



Paris Clearing House Workshop
25 - 27 June 2003

Visit of the Médiathèque 27 June afternoon
Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie
Summaries of the presentations
(Report by Sylviane Wagon)

Web Model Development

Laurent Serot, Direction of Information Systems

A very simple project but very rich in functionalities.

A website handling data concerning books, cd-roms...is created at the Mediatheque.

The project allows people having no technical knowledge to build-up this application.

The system administrator has organized the data on a simple interface, in which one moves using arrows (1-3 months).

Content and form are completely separated.

The website may be hosted elsewhere.

A training of half a day and sometimes one hour or 35 minutes, as was the case recently.

10 projects running.

2 servers for the expos and the internal network.

Open source softwares are not preferred for these applications.

An excellent support is absolutely necessary.

Exhibitions are open 12 hours a day.

Oracle gives a strong support.

PHP SQL

Apache and Open LDAP Directory are the only open source softwares.

A market study was conducted before the beginning of the project.

41 softwares of the market (Spip, Vignette ..) were systematically studied for maintenance applications and functional requirements. 6 products were selected.

The involvement of the Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie in european programmes
Christine Warin, Media specialist, Mesmuses Programme Manager

Mesmuses is a 30 months projects (Feb. 2001 - Aug. 2004) funded by the European IST Programme, inside the Framework Programme of Research and Technological Development. The project is conducted in partnership with an italian institute specialized in the history of sciences (Firenze) and other partners listed hereafter. It aims at testing the semantic web, a new kind of description of knowledge.

The Cité des Sciences et des Techniques is a Museum of Science and Technology which is 17 years old. It would like to find new ways of descriptions for the visitor. With ten years, it would have prepared a CD-rom. With 17 years, it would like to explain science (pollution, nuclear power..) in new ways : popularize, not explain, understand.

*"A first objective of the project is to establish and validate a **methodology** and related tools for Scientific Knowledge Cartography. Mesmuses methodology for knowledge representation is based on the [C-Web](#) data model, a result from an earlier European R&D Project.*

*A second objective is to choose and experiment tools for creating "**itineraries**" on the knowledge landscape, to orient museum visitors through a real physical exhibition or a virtual one.*

*A third objective, tightly linked to the previous one is to design **personalisation methods** which will offer different **itineraries on the same knowledge** domains to the different categories of visitors, from the very young or elderly people, to university scholars".*

*The last major objective of the project will be to design various tools for **managing and reusing information** assets. Managing information resources implies notably to index them in the terms of the conceptual schema,*

whatever may be the format and media of these resources, from a section in a book chapter, physically available in the museum library and represented by a digital surrogate such as a UNIMARC record, to a multimedia online content.

<http://cweb.inria.fr/Projects/projects.html>

A workshop was organized within the Mesmuses project on 16-17 June 2003 in Firenze. It aimed to present the semantic web technology to the managers of scientific museums and to people working in the cultural heritage. (itineraries and e-books produced more or less automatically). The program is joined.

Christine Warin confessed that these research processes are very difficult. They are still at the very beginning.

Mesmuses is a partnership project with Italian, French and Greek research institutes or organizations :

[INRIA](#) - Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et Automatique, France

[FINSIEL](#) Multimedia Services (Telecom Italia), Italy

[IMSS](#) - Istituto e Museo di Storia della Scienza, Firenze, Italy

[VALORIS](#) Group, Paris, France

[CSI](#) - Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie, Paris, France

[ICS-FORTH](#) - Institute of Computer Science, Foundation for Research and Technology, Hellas, Greece.

[ENSTB](#) - Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications - Bretagne, France.

[EDW International](#), Milano, Italy

DET-UNIFI - University of Florence, Italy

Note :

The semantic web is a concept developed in 1998 by Tim Berners-Lee. Tim Berners-Lee is the founder of W3C, the official normalization organism of the web. W3C objectives are to promote actions and techniques to implement semantic web.

*The **Semantic Web** is the representation of **data** on the World Wide Web. It is a collaborative effort led by W3C with participation from a large number of researchers and industrial partners. It is based on the Resource Description Framework (RDF), which integrates a variety of applications using XML for syntax and URIs for naming. "The Semantic Web is an extension of the current web in which information is given well-defined meaning, better enabling computers and people to work in cooperation." -- Tim Berners-Lee, James Hendler, Ora Lassila, [The Semantic Web](#), Scientific American, May 2001*

<http://www.w3.org/2001/sw/>

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?articleID=00048144-10D2-1C70-84A9809EC588EF21&catID=2>

<http://www.urfist.cict.fr/lettres/lettre28/lettre28-22.html> (French translation of the above cited article, Scientific American, May 2001)

28/07/2003