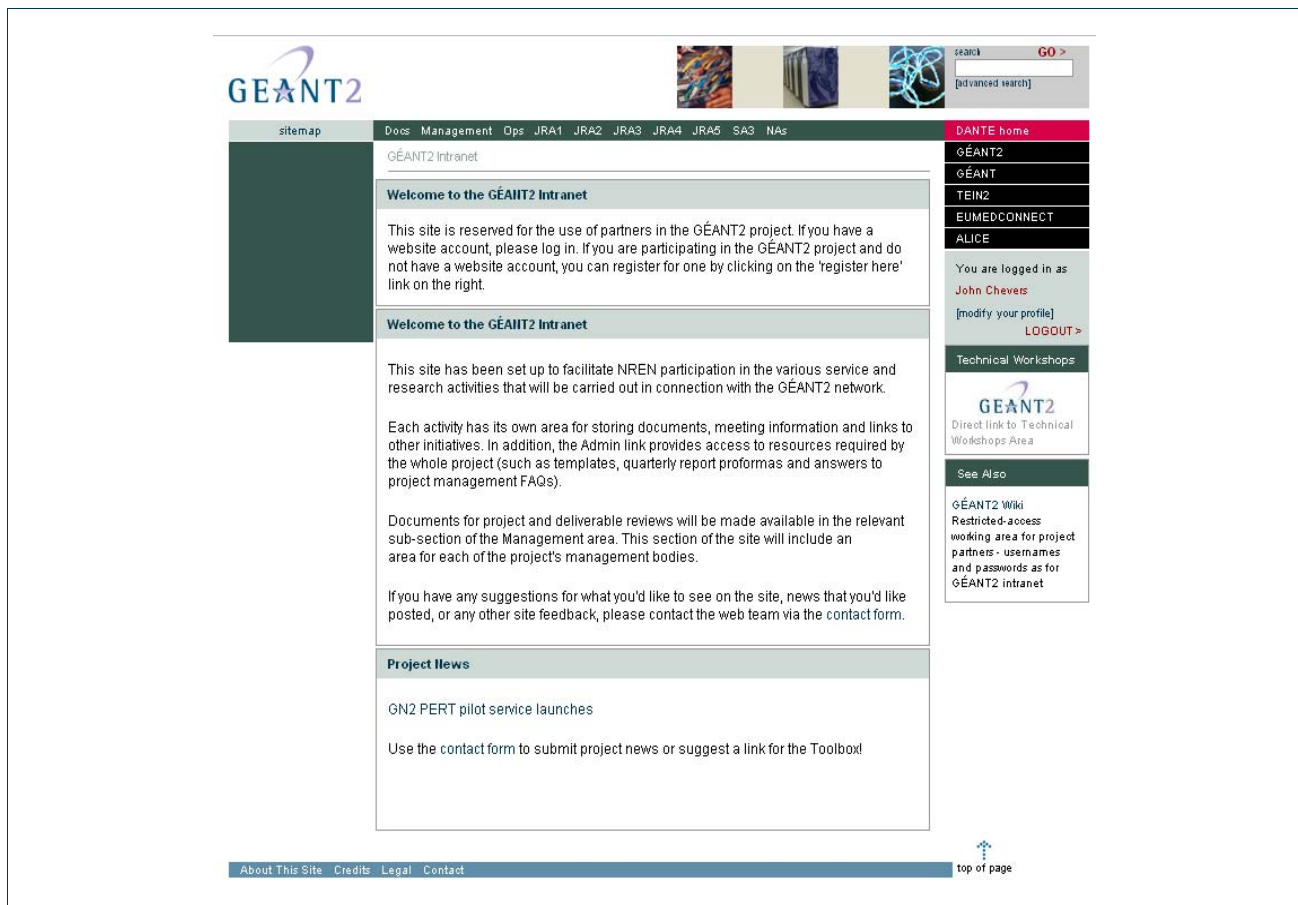


Figure B.2: GEANT2 intranet homepage

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