



P-D1

Web-Based Project Presentation of REWERSE

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Abstract

The Network of Excellence REWERSE presents itself on the main Web site <http://rewerse.net>. This report gives a brief overview of the current structure and contents of the REWERSE Web site. Furthermore, the report points at a number of extensions that are planned for future updates of the Web site.

Keyword List

project Web site, project presentation

Web-Based Project Presentation of REVERSE

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The Network of Excellence REVERSE presents itself on the main Web site <http://reverse.net>. This report gives a brief overview of the current structure and contents of the REVERSE Web site. Furthermore, the report points at a number of extensions that are planned for future updates of the Web site.

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1 Introduction

The Network of Excellence REVERSE presents itself on the main Web site <http://reverse.net>. Moreover, the domains <http://reverse.com> and <http://reverse.org> are registered and point to the main domain reverse.net. The REVERSE Web site serves two main purposes. First, it presents REVERSE and its research results to the scientific and IT professional communities, second it supports the REVERSE internal communication and exchange of documents, and moreover fosters the co-operation between the working groups. For the first version of the Web site highest priority was given to making central contents and functionalities available from the very beginning of the project. This quick set-up of the Web site required that less emphasis could be put on elaborate design issues.

The focus of future versions of the REVERSE Web site will remain content oriented. Emphasis will be put on a careful design of the contents so as to fulfill the needs of different types of visitors of the Web site. On the one hand, there are visitors with a solid background-knowledge that want to be informed about the innovative research results and applications developed in REVERSE. On the other hand, visitors with less background knowledge but a keen interest in new emerging technologies will have to be attracted. In particular, visitors from industry will have to find a concise and appealing presentation of REVERSE. While the current contents rather serve visitors of the first type, the pages may be too abstract for visitors of the second type. Therefore, several extensions and modifications are planned. These extensions will be developed in close co-operation with the REVERSE activity “Technology Transfer and Awareness” (TTA) which is responsible for promoting REVERSE technologies in the European industry. Apart from important content adaptations it is – in the longer run – also envisaged to modify the design of the REVERSE Web site.

This report gives a brief overview of the current structure and contents of the REVERSE Web site. Furthermore, the report points at a number of extensions that are planned for future updates of the Web site. For details about the current pages the reader is advised to directly visit the Web page <http://reverse.net>.

2 Structure and Contents of the Web site

2.1 Structure

The REVERSE Web site consists of two parts: a centrally administered area maintained by the REVERSE working group “Presentation, Reviewing and Assessment” (PRA) and a de-centrally organised part maintained by the individual REVERSE work packages. The de-central management of the working group pages makes timely updates of working group specific issues easier, allows a very concise presentation of the research performed in the working groups and also reduces the management overhead. The division into central and de-central parts has, however, the side-effect that there is not necessarily a homogeneous appearance of the individual working group pages. The centrally organised part of the REVERSE Web site consists of public pages that are world wide accessible, and of internal pages that are restricted to the REVERSE community.

The current report will briefly summarize the centrally organised parts of the REVERSE Web site while the working group pages remain in the responsibility of the respective groups.

2.2 Public Pages

2.2.1 Contents

The public REVERSE pages present the following topics:

- General project presentation
 - Overview (reverse.net/index.html)
 - Working Groups (reverse.net/workinggroups.html)
 - Activity Groups (reverse.net/activities.html)
- Administrative information about the persons and the structure of REVERSE
 - Contact Information (reverse.net/contactus.html)
 - Member Index (reverse.net/members/)
 - Participant Index (reverse.net/participants/)
 - Network Organisation (reverse.net/organisation.html)
- REVERSE Publications
 - Deliverables (reverse.net/deliverables.html)
 - General Publications of REVERSE members (reverse.net/publications.html)
- Related Work
 - Related Projects (reverse.net/related_work.html)
 - Co-operations (reverse.net/cooperations.html)
- Events and News
 - REVERSE Events (reverse.net/project_events.html)
 - Related Events and Conferences (reverse.net/related_events.html)
 - News (reverse.net/news.html)
- Press articles about REVERSE (reverse.net/press_releases.html)

2.2.2 Extensions

Some of the above mentioned parts of the Web site are complete and will require only minor maintenance (e.g. the administrative and contact information). The basic structure of other parts will remain but will have to be continuously updated (e.g. publications). Certain parts, however, will undergo major revisions and extensions in future versions of the Web site. To make the pages increasingly attractive for non-academic visitors the project pages will be amended by practical examples, use cases and easy to understand explanations of important concepts. Furthermore, the project presentation itself has to be extended by intermediate and final results. Other important parts of the pages, e.g. links to related projects and descriptions of co-operating partners are currently still under construction and will have to be updated. Furthermore, it is planned that parts of the the navigation will be restructured and made more

concise. Currently, there are too many main links on the starting page which may confuse new visitors of the page who are searching for the REWERSE central pages. This update of the navigation structure will be accompanied by a slightly modified layout where secondary links are optically more clearly distinguished from main links.

Further extensions are currently worked on. A search functionality will be added that searches on the central REWERSE pages as well as on the working group pages. Furthermore, it is planned to add a glossary about reasoning on the Web that contains important concepts of this newly emerging field. This glossary will be interactively built by individual REWERSE members using a wiki technology. Finally, after a consolidation of the contents of the page, it is intended that a major optical redesign will be realized. Also, a corporate design of the central and the de-central pages would be desirable. These optical issues are, however, presently not of highest priority.

2.3 Internal Pages

2.3.1 Contents

The internal pages are only accessible to REWERSE members. The pages collect material important for the internal communication. Furthermore, they serve the internal monitoring and quality assessment, and foster the communication of data and documents between the working groups. No links for the files will be given since the pages are not accessible for the public audience. The internal pages contain:

- Internal management and administrative information (log files, announcements, minutes, administrative lists etc.)
- Internal progress reports
 - Management reports
 - Progress reports of working groups
- Internal project events (e.g. working group meetings)
- Templates for deliverables, internal reports etc.
- Important project files (contract, logos, posters etc.)
- Mailing list addresses

2.3.2 Extensions

While the contents of the internal pages will have to be continuously kept up to date, the pages also require a major restructuring of the navigation so as improve quick access to the relevant information. Furthermore, tools for a simplified internal exchange of documents will be installed.

3 Conclusion

During the first weeks of the REWERSE project the REWERSE Web site was set up to provide basic contents and functionality for internal and external users. The contents have been continuously extended and updated. Revisions and extensions for future versions of the Web site are planned. Apart from minor technical adaptations a major goal will be to make the pages more attractive for less academically oriented visitors, in particular for visitors from industry. This will include content adaptations and extensions as addressed in this report. Furthermore, a more concise design of the pages will be striven for. The de-central management of the individual working group pages will be maintained but PRA will further a uniform appearance of all – central and de-central – REWERSE Web pages.

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The basic structure of the REWERSE Web site was initiated by François Bry. The main ideas for the technical realization were adopted from Sacha Berger. The final setup and maintenance of the the pages was provided by Vanessa Klaas. The installation of a publications server for REWERSE was implemented by Clemens Schefels using a program developed by Chrisoph Wieser. General indispensable technical support was given by our local system administrator Martin Josko. Furthermore, Massimo Marchiori from Venice, who is the registrar of the REWERSE domains, has given technical support and helped with many useful ideas. Stefanie Heidmann provided important support in collecting contents and keeping it up-to-date. Finally, Andrea Kulas from TTA made a concise analysis of the current pages and compiled a highly useful list of possible improvements that will strongly influence future versions of the Web site. Further persons, not all of which can be mentioned here, supported the Web-based presentation of REWERSE. All errors on the Web site, be it technical or textual errors, remain in the responsibility of the author of this report.

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