

EGI-InSPIRE

REVIEW OF THE WEBSITE

EU MILESTONE: MS231

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Abstract

This review aims to report the progress of the EGI main website's design, structure and content since the relaunch of the website in March 2012 (26 March 2012 to 1 August 2012).

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II. DELIVERY SLIP

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From	Sara Coelho	EGI.eu / NA2.2	6 July 2012
Reviewed by	Moderator: Kitti Varga Reviewers: Damien Lecarpentier	SZTAKI EUDAT	10 Aug 2012
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III. DOCUMENT LOG

Issue	Date	Comment	Author/Partner
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2	18 July	First draft	S Coelho, V. Li, C Gater / EGI.eu
3	20 July	Second draft	V Li
4	24 July	Third draft	C Gater
5.	31 July	Final	C Gater

IV. APPLICATION AREA

This document is a formal deliverable for the European Commission, applicable to all members of the EGI-InSPIRE project, beneficiaries and Joint Research Unit members, as well as its collaborating projects.

V. DOCUMENT AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

Amendments, comments and suggestions should be sent to the authors. The procedures documented in the EGI-InSPIRE “Document Management Procedure” will be followed:

<https://wiki.egi.eu/wiki/Procedures>

VI. TERMINOLOGY

A complete project glossary is provided at the following page: <http://www.egi.eu/about/glossary/>.



PROJECT SUMMARY

To support science and innovation, a lasting operational model for e-Science is needed – both for coordinating the infrastructure and for delivering integrated services that cross national borders.

The EGI-InSPIRE project will support the transition from a project-based system to a sustainable pan-European e-Infrastructure, by supporting ‘grids’ of high-performance computing (HPC) and high-throughput computing (HTC) resources. EGI-InSPIRE will also be ideally placed to integrate new Distributed Computing Infrastructures (DCIs) such as clouds, supercomputing networks and desktop grids, to benefit user communities within the European Research Area.

EGI-InSPIRE will collect user requirements and provide support for the current and potential new user communities, for example within the ESFRI projects. Additional support will also be given to the current heavy users of the infrastructure, such as high energy physics, computational chemistry and life sciences, as they move their critical services and tools from a centralised support model to one driven by their own individual communities.

The objectives of the project are:

1. The continued operation and expansion of today’s production infrastructure by transitioning to a governance model and operational infrastructure that can be increasingly sustained outside of specific project funding.
2. The continued support of researchers within Europe and their international collaborators that are using the current production infrastructure.
3. The support for current heavy users of the infrastructure in earth science, astronomy and astrophysics, fusion, computational chemistry and materials science technology, life sciences and high energy physics as they move to sustainable support models for their own communities.
4. Interfaces that expand access to new user communities including new potential heavy users of the infrastructure from the ESFRI projects.
5. Mechanisms to integrate existing infrastructure providers in Europe and around the world into the production infrastructure, so as to provide transparent access to all authorised users.
6. Establish processes and procedures to allow the integration of new DCI technologies (e.g. clouds, volunteer desktop grids) and heterogeneous resources (e.g. HTC and HPC) into a seamless production infrastructure as they mature and demonstrate value to the EGI community.

The EGI community is a federation of independent national and community resource providers, whose resources support specific research communities and international collaborators both within Europe and worldwide. EGI.eu, coordinator of EGI-InSPIRE, brings together partner institutions established within the community to provide a set of essential human and technical services that enable secure integrated access to distributed resources on behalf of the community.

The production infrastructure supports Virtual Research Communities (VRCs) – structured international user communities – that are grouped into specific research domains. VRCs are formally represented within EGI at both a technical and strategic level.



VII. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This review aims to report the progress of the EGI main website's design, structure and content since the relaunch of the website in March 2012 (26 March 2012 to 1 August 2012).

The EGI website (www.egi.eu) provides a one-stop-shop for core information about EGI, EGI.eu, EGI-InSPIRE and the other projects that EGI.eu is involved in. The EGI website is designed and structured to appeal to and inform a general audience, with an interest in distributed computing technologies and their applications to collaborative research work. The high-level, general information contained on the website is balanced with more detailed, project specific and user-related information displayed on other websites, such as the EGI wiki¹. A small number of areas on the main website are frequently updated, such as the press area, news feed, events calendar, metrics and blogs.

Following the first year review of the EGI-InSPIRE project, the review panel recommended considerable changes to be made on the website – previously envisioned with the EGI community in mind – to make it more interesting and appealing to a lay audience. The 'new' website (described in D2.14 Annual Report on EGI and its External Relations Activity) was launched at the EGI Community Forum 2012 in March 2012.

The overall branding for EGI is under review in PQ9, with much style consolidation and improvement already implemented for the website. These include the use of a defined set of colours and typography (font) to convey a consistent and professional look and feel. The document describes a number of design features introduced across the site, on the home page, in the news section and for case studies, as well as looking ahead to the design work planned for PY3.

The new structure of the site is summarised, including changes to the content in sections such as additional case studies, regular updates to news and events and new sections on federated clouds, science gateways and workflows, as well as the addition of interactive maps. Future plans include expanding the infrastructure section and evaluating the usability and accessibility of the website.

The document summarises some of the measures used to drive traffic to the website, including adding links to websites frequented by users, adding case studies across a range of disciplines, publicising the web on printed materials and integrating the website with the EGI blog and social media feeds. Web statistics covering the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 are presented, covering visits, page views, time spent on the website, visits by country, referring sources and most popular pages. Overall, the website received over 200,000 visits and 85,000 unique visitors, corresponding to nearly 800,000 page views in the past 12 months.

To further build on the progress already made with the website, we plan to review and improve accessibility to make information available to as wide a range of audiences as possible and carry out evaluation of the website in collaboration with users. A further review of the website will be carried out in PM40 for MS242.

¹ The EGI wiki (https://wiki.egi.eu/wiki/Main_Page) is aimed specifically at the EGI-InSPIRE community and focuses on the practical information required to run the infrastructure.

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1 INTRODUCTION

The EGI website (www.egi.eu) provides a one-stop-shop for core information about EGI, EGI.eu, EGI-InSPIRE and the other projects that EGI.eu is involved in. The EGI website is designed and structured to appeal to and inform a general audience, with an interest in distributed computing technologies and their applications to collaborative research work.

The high-level, general information contained on the website is balanced with more detailed, project specific and user-related information displayed on other websites, such as the EGI wiki². Due to the availability of detailed information on other sites, the content on the EGI website provides a broad overview and an introduction to these topics in content that remains fairly static. Dynamic information specific to an activity that needs to be updated on a regular basis is added to the wiki site instead. A small number of areas on the main website are frequently updated, such as the press area, news feed, events calendar, metrics and blogs. Using the EGI website as an initial platform, users, the public, press, project members and other stakeholders are able to gain access to the information that they need easily and transparently.

The roles and responsibilities of website maintenance (site administrators, web support, content management and administration), the website infrastructure and the list of associate websites (AppDB, document server, the EGI wiki, training services) are detailed in milestone document MS201 EGI website [R1]. A large number of changes were made to the website in the first six months of the project, which are outlined in MS207 Review of the website [R2]. Between PM4 and PM16, the website was significantly updated in terms of structure and content to streamline the user experience - these changes were reported on the milestone document MS220 Review of the website [R3], which covers the period ending in August 2011.

Following the first year review of the EGI-InSPIRE project, the review panel recommended considerable changes to be made on the website – previously envisioned with the EGI community in mind – to make it more interesting and appealing to a lay audience. The ‘new’ website (described in D2.14 Annual Report on EGI and its External Relations Activity [R4]) was launched at the EGI Community Forum 2012 in March 2012.

This document reports the progress and development of the EGI website’s structure and content since the relaunch (from March 2012 to August 2012). It also includes statistics on the number of visitors and website usage, as well as future work expected.

² The EGI wiki (https://wiki.egi.eu/wiki/Main_Page) is aimed specifically at the EGI-InSPIRE community and focuses on the practical information required to run the infrastructure.

2 DESIGN AND STRUCTURE

2.1 Design

The EGI website has been redesigned; the new design was launched on 26 March 2012.

The overall branding for EGI is under review in PQ9, with much style consolidation and improvement already implemented for the website (which will be carried through to the printed materials as well). These include the use of a defined set of colours and typography (font) to convey a consistent and professional look and feel.

New design features throughout the site:

- The new EGI website in effect consists of 3 designs (fig. 1), one for viewing on standard computer monitor screens ('screen CSS'), one for viewing on mobile and hand-held devices ('mobile CSS') and another for reading on paper after printing with a desktop printer ('print CSS'). The mobile layout is designed with the use of small, touch-screen devices and smaller bandwidth connections in mind. As mobile and smaller devices are gaining in use for web browsing, we must consider those needs to make EGI more accessible to more users under different viewing conditions. The print layout is designed specifically for contents to be read clearly in black and white, presented professionally and printed in an economical way (minimising paper and ink usage wherever possible).
- The new layouts have been designed to better accommodate visual media overall, such as illustrations, photographs and multimedia content (eg. videos). A range of image sizes have been defined in the CSS style sheets, with captions, credit lines and an optional 'enlarge' feature to view images better in larger sizes.
- The main navigation menu now consists of two parts:
 - a top horizontal bar (showing the first level of content after the homepage) with a pop down menu (showing the second level content).
 - a left-side contextual menu (showing the second level content) with a right-side pop-out submenu (showing the third level content).
- The navigation menu now incorporates dynamic highlighting to show visitors which section/sub-section part of the site they are in.
- Social media features are integrated into every webpage (in the header and footer) (fig. 2).
- A new 'summary paragraph' option for long articles, to allow a reader to grasp the contents of that page without having to read the whole text.
- An optional page pagination menu (to separate a long article into several pages) can be added manually to standard webpages that may otherwise become extremely long. For case study articles, this feature can be generated automatically from Open CMS.
- Use of colour: the main colours of the website are: the EGI blue, orange, and grey. Shades of these colours have been carefully used in the design to direct visitor attention in different ways (eg. hierarchy of information on a page). The EGI blue is the main colour of the website, and it is the standard colour for webpage elements (headings, bullets, etc.) in the generic templates (to convey a more profession/corporate feel). In the templates for contents with an editorial feel (eg. case study, news articles) the blue elements are replaced with the orange colour to give a fresher and more vibrant feel.



- Two table styles have been defined, one for figure/data tabular content, and another for text based content.

Fig 1: The navigation menu bars – the top menu bar (left) and the contextual left hand menu (right)

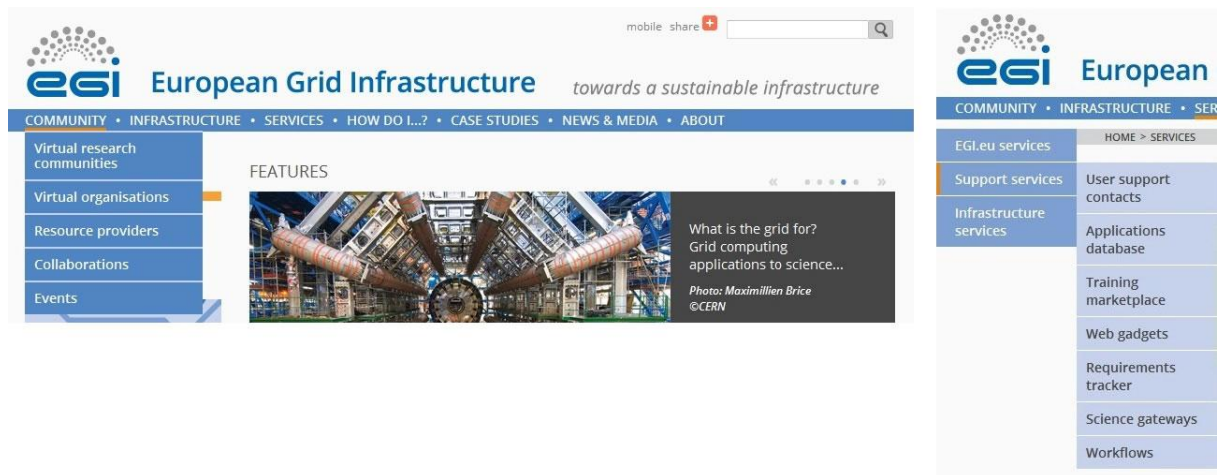
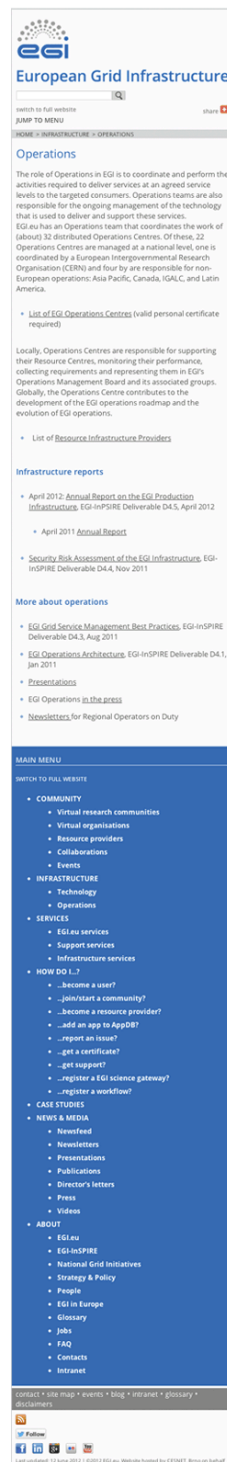
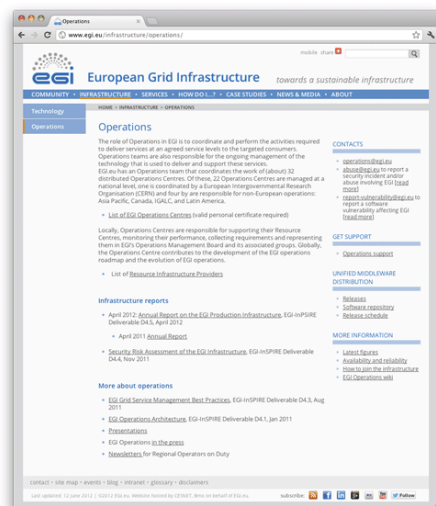




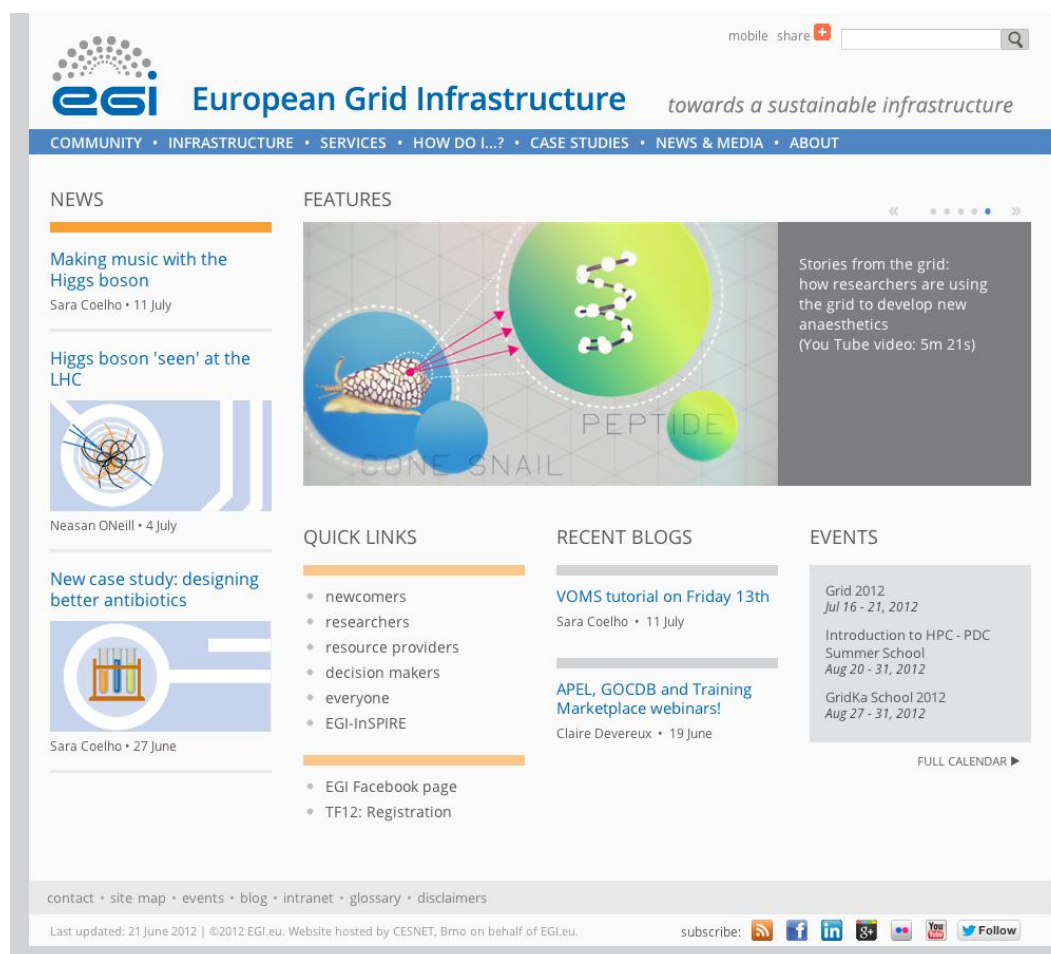
Fig. 2: The webpage for Operations, laid out in the 3 designs – the screen CSS (top left), mobile CSS (right) and printed sheet (bottom left)



Homepage:

The homepage has been redesigned to make it more attractive and welcoming to visitors, and the contents easier to find and navigate. Useful features from the previous homepage structure have been retained, while new features have been added to improve content visibility and user experience.

Fig. 3 - EGI's redesigned homepage featuring the new 'Features' scrolling gallery, 'Quick links' menu targeted at specific audience groups, social media features (top and bottom right corners) and a simplified layout option for mobile devices



Design features of the new homepage:

- A new 'Features' scrolling gallery creates visual impact and highlights current contents of interest. This gallery can accommodate 5 slides, composed of static images (of different file formats: .gif, .jpg, .png) and 1 video embedded directly from EGI's You Tube channel. Each slide has a teaser headline and links to contents in other parts of the site.

- A 'Quick Links' menu with links to landing pages created specifically for different targeted audience groups. (The 'call for action' box from the previous website design has been integrated into the lower section this menu.)
- 'News' has been brought to the left portion of the website, and highlighted with the brightest orange band, to give this section more prominence.
- The EGI logo and name with tag line, 'Blogs', 'Events', the search box and the footer menu have been retained and integrated with the new design.

News

New features of the News section:

- In the previous website design, the news landing page consisted of a list of all news articles that have been written since EGI was founded. As the list of News articles grows, they need to be archived to prevent a webpage becoming unusably long. Long webpages overlaid with content not only take longer to download, they also make navigation difficult on a small touch screen. In the new design, webpages are archived on separate pages by year (www.egi.eu/news-and-media/newsfeed).
- A larger 'Add This' 'catch-all' style social media button bar is incorporated into the main content area of every News article (in addition to the smaller standard button embedded in the header) to encourage visitors to share News articles via social media.
- An optional 'More Information' section at the bottom of articles can be used for related new articles and links that are not a part of the main article.
- Use of colour to direct user attention. The main news content area has graphic elements in a bright, attention grabbing orange colour (eg. colour of heading and bullet points; see fig. 3) to attract the eye and draw attention to it quickly. The less important 'More information' section has grey graphic elements, designed to detract the eye relative to the main article.

Fig. 4 - EGI's redesigned news article page showing the additional social media button bar (on top of the article date), summary paragraph style (under the heading) and the lower 'More information' section for related contents and links.




Case Study

The Case Study pages now incorporate some design features normally used in magazine articles, for an informal editorial look. The following new features are now available in the CMS and can be added to the pages within the Case Study section. These are in the process of being implemented to all new and existing case studies during the second quarter of PY3:

- Pull quote boxes and excerpt boxes with richer images to break up dense blocks of text in the layout.
- The standard-size images (210px), pull quote and excerpt boxes can be used in the right column, or in the main column (positioned to the left or right).
- Pull quotes and excerpt boxes are not displayed in the mobile CSS to save screen display space on small-screen devices.
- A larger 'Add This' 'catch-all' style social media button bar is incorporated into the top of the right column (in addition to the small standard button embedded in the header) to encourage visitors to share them via social media.
- A PDF download button allows readers to download the entire article to print on a desktop printer and read on paper. This is especially useful where long articles have been separated into more than one page.

- A page pagination menu (to separate a long article into several pages) can be added via the CMS to webpages that may otherwise become extremely long.

Fig. 5 – A case study page showing richer use of text and images; (in the right column) the social media bar, PDF download and excerpt boxes; (at the bottom) a page pagination menu to break up long articles.



European Grid Infrastructure *towards a sustainable infrastructure*

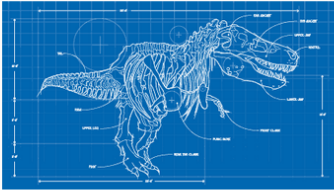
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HOME > CASE STUDIES > HOW FAST COULD A T-REX RUN?

How fast could a T-rex run?


And, more importantly, was it fast enough to catch you?

How grid computing is helping palaeontologists to understand better how dinosaurs moved around and what roles they played in their ancient world.



Grid computing meets Jurassic Park. Palaeontologists could use the grid to reconstruct the T-rex, so they ran with it... [\[enlarge\]](#)

With its sharp teeth and massive jaws, the T-rex is the stuff of nightmares. It's not surprising that scientists are convinced the T-rex was a carnivorous predator but huge teeth don't tell the whole story. Was it like the modern cheetah and catch its prey in short burst-like sprints? Or was the T-rex a sneaky stalk-and-ambush hunter like the jaguar? What was its place in the Cretaceous ecosystem?



Out to get you! But can it? Building detailed computer simulations of the T-rex's skeleton (and muscles) helps to find out how fast it used to run. *Image: wikicommons /J.M.Luigi*

skeleton and muscles.

Teaching a T-rex how to run

William Sellers and Phillip Manning, two palaeontologists from the University of Manchester, used a programme called GaitSym to model the top running speeds of five types of bipedal dinosaur – *Compsognathus*, *Velociraptor*, *Dilophosaurus*, *Allosaurus* and T-rex (officially known as *Tyrannosaurus rex*). They also modelled three living animals – the ostrich, the emu and humans – with relatively well-known top speeds to use as comparison ([see table below](#)).

First, they used the information available from known fossils to reconstruct the animal's locomotive anatomy and to build a 2D musculoskeletal model. The model specifies, for example, where the joints are, where the muscles are, the weight/mass of the trunk, thighs, feet and other parts of the animal alongside the size and properties of its muscles.

Then, they 'released' this virtual robot in *GaitSym* – a simulation environment that respects the real laws of physics (e.g. gravity, inertia) – and told it to run as fast as possible. The key to the model is that the palaeontologists didn't specify which muscle activation sequence the dinosaurs should use. This is what *GaitSym* does – the programme experiments with different combinations of muscle activation patterns and searches for an optimum solution. In this case, *GaitSym* looked for the muscle activation pattern that allowed the animal to cover the most ground in a given amount of time.

Poor solutions – patterns that caused the animal to stagger, stumble or fall – were abandoned while promising patterns were selected for further investigation. Each individual computation is not complex but the problem is that *GaitSym* needs to go through thousands of muscle activation patterns. This makes the work computationally demanding and impractical to complete using a single computer. Instead, Sellers and Manning accessed the grid computing services provided by the [UK's NW-Grid](#) and used about 170,000 hours of computing time to complete the project in a few months.

Since we can't see a real T-rex in action (it disappeared along with the other dinosaurs 65 million years ago), palaeontologists need to look elsewhere to understand its role as a predator. Top running speed offers good clues to solving this mystery – but how do you measure the maximum speed of an extinct animal?

If zebras were to become extinct, the palaeontologists of the future could probably use horses or donkeys as comparisons. People looking at dinosaur behaviour don't have that luxury because there is nothing alive today quite like a T-rex. The solution is to create a detailed computer simulation of the animal's

Size comparison between three species of dinosaurs included in the study and a 1.80m tall person. Orange: *Tyrannosaurus*; blue: *Allosaurus*; black (the little blob): *Compsognathus*.

Each individual computation is not complex but the problem is that *GaitSym* needs to go through thousands of muscle activation patterns.

Sellers and Manning accessed the grid computing services... to complete the project in a few months.

REFERENCES

- W.I. Sellers & P.L. Manning. Estimating dinosaur maximum running speeds using evolutionary robotics. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* ([full text](#))
- K.T. Bates, P.L. Manning, L. Margerets and W.I. Sellers. Sensitivity analysis in evolutionary robotic simulations of bipedal dinosaur running. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*

Acknowledgements

This case study was prepared with the help of Karl Bates.

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Fig. 6 – A case study page showing the use of pull quote boxes, aligned to the left and right of the main content area



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B-physics on the grid – a view from the frontline

Serena Oggero explains how grid computing is important for her PhD research about a particle called the beauty quark.

If you ask "hey man, shall we go for a beer later?," how many of your friends reply with something like: "maybe tomorrow, I really have to babysit my ntuples tonight?"

Welcome to the happy and slightly geeky particle physics community! Happy, because I think we are a species of truly fortunate people, despite our constant scepticism and restlessness. And most of us were already slightly geeky anyway, even before starting to babysit ntuples.

In particle physics, an ntuple is a standard way of storing data. Only variables useful for a certain analysis enter the ntuple, as 'columns' of a table, while events are listed as rows. Producing ntuples is one of the obvious steps towards analysis optimisation and we need distributed computing resources specifically to reduce the large (large!) amount of data produced by our experiments. This is where the grid becomes essential to us – it's where we sit, we type, we run jobs, we send and retrieve stuff, we type again and we check, we wait, send again, and wait again. In a word: where we babysit.

"...I really have to babysit my ntuples tonight."

My job-on-the-grid babysitting task is related to the search for evidence of B-meson to muon decays ($B_s \rightarrow \mu\mu$) at the LHCb detector at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) – the biggest scientific experiment ever attempted, to quote Brian 'rock-star physicist' Cox. The LHC is a 27 km long circular tunnel, excavated under the Swiss-French border nearby Geneva. Above are cows, sunflowers and vineyards, awesome climbing spots and gentle ski-slopes. Below are giant machines, unique works of art and the technology we need to accelerate protons and heavy ions almost to the speed of light.

"Above are cows, sunflowers and vineyards... Below are giant machines to accelerate protons and heavy ions almost to the speed of light."

The accelerator complex that culminates with the LHC is in fact more complicated than a single tunnel. Everything starts from a tiny hydrogen bottle and develops into multiple accelerating segments. The proton beams circulate in opposite directions, moving inside vacuum and guided by superconducting magnets. They meet at only four points. Here is where the collisions happen and our eyes go sharply on focus!

Every collision creates new particles. The detectors used to look at particles for the four big CERN experiments are placed at these collision points. The LHCb experiment is named after the 'beauty' or b-quark and it was designed to detect the decays of B mesons – particles made of a quark (either 'up', 'down', 'strange' or 'charm') and an antiquark, namely an anti-b quark.

Download full article
PDF 113 kB

MORE INFORMATION

- [The LHCb experiment](#)
- [The LHCb collaboration](#)
- [LHCb @ NIKHEF](#)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Serena at the LHCb experimental cavern based at CERN.
Image: Maurizio Martinelli

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New features for other type of pages:

- gallery of images (for example: www.egi.eu/about/people)
- gallery of thumbnail images (for example: www.egi.eu/news-and-media/publications)
- videos (for example: www.egi.eu/news-and-media/videos)

2.2 Further design work

The new design has been completed and little further design work is anticipated in PY3, beyond addressing teething problems with the new design that may arise as a result of use, and in response to feedback from users of the website.

A user guide will be created aimed at webpage creators to communicate the design features and how to use them. Snippets of pre-written reusable HTML codes will be incorporated into the CMS for users to add design elements quickly and easily.

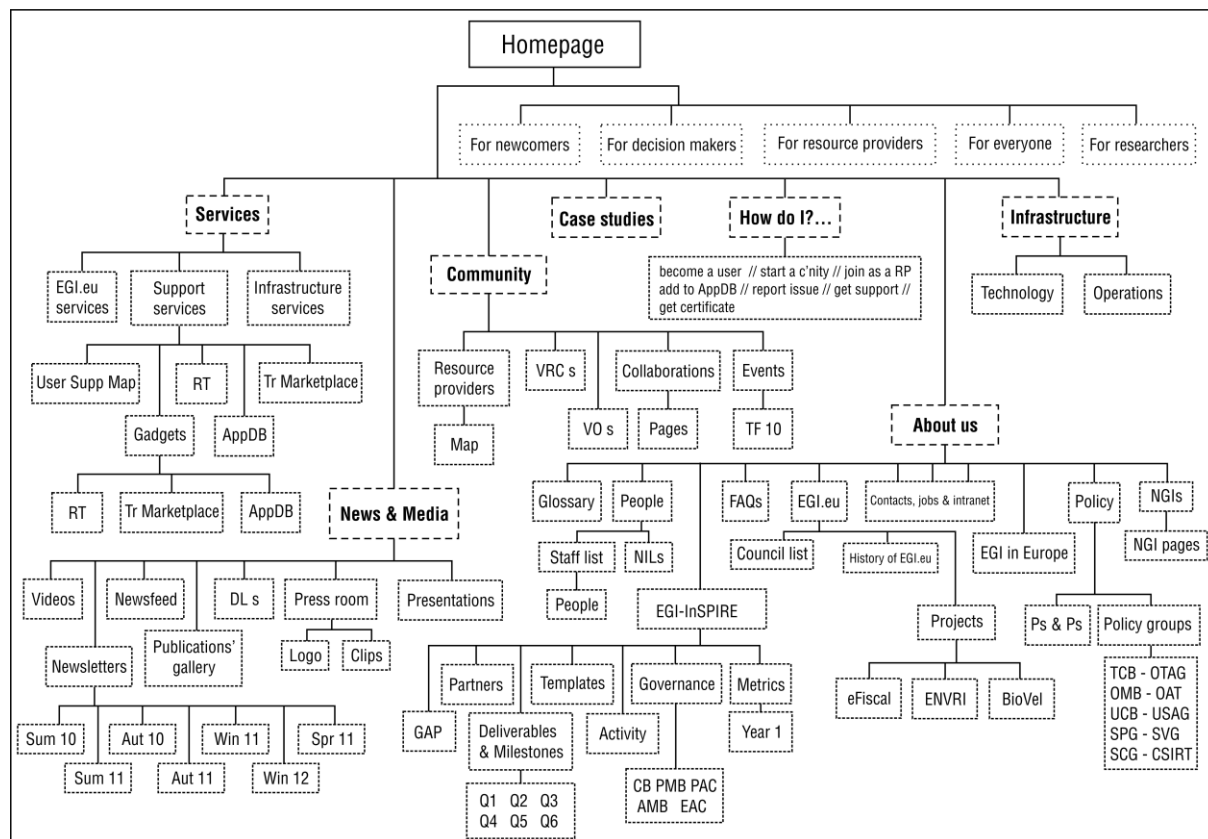
A template will be set up to generate PDF files for download for the Cases Study section. The layout will be consistent with the new EGI branding and can be created using open source programmes, without relying on professional design software.

2.3 Structure

The website structure has changed considerably since the MS201, MS207 and MS220 reports [R1, R2, R3]. The main sections of the website are:

Title of section	Subsections
Homepage	--
Community (NEW)	Virtual research communities, Virtual organisations, Resource providers, Collaborations, Events
Infrastructure (rescoped)	Technology, Operations
Services (NEW)	EGI.eu services, Support services, Infrastructure services
How do I?... (NEW)	E.g. How do I join/start a community?; How do I add an application to AppDB?; How do I get a certificate?
Case studies (Upgraded)	<i>Collection of case studies</i>
News & Media (expanded)	Newsfeed, Newsletters, Presentations, Publications, Director's letters, Press, Videos
About (expanded)	EGI.eu, EGI-InSPIRE, National Grid Initiatives, Strategy & Policy, People, EGI in Europe, Glossary, Jobs, FAQs, Contacts, Intranet

Fig. 7: Sitemap as of July 2012



3 CONTENT

The content of the website has been improved over the past few months, since the relaunch of the website in March 2012.

The EGI website is maintained by a small team of administrators and content managers. The following roles have been established for the website:

Site administrators

Site administration is provided by CESNET by the it-support@egi.eu team.

Web support

Day-to-day web support services are provided by CESNET, again by the it-support@egi.eu team. This consists of trouble shooting, management of the OpenCMS content management system and implementation of major updates or changes to the website structure, as well as administration of user access and web statistics packages.

Web content administration

Overall content administration for the site is provided within NA1 by EGI.eu. All content is verified and checked before publication, by NA1. Major upgrades and changes to the site structure or content are also approved by EGI.eu, and any issues are escalated to the AMB, PMB or EB as appropriate. For example, issues relating to technical content or the structure of the website might be escalated to the AMB, issues relating to the EGI-InSPIRE website might be escalated to the PMB, or to the EGI.eu pages to the EB.

Web content management

Day-to-day content management of the website is provided by WP2 under dissemination task NA2.2. This role includes writing and publishing of content, images, news updates and events announcements across all sections of the website. The development strategy for the website, its main audiences and future direction is covered by D2.15 Marketing and Communications Plan [R7].

Web content providers

Responsibility for keeping specialist content up to date is delegated by NA1 to other work packages as appropriate eg WP2 for policy, user support, user outreach and dissemination, WP4 for operations and production infrastructure, WP5 for software, WP6 for content aimed at heavy user communities and WP7 for operational tools. Delegation is effected by nominating a contact person for the various areas of the main website, which can then be updated or monitored by that person on behalf of the work package. Similarly, the day –to-day upkeep of the detailed information on the wiki is managed by the work package and task leaders, with NA1 taking a strategic overview.

3.1 Recent content improvements

- 1) (*Update*) We have added three new case studies:
 - **Designing better antibiotics** (<http://go.egi.eu/antib>), published 27 June

- **B-physics on the grid – a view from the frontline** (<http://go.egi.eu/lhcb>), published 2 May
- **Modelling earthquakes in Thessaloniki** (<http://go.egi.eu/thess>), published 28 March

All these articles have been republished in iSGTW.

- 2) (*Regular Updates*) The **News subsection** has been regularly updated with news items about the EGI community. The rate of publication of news items is now about 5-6 per month.
- 3) (*Regular Updates*) The **Events calendar** is now populated with events relevant to the e-Infrastructure community around the world.
- 4) (*NEW*) **Federated clouds** page, under Technology in the Infrastructure section
- 5) (*NEW*) **'Science gateways'** section, under the Support services section
- 6) (*NEW*) **'Workflows'** section, under the Support services section
- 7) (*NEW*) Interactive map of the worldwide European Grid Infrastructure, highlighting EGI-InSPIRE partners, EGI Council members, peer infrastructures and countries with integrated resource infrastructures (<http://www.egi.eu/infrastructure/>)
- 8) **About section:**
 - (*Updated, rewritten*) The **'EGI in Europe'** has been extensively rewritten to be aligned with the EGI Strategy document that has been published in the meantime
 - (*NEW*) Personal pages for the two new seconded staff members, Jelena Tamuliene and Stephen Burke. The **'People'** section will be updated within the next few months with pages for permanent or temporary seconded staff.
 - (*Updated*) The **'Glossary'** pages have been reorganised and updated.

3.2 Future work

As of March 2012, the website is fully developed and in line with the EGI strategy for Communications [R5]. Future work will focus on:

- maintain the content of the website, in particular the areas that require frequent updating (e.g.: project metrics, figures and utilisation, milestones and deliverables, newsletter);
- publish news items about the EGI community in the newsfeed;
- develop case studies to populate the 'Case Study' section;
- create pages for partner institutions and projects, as EGI.eu enters new collaborations;
- expand the **'Infrastructure'** section, specifically:
 - add information about the outcomes Federated Clouds taskforce and Virtualised Resources as a service to EGI users



- reorganise, revise, expand the material within the ‘Operations’ sub-section in consultation with the EGI.eu operations team
- expand the Federated Clouds section of the website as the task force gets underway, and link this to the dedicated social media channels
- carry out evaluation of the website e.g. web survey, observations of usage, focus groups

4 METRICS AND STATISTICS

Web accessibility is an evolving subject and a specialist area in itself. However, there are basic standard guidelines that content creators can follow to ensure the site is accessible to a wide range of audiences. An accessibility assessment on the EGI website was carried out on 20 July 2012 based on W3C's "Checklist of Checkpoints for Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0" (<http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG10/full-checklist.html>). Criteria under headings 'Priority 1 checkpoints' and 'Priority 2 checkpoints' were assessed.

4.1 Recent improvements

The redesign had been conducted with W3C good practice in mind, which helps to make the website accessible. An effort was made during this period to correct legacy content with incorrect use of HTML (structurally and/or semantically).

4.2 Accessibility assessment result summary

Responses to the W3C checkpoints fall into four categories, defined as follows:

- **Yes** EGI website is compliant, no action necessary
- **Yes, but...** EGI website is compliant in certain places, but can be improved
- **No** EGI website is not complaint with this point
- **N/A** Not applicable to the EGI website

The table below shows the amount of checkpoints (expressed as %, followed by the quantity in brackets) that fall within each response category. Cells highlighted in blue shows where EGI can make improvements.

Checkpoints	Yes	Yes, but...	No	N/A
Priority 1 (total = 16)	6% (1)	25% (4)	50% (8)	18% (3)
Priority 2 (total= 30)	23% (7)	43% (13)	26 (8)	6% (2)

This shows that EGI can improve on 75% (25%+50%; 12 out of 16) of the accessibility issues considered most important by W3C; and 69% (43%+26%; 21 out of 30) of the second priority issues. The EGI website is fully complaint with only 8 out of 46 of the accessibility issues assessed.

Refer to the 'Web accessibility assessment' document for the full results.

4.3 Future work



To make the EGI website more accessible, training will be explored, so that the whole team is better aware of W3C standards. Training will be arranged for PY3 to allow existing issues to be rectified and to prevent further non-standard html being added where it is reasonable and achievable to do so.

Training areas, in order of priority:

1. The range of HTML tags available, when to use them and why. How to mark up HTML correctly.
2. Accessibility issues
3. Usability issues

In this way, legacy and existing contents with accessibility problems should largely be corrected during PY3. The web and communications team will aim to adjust the website meet priority 1 checkpoints initially, followed by priority 2.

5 METRICS AND STATISTICS

5.1 Initiatives taken to increase traffic to the website

One of the main goals for running a website is to provide the community with a hub of reliable and up-to-date information. To maximise the impact of this work, it is desirable to increase the traffic and navigation to and within the EGI website. As part of the ongoing drive to increase the visibility of the website, we have:

- 1) Updated the News and Events feed regularly.
- 2) Added a comprehensive list of links to portals, dashboards and other tools used on a day-to-day basis by the Operations teams distributed across the NGIs. The goal is to promote these pages as a directory of useful links to the community.
- 3) Begun a collection of case studies, profiles and engaging stories about the practical uses of e-infrastructures; seven case studies have been completed and many others are (as of July 2012) in several stages of preparation. The case studies are republished on the iSGTW website, where they are often picked by other outlets³.
- 4) The website address is written prominently on all printed brochures, articles and posters to drive traffic to the site. We have produced PDF versions of all printed dissemination materials to make the full range of our publications available to a wider audience. Visitors can read publications onscreen or download a copy to print and read or redistribute themselves.
- 5) We have established an EGI blog which gives a dynamic insight ‘behind the scenes of EGI’ and relevant to the community. This is described in more detail in MS217 Dissemination Handbook [R6].

The new website is integrated with social media to help visitors to share content using their preferred channel (from a choice of 323), thereby driving further traffic to the website. An ‘Add This’ ‘catch-all’ type share button is embedded into the header of page templates, making it available on every page of the website.

The new website encourages visitors to subscribe to EGI’s social media and feeds (RSS feeds, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, Flickr and YouTube). The subscribe buttons are embedded in the footer of the website’s templates, making them available on every page of the site. Subscribers (and their followers) are alerted to new content from EGI through their social media accounts, thereby helping to drive further traffic to the EGI website.

³ For example: Could you outrun a Tyrannosaurus rex? (<http://io9.com/5853758/could-you-outrun-a-tyrannosaurus-rex>)

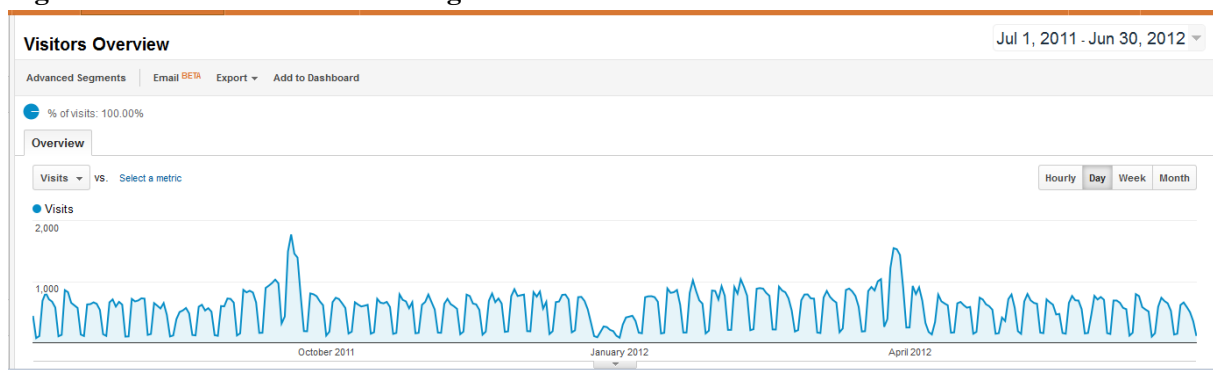
EGI has integrated an automated social media cross-posting process using ‘If This Then That’. When a new News article is published on the website, an excerpt is automatically posted to EGI’s Twitter and Facebook accounts, as well as its RSS feed, with a link back to EGI’s website for the full article or further information.

5.2 Overview of web statistics

The metrics provided in this and the following sections refer to the period between **1 July 2011 and 30 June 2012**. It is not possible to compare the metrics to the values reported in the previous report. This is due to a reorganisation of the websites within EGI control (which affected the Google Analytics data collection) implemented on 29 January 2010. As such, the previous metrics report accounts for only 5 months, whereas here we give annual metrics. It is however possible to compare *rates* and as a reference we have included previous values *in brackets*.

- The website received **201,462 visits**, with an average of **552 visits per day** [538 visits per day; +2.6%] and **85,494 unique visitors**.
- The website recorded **794,061 pageviews**, at an average of **3.9 pages viewed per visit** [4.5 pages viewed per visit; -13%].
- The average time spent on the website was **00:06:20** [00:07:15; -12.6%]
- We confirmed the following trends:
 - significantly lower number of visitors during weekends;
 - significantly lower number of visitors during holiday periods (weeks around mid-August and around Christmas/New Year)
 - significantly higher number of visitors during the Forum’s weeks
- The busiest day of the period was **20 September 2011** (first day of the Technical Forum in Lyon) with **1,772 visitors**.
- Despite the daily peaks, there is no significant overall trend with the monthly average around **16,788 visits per month** [16,444 visits per month; ca. +2.1%].

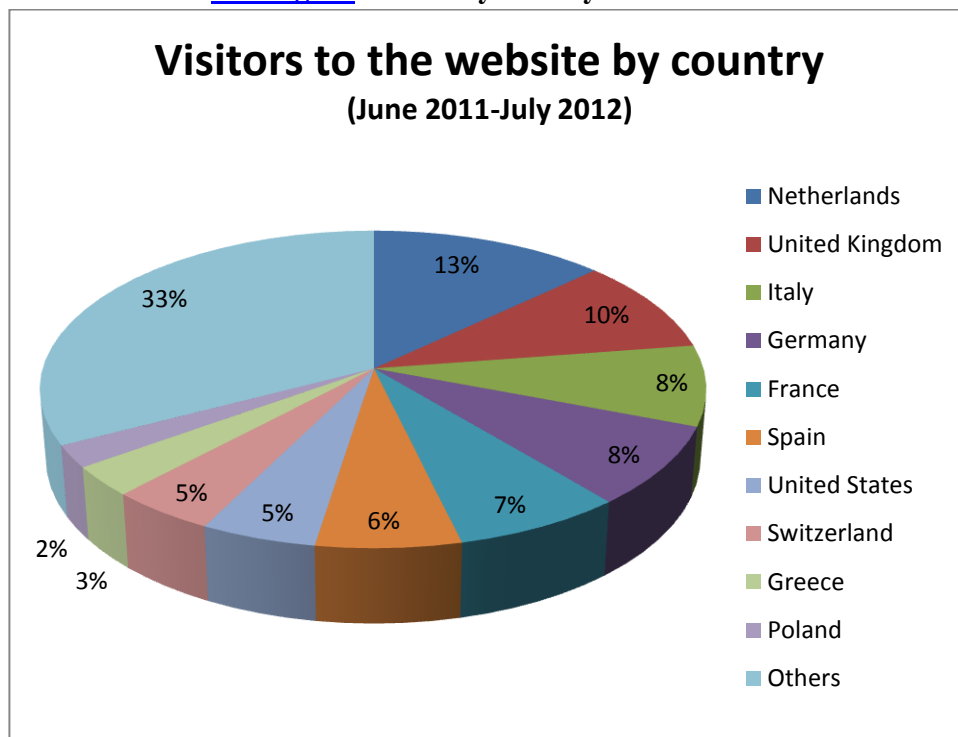
Fig.8 – Visits and visitors to www.egi.eu



5.3 Visitors

- Our visitors come mainly from the Netherlands (26,163 visits), followed by United Kingdom (19,375), and a cluster formed by Italy, Germany, France and Spain (between 12,000-16,000).
- 25.72% of the visitors arrive at the website via direct links, whereas Google accounts for 40.97% of visits (an increase from 34.74% in the last report). Referring sites (top: wiki.egi.eu) are responsible for 32.25% of the traffic (see also Table below).

Fig.9 – Visitors to the www.egi.eu website by country



- The following table lists the top 10 referring sources to the website. Together, they represent 81.2 % of the traffic to the website.

Source/Medium	Visits	% Visits	Variation
google / organic	82,546	41.0%	+5.1%
(direct) / (none)	51,826	25.7%	+16.8%
wiki.egi.eu / referral	16,259	8.1%	-42.1%
egi.eu / referral	4,904	2.4%	+33.3%
mail.google.com / referral	1,915	0.9%	+12.5%
twiki.cern.ch / referral	1,824	0.9%	na
ggus.eu / referral	1,591	0.8%	na
repository.egi.eu / referral	1,547	0.7%	na
eu-egee.org / referral	1,399	0.7%	-65.0%

t.co / referral	1,064	0.5%	na
facebook.com	957	0.4%	na

- Twitter and Facebook have 1,064 and 999 referrals respectively. Together, visits from Twitter and Facebook resulted in 8,942 pageviews. Overall it is a small number, but it seems to be an effective way of directing readers to the website with a good potential for growth.
- Top search terms include ‘egi community forum’, egi, ‘egi tf 2011’, ‘egi technical forum’, ‘egi technical forum 2011’, egi.eu, eudat

5.4 Content

- Overall, the most popular sections of the website as a function of ‘page views’ were (comparing with the previous year as described in section 5.2)
 - Indico (events website) (46.5% [53.0%; -12.3%])
 - About (13.2% [10.6%; +13.2%])
 - SSO (admin pages for the Single Sign On) (5.3%; [6.0%; -11.7%])

A more detailed breakdown of the page views per section is given below, covering 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012.

Page	Pageviews	% Pageviews	Unique Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page (s)
/indico/	194,633	51	126,425	00:01:23
/about/	44,574	12	35,738	00:01:36
/index.html	39,645	10	31,126	00:01:22
/sso/	17,982	5	14,364	00:01:08
/blog/	12,290	3	9,306	00:01:44
/user-support/	9,043	2	5,967	00:01:57
/results/	8,750	2	6,823	00:01:24
/infrastructure/	8,155	2	6,331	00:01:11
/news-and-media/	8,114	2	6,075	00:01:18
/projects/	7,489	2	5,840	00:01:37
	382,860		271,601	00:01:25

Table 2: Most popular sections under www.egi.eu

Over half of the page views are in Indico, the events programme pages including the Community Forum and Technical Forum, plus other events. After the Indico pages, the About section of the website is most popular. The About section includes the news section, the intranet page, the staff pages, jobs and people. The different sections all have a similar degree of “stickiness” ie time spent on

the pages, with the blog pages gaining the longest read times at nearly 2 minutes on average. Within the user support section of the website (2% of page views) the most popular pages are the training market place, gadgets, VRC gateways and widgets. In the Results section, newsletters are the most popular pages by a factor of 5, followed by the success stories (now renamed case studies). In the Infrastructure section the infrastructure usage figures and lists of resources and technology providers are most visited by readers. In the News and Media section, it is the newsfeed and newsletters that are most popular.

A further breakdown for the About section is included below. The most popular pages in the About section are the news, intranet and staff pages. The jobs and contact sections are the sections where visitors spend the most time, over 2 minutes on average.

Page	Pageviews	% Pageviews	Unique Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page (s)
/news/	10,603	24	9,246	00:01:53
/intranet/	5,956	13	4,594	00:01:07
/staff/	4,424	10	3,589	00:01:37
/jobs/	3,646	8	3,204	00:02:06
/egi-inspire/	2,990	7	1,996	00:01:24
/index.html	2,378	5	1,869	00:01:05
/people/	2,049	5	1,531	00:01:25
/ngis/	1,617	4	1,094	00:01:24
/contact/	1,520	3	1,307	00:02:01
/EGI.eu/	1,388	3	1,046	00:01:20
	44,574		35,738	00:01:36

Table 3: Most popular sections under www.egi.eu/about

- Since the restructuring of the website in March 2012 indications are that the most popular pages, apart from the home page, are (19 March to 30 June):
 - Indico (events website)
 - About
 - News and events

Page	Pageviews	% Pageviews	Unique Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page (s)
/indico/	43,180	41	28,305	00:01:30
/about/	14,529	14	10,966	00:01:27
/index.html	11,676	11	9,118	00:01:20
/news-and-media/	7,547	7	5,971	00:01:22
/sso/	5,578	5	4,285	00:01:13

/services/	4,299	4	3,139	00:01:26
/community/	3,840	4	2,992	00:01:24
/blog/	3,808	4	3,107	00:02:00
/infrastructure/	2,478	2	1,982	00:01:00
/case-studies/	1,801	2	1,424	00:01:42
	104,220		75,108	

Table 4: Most popular sections under www.egi.eu since relaunch

Since the relaunch, the news and media section of the website has increased in popularity, moving up for 2% to 7% of the web traffic. This reflects the greater prominence given to news and events on the home page, including in the new more graphical features section. New sections such as services and case studies are also now featuring in the top ten list.

The page view figures for the website as a whole will be tracked in more detail in the annual reports at the close of PY3. It should be noted that due to the restructure, web pages have moved within the tree structure, which is not taken into account by Google Analytics when making comparisons between sections before and after the relaunch.

- During PY2, 56178 files were downloaded from the DocDB database. The ten most popular downloaded documents are listed in the table below.

Document	Link	Downloads
EGI Strategic Plan	https://documents.egi.eu/document/1047	757
Grid Site Operations Policy	https://documents.egi.eu/document/75	534
Operational Security Procedures	https://documents.egi.eu/document/47	428
Horizon 2020 handout	https://documents.egi.eu/document/800	290
Training feedback forms	https://documents.egi.eu/document/281	263
Resource Centre OLA	https://documents.egi.eu/document/31	258
EGI Availability/Reliability Jun 2011	https://documents.egi.eu/document/648	195
EGI Availability/Reliability Aug 2011	https://documents.egi.eu/document/783	192
EGI Availability/Reliability Dec 2011	https://documents.egi.eu/document/959	190
EGI-InSPIRE presentation	https://documents.egi.eu/document/506	189

Table 5: Documents downloaded from DocDB (1 May 2011 to 30 April 2012)



6 CONCLUSION

The EGI website (www.egi.eu) has been considerably expanded and upgraded during EGI-InSPIRE's second year and the quality and quantity of the information published in the various new and updated sections has been enhanced. The frequency of updates to news and the dynamic elements of the website has been increased and maintained at the higher level throughout the review period.

To further build on the progress already made with the website, we plan to review and improve accessibility to make information available to as wide a range of audiences as possible and carry out evaluation of the website in collaboration with users.

A further review of the website will be carried out in PM40 for MS242.

7 REFERENCES

R 1	MS201: EGI website https://documents.egi.eu/document/126
R 2	MS207: Review of the website https://documents.egi.eu/document/179
R 3	MS220: Review of the Website https://documents.egi.eu/document/601
R 4	D2.14 Annual Report on EGI and its External Relations Activity https://documents.egi.eu/document/1069
R 5	MS228 Marketing and Communications Handbook https://documents.egi.eu/document/1160
R 6	MS217: Dissemination Handbook https://documents.egi.eu/document/541
R 7	D2.15 Marketing and Communications Plan https://documents.egi.eu/document/1069

8 APPENDIX 1: WEB ACCESSIBILITY ASSESSMENT

An accessibility assessment on the WGI website was carried out using W3C's "Checklist of Checkpoints for Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0" (<http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG10/full-checklist.html>). Criteria under headings 'Priority 1 checkpoints' and 'Priority 2 checkpoints' were assessed. Criteria under 'Priority 3 checkpoints' were not assessed.

The term 'new design' used in this document refers to the website design launched on 26 March 2012. The assessment was made on webpages that are a part of the new design template only; ie. not the intranet or the EGI blog (www.egi.eu/blog).

This assessment was intended as an abridged test to identify relatively quickly points that need improvement, rather than a thorough accessibility test. The tools used for assessment were:

Browsers:

- Firefox (version 14.0.1) on Mac (used as the main text browser)
- Chrome (version 20.0.1132.57) on Mac
- Safari (version 5.1.2 (6534.52.7)) on Mac
- Firefox (version 13.0) on Windows PC

Emulators:

- Web Developer 1.1.9 (Firefox add-on): <http://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/web-developer/?src=search>
- Fangs Screen Reader Emulator (Firefox add-on): <http://addons.mozilla.org/en-us/firefox/addon/fangs-screen-reader-emulator/>
- Juicy Studio Accessibility Toolbar 1.7 (Firefox add-on): <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-us/firefox/addon/juicy-studio-accessibility-too/>
- Lynx Viewer text-based browser test: http://www.yellowpipe.com/yis/tools/lynx/lynx_viewer.php
- Colour analyser: <http://gmazzocato.altervista.org/colorwheel/wheel.php>

Assessment:

This document's responses to the checkpoints fall into four categories, defined as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| • Yes | EGI website is compliant, no action necessary |
| • Yes, but... | EGI website is compliant in certain places, but can be improved |
| • No | EGI website is not complaint with this point |
| • N/A | Not applicable to the EGI website |

Weblinks referred to in this document:



weblinks are provided as references to issues raised, with a description of the problem found. The issues were present at the time of assessment, but web contents change quickly, so may have changed since the assessment was conducted.

Appendix 1:

This section contains links to samples of pages people are likely to visit, and samples of pages containing specific contents. These representative pages were referred to for testing.

SUMMARY OF TEST RESULTS

Checkpoint	Yes	Yes, but...	No	N/A
Priority 1 checkpoints				
In General:				
1.1		X		
2.1			X	
4.1		X		
6.1		X		
6.2			X	
7.1				X
14.1	X			
Images and image maps:				
1.2				X
9.1				X
Tables:				
5.1		X		
5.2			X	
Frames:				
12.1			X	
Applets and scripts:				
6.3			X	
Multimedia:				
1.3			X	
1.4			X	
If all else fails:				
11.4			X	
Priority 2 checkpoints				
In general:				
2.2		X		
3.1			X	

Checkpoint	Yes	Yes, but...	No	N/A
3.2			X	
3.3		X		
3.4		X		
3.5		X		
3.6		X		
3.7		X		
6.5			X	
7.2				X
7.4				X
7.5	X			
10.1			X	
11.1	X			
11.2		X		
12.3		X		
13.1			X	
13.2		X		
13.3	X			
13.4	X			
Tables:				
5.3			X	
5.4	X			
Frames:				
12.2			X	
Forms:				
10.2		X		
12.4		X		
Applets and scripts:				
6.4		X		
7.3		X		
8.1		X		



Checkpoint	Yes	Yes, but...	No	N/A
9.2			X	
9.3	X			

FULL RESULTS: PRIORITY 1 CHECKPOINTS

In General (Priority 1)

1.1 Provide a text equivalent for every non-text element (e.g., via "alt", "longdesc", or in element content). This includes: images, graphical representations of text (including symbols), image map regions, animations (e.g., animated GIFs), applets and programmatic objects, ascii art, frames, scripts, images used as list bullets, spacers, graphical buttons, sounds (played with or without user interaction), stand-alone audio files, audio tracks of video, and video.

Yes, but we should be doing more.

- Alt tags have been added to most images in the website, but not every image has an alt text.
- Text equivalent elements are missing for interactive elements such as videos and Flash objects. For example:
<http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/videos/>
http://www.egi.eu/community/resource-providers/resource_provider_map.html (Flash map)
- Third party plug-in was used, which relied on text embedded in image without alt tag (see example 4a on this page:
<http://www.egi.eu/services/support/gadgets/rt/index.html>

Screen reader interprets this as:
"Submit requirements to the [Link][Graphic] slash EGI underline logo.png underline
one hundred eleven million eight hundred forty-five thousand seven hundred eighty-
nine .png [Table] with two columns and eight rows Full Name colon star"

2.1 Ensure that all information conveyed with color is also available without color, for example from context or markup.

No. There has not been an understanding of the need to provide text description for information communicated with colours. Therefore these are missing throughout. For example:

<http://www.egi.eu/infrastructure/> (Flash map)

<http://www.egi.eu/cms/case-studies/trex.html> (image: "Size comparison between three species of dinosaurs...")

4.1 Clearly identify changes in the natural language of a document's text and any text equivalents (e.g., captions).

Yes, but we should be doing more.

- Captions for tables, where used, have been used within the correct HTML <caption> tags; but all not tables currently have captions. For example, instead of using one caption for each table, one H2 tag has been used for both tables so the structural mark up is incorrect:
http://www.egi.eu/infrastructure/operations/availability_and_reliability
<http://www.egi.eu/about/egi-inspire/metrics/>
- Language is not currently declared in the <head> of webpages.

- The “lang” attribute has not been used in the contents, but no non-English content was found during this assessment.
- Captions for images are defined in a separate paragraph class <p class="genericcaption">, however, this has no semantic meaning. The <figcaption> semantic HTML tag is intended for this purpose, but it only exists relatively recently in HTML5; the tag is not supported in Internet Explorer earlier than version 8. The current website was not designed in HTML5.

6.1 Organize documents so they may be read without style sheets. For example, when an HTML document is rendered without associated style sheets, it must still be possible to read the document.

Yes, but with one exception from a third party plug-in.

The embedded Google calendar cannot be read easily when styles are disabled:

<http://www.egi.eu/community/events/>

6.2 Ensure that equivalents for dynamic content are updated when the dynamic content changes.

No. There has not been an understanding of the need to provide text equivalent for dynamic contents, therefore these are missing throughout.

7.1 Until user agents allow users to control flickering, avoid causing the screen to flicker.

N/A (no flickering component present in the website.)

14.1 Use the clearest and simplest language appropriate for a site's content.

Yes

And if you use images and image maps (Priority 1)

1.2 Provide redundant text links for each active region of a server-side image map.

N/A (no image map used)

9.1 Provide client-side image maps instead of server-side image maps except where the regions cannot be defined with an available geometric shape.

N/A (no image map used)

And if you use tables (Priority 1)

5.1 For data tables, identify row and column headers.

Yes, but we have more to do.

There has not been an understanding of how to mark up tables correctly by the whole team. However, since the new design was implemented, some legacy tables have been updated with the correct mark up. For example:

<http://www.egi.eu/about/ngis/NILs.html>

But not all have been completed. For example:

<http://www.egi.eu/community/resource-providers/>

In addition, because of this lack of knowledge, tables have been marked up incorrectly to visually format headers in rows and columns, for example, using the tag:

http://www.egi.eu/infrastructure/operations/figures_and_utilisation/

5.2 For data tables that have two or more logical levels of row or column headers, use markup to associate data cells and header cells.

No. There has not been an understanding of how to mark up tables correctly by the whole team. Data tables with two or more header levels have not been marked up correctly. For example:

http://www.egi.eu/infrastructure/operations/figures_and_utilisation/

<http://www.egi.eu/about/egi-inspire/metrics/>

And if you use frames (Priority 1)

12.1 Title each frame to facilitate frame identification and navigation.

No. There has not been an understanding of the need to provide 'name' and 'title' attributes to iframes. Therefore they are missing throughout. For example:

<http://www.egi.eu/community/events/> (Google calendar)

http://www.egi.eu/services/support/training_marketplace/index.html

http://www.egi.eu/services/support/applications_database/index.html

<http://www.egi.eu/services/support/gadgets/rt/index.html>

http://www.egi.eu/community/resource-providers/resource_provider_map.html

<http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/videos/>

And if you use applets and scripts (Priority 1)

6.3 Ensure that pages are usable when scripts, applets, or other programmatic objects are turned off or not supported. If this is not possible, provide equivalent information on an alternative accessible page.

No. There has not been an understanding of the need to provide text equivalent content for apps. Therefore they are missing throughout. For example:

- http://www.egi.eu/services/support/applications_database/index.html
- www.egi.eu/services/support/gadgets/rt/index.html
- www.egi.eu/community/resource-providers/resource_provider_map.html
- <http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/videos/>
- www.egi.eu (the homepage relies on JavaScript to display correctly, because of the slideshow)
- The Google calendar does have HTML equivalent content when JavaScript is disabled.
<http://www.egi.eu/community/events/>

But the links in the events link to blank pages; this may be because they are 'http' links (?).

And if you use multimedia (Priority 1)

1.3 Until user agents can automatically read aloud the text equivalent of a visual track, provide an auditory description of the important information of the visual track of a multimedia presentation.

No. (because dynamic contents do not have text equivalent at the moment. But they should)

1.4 For any time-based multimedia presentation (e.g., a movie or animation), synchronize equivalent alternatives (e.g., captions or auditory descriptions of the visual track) with the presentation.

No. (because videos do not have text equivalent at the moment. But they should)

And if all else fails (Priority 1)

11.4 If, after best efforts, you cannot create an accessible page, provide a link to an alternative page that uses W3C technologies, is accessible, has equivalent information (or functionality), and is updated as often as the inaccessible (original) page.

No. Effort will be made to make the pages accessible.

FULL RESULTS: PRIORITY 2 CHECKPOINTS

In General (Priority 2)

2.2 Ensure that foreground and background color combinations provide sufficient contrast when viewed by someone having color deficits or when viewed on a black and white screen. [Priority 2 for images, Priority 3 for text].

Yes, but we can improve. (for priority 2; priority 3 criteria are considered for this assessment)

Images are not assessed where they:

- are used as decorative elements
- are photographs
- contain texts but equivalent captions or alt texts have been provided

Some images are missing captions but these should be provided, for example: www.egi.eu/community/events

Where colours have been used to convey information (eg. in maps), the contrast is more difficult to assess because the tests/emulators are assessing texts rather than blocks of colours. In these cases, it is best to provide equivalent content that does not rely on colour perception abilities. for example:

http://www.egi.eu/community/resource-providers/resource_provider_map.html

3.1 When an appropriate markup language exists, use markup rather than images to convey information.

No. (Yes, this applies to the current website, so nothing needs to be addressed on this issue.)

3.2 Create documents that validate to published formal grammars.

No. A sample of the webpages listed for testing were tested against the W3C validator (<http://validator.w3.org>). There were a number of errors (from 3 to 7 in one page), mainly extra spaces in the code which were not obvious to see by eye within the header and footer of the template. These errors would be easy to correct.

Note: The website was written in HTML 4, but some structural elements are not HTML4 compliant. For example, the head elements within the main and right content areas of the page. (see the notes in check point 3.5)

3.3 Use style sheets to control layout and presentation.

Yes, but with some exceptions.

The website redesign was carried out with styles controlled by CSS style sheets throughout. However, local styling may still be present in legacy contents in webpages. These should be corrected if and when found. In addition:

- Table had been used for layout in legacy server-side contents generated by the CMS: <https://www.egi.eu/sso/Login.action;jsessionid=A79CC45E4BC9CE0EF7C879C618440B89?to=%2Fsso%2Fuser>
- Tables (with further nested tables) have been used in applications made by EGI and third-party:
http://www.egi.eu/services/support/applications_database/index.html
<http://www.egi.eu/services/support/gadgets/rt/index.html>

3.4 Use relative rather than absolute units in markup language attribute values and style sheet property values.

Yes, but we can improve. (relative units sometimes used, but not always)

3.5 Use header elements to convey document structure and use them according to specification.

Yes, but we can improve. While most pages are correctly marked up in heading structure, this is not the case 100%. For example:

- This page has three H1 level headings and some H2; but there should only be 1 H1 level, with use of H2 and H3 mark-ups for other headings down the page:
<http://www.egi.eu/about/jobs/>
- “European resource infrastructure providers” has been marked up as an H2 level heading. However, “Other resource providers”, which would be a different category and a separate text to the heading it is under, has been marked up as paragraph text (it should be another H2 heading in this case).
<http://www.egi.eu/community/resource-providers>

Note: Before the 2012 redesign, the EGI website already consisted of approximately 450 webpages. In a two-column layout, each column in the website was marked up with H1 to H6 heading levels, independent of each other. In other words, you can have an H1 level in the main content area; and another H1 heading in the right side column. This does not conform to HTML 4 best practice, whereby more important information (usually in the main content area) have headings marked up with higher level H tags; and less important information (usually in the right content area) with lower level H tags. To correct this would require manually changing heading tags in the right column to all the affected pages. During the website redesign in 2012, a decision was made not to carry out the labour intensive and time-consuming correction process, because new HTML5 specifications allow this scenario. The current website is still coded in HTML4, because of the relatively new emergence of HTML5 and therefore less browser support for it. While the website remains in HTML4, this mark-up remains incorrect and this is a known error; however, it would aid future transition to HTML5 and save additional labour and time to change heading levels back to match HTML5 specifications (if they were corrected to HTML 4 standard).

3.6 Mark up lists and list items properly.

Yes, but we can improve. Lists (mainly bullet points) are frequently used on the EGI website and occurs on almost every page. Sometimes they are used correctly, however, often they are not necessary or incorrectly used (for visual effect).

- For example, 1 single item does not constitute a list: <http://www.egi.eu/infrastructure>

<http://www.egi.eu/community/vos>

<http://www.egi.eu/services/egi.eu-services>

<http://www.egi.eu/about/>

- Sometimes they are not used when they can be. For example, the lists in this page can be marked up as ordered lists OL, with indented unordered lists UL nested within. But instead, paragraph tags had been used:
http://www.egi.eu/how-do-I/join_or_start_a_community.html
In this page, point 1 and 2 should be tagged as one ordered list; a nested bullet point is unnecessary:
http://www.egi.eu/how-do-I/add_an_application_to_AppDB.html
- Definition/description lists have been correctly used:
<http://www.egi.eu/about/glossary/>
<http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/newsfeed/>
- It is better to use definition lists than bullet lists in some cases:
<http://www.egi.eu/about/egi-inspire/d-and-ms/>

3.7 Mark up quotations. Do not use quotation markup for formatting effects such as indentation.

Yes, but we have a lot more to do. There has not been thorough knowledge of the full set of HTML tags, and an understanding of when and why they should be used. Therefore quotation mark ups have not been used where they should. For example, this quote was formatted with ‘<p>’ instead of <q>:

http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/newsfeed/news_0139_b-physics_on_the_grid.html

However, the new design has been setup to use the q tag where appropriate. For example, template for the the pull quote boxes were formatted with <q> tag:

<http://www.egi.eu/case-studies/LHCb.html>

6.5 Ensure that dynamic content is accessible or provide an alternative presentation or page.

No. (refer to related checkpoints 1.1, 2.1, 6.3, 1.3, 1.4)

7.2 Until user agents allow users to control blinking, avoid causing content to blink (i.e., change presentation at a regular rate, such as turning on and off).

N/A (no blinking content)

7.4 Until user agents provide the ability to stop the refresh, do not create periodically auto-refreshing pages.

N/A (no auto-refresh content)

7.5 Until user agents provide the ability to stop auto-redirect, do not use markup to redirect pages automatically. Instead, configure the server to perform redirects.

Yes. (redirects are carried out by the server)

10.1 Until user agents allow users to turn off spawned windows, do not cause pop-ups or other windows to appear and do not change the current window without informing the user.

No. (at the moment, the website opens a new window for an external link)

11.1 Use W3C technologies when they are available and appropriate for a task and use the latest versions when supported.

Yes. This is true as far as we are aware, excluding certain known issues. For example, heading structure (see note in checkpoint 3.5), the need for the whole team to understand and appreciate the correct usage of HTML tags.

(W3C technologies is understood to mean specifications, guidelines, software, and tools.)

11.2 Avoid deprecated features of W3C technologies.

Yes, but we may have more to do. While effort has been made to correct content with deprecated tags during the course of the new website redesign, there may still be legacy content hidden within the website with deprecated features. These should be corrected if they are found, but it relies on every member of the team knowing which tags are deprecated.

12.3 Divide large blocks of information into more manageable groups where natural and appropriate.

Yes, but we can do more.

This already applies to many parts of the website. However, sometimes a webpage can become very long. Long pages are not so easy to navigate by scrolling on a small screen. Anchor links could have been used to make this easier.

13.1 Clearly identify the target of each link.

No. There has not been an appreciation by the whole team for the need to indicate targets of links before a user clicks on it. While this has been implemented in some places, there are many examples where this has not been the case.

In addition, the use of short links instead of the full URL file path means that a user cannot tell from looking at the status bar of a web browser what type of file or page a link is targeting when the cursor is on top of the link. For example, the short links embedded in the URLs in the right column are directing users to different types of files. But there is no way of knowing (what type of document a link points to (eg. HTML. PDF), whether a link to a page is internal or external, the size of the download, if the link requires the user to log-in an account, etc.) until a user clicks on it and see what happens:

http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/newsletters/Inspired_Autumn_2011/horizon_2020_what_to_expect.html

http://www.egi.eu/infrastructure/operations/figures_and_utilisation/

('HEP-SPEC 06 definition' link at bottom of the page)

13.2 Provide metadata to add semantic information to pages and sites.

Yes, but we should be doing more.

(1) Metadata:

Meta content currently present (the same on every webpage):

```
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8"/>
```

```
<meta name="generator" content="OpenCMS"/>
```

- These do not give information on the article content of a particular webpage.

- We can improve by adding meta attributes: “keywords”, “lang”, a descriptive “content” text; “dir”.

(2) semantic HTML tags:

- The (mandatory) <title> tag is present.
- Use of tags in the correct context where available, needs to be improved (refer to checkpoints 1.1, 4.1, 5.1, 12.1, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 11.2.)
- Form has been laid out using tables, which is unnecessary (should use CSS instead) and semantically incorrect because forms are not tabular content:
<http://www.egi.eu/sso/Login.action;jsessionid=A79CC45E4BC9CE0EF7C879C618440B89?to=%2Fsso%2Fuser>
<http://www.egi.eu/services/support/gadgets/rt/index.html>
http://www.egi.eu/services/support/applications_database/index.html

13.3 Provide information about the general layout of a site (e.g., a site map or table of contents).

Yes. (sitemap is used: <http://www.egi.eu/about/site-map/>)

13.4 Use navigation mechanisms in a consistent manner.

Yes. Navigation menus (top and side navigation menus, breadcrumb, footer) are consistent: look similar on every page; presented in a consistent sequence, page position, terminology and behaviour.

And if you use tables (Priority 2)

5.3 Do not use tables for layout unless the table makes sense when linearized. Otherwise, if the table does not make sense, provide an alternative equivalent (which may be a linearized version).

No.

- Table used for layout in server-side legacy content, where CSS could have been used instead:
<http://www.egi.eu/sso/Login.action;jsessionid=A79CC45E4BC9CE0EF7C879C618440B89?to=%2Fsso%2Fuser>
- Tables are used for layout in EGI and third-party plug-ins:
<http://www.egi.eu/services/support/gadgets/rt/index.html>
http://www.egi.eu/services/support/applications_database/index.html

5.4 If a table is used for layout, do not use any structural markup for the purpose of visual formatting.

Yes. (but third party plug-ins embedded in the site have not been assessed)

And if you use frames (Priority 2)

12.2 Describe the purpose of frames and how frames relate to each other if it is not obvious by frame titles alone.

No. Frames (iframes) do not have titles; nor description.

And if you use forms (Priority 2)

10.2 Until user agents support explicit associations between labels and form controls, for all form controls with implicitly associated labels, ensure that the label is properly positioned.

Yes, but we can improve.

- Form labels appear to be sufficient as they are relatively simple:
<http://www.egi.eu/404>
<http://www.egi.eu/sso/email>
<http://www.egi.eu/sso/Login.action;jsessionid=A79CC45E4BC9CE0EF7C879C618440B89?to=%2Fsso%2Fuser>
- However forms in iframe plug-ins are more difficult to assess without access to the original code or a text browser installed on a local machine:
www.egi.eu/services/support/applications_database/index.html
www.egi.eu/services/support/gadgets/rt/index.html

12.4 Associate labels explicitly with their controls.

Yes, but we can do more. While associations between labels and controls are not ambiguous, they are not always explicit. For example:

<http://www.egi.eu/sso/email>

The code of the form is written as:

```
<form action="/sso/email" method="post">Please enter you e-mail address: <input  
name="email" type="text" size="25" />  
<input name="mail" value="Submit" type="submit" />  
<div style="display: none;"><input type="hidden" name="_sourcePage"  
value="4j5Wv3ZqtZs5BVYuqycMCG_iCdpqgV1u" /><input type="hidden" name="__fp"  
value="CxgFymM3Wf4=" /></div>  
</form>
```

"Please enter you e-mail address:" is not in a <label> tag.

And if you use applets and scripts (Priority 2)

6.4 For scripts and applets, ensure that event handlers are input device-independent.

Yes, but we can be doing more. The JQuery slideshow on the home page and embedded app/gadgets (eg. training marketplace, app db) can be navigated using a keyboard or touch screen only:

http://www.egi.eu/services/support/training_marketplace/index.html

http://www.egi.eu/services/support/applications_database/index.html

www.egi.eu/services/support/gadgets/rt/index.html

The embedded Google calendar have very limited navigation using a keyboard:

<http://www.egi.eu/community/events/>

None of the Flash contents have keyboard access at all; they are also inaccessible to devices without Flash plug-ins (eg. iPhone, iPads). For example:

http://www.egi.eu/community/resource-providers/resource_provider_map.html

Note: In general, it is possible to navigate the website using only the keyboard without a mouse, but not as fluently. Drop-down and pop-out menus currently do not work with keyboard navigation, so secondary and tertiary options are not displayed. Tertiary links are not always obvious without the pop-out menu from the side navigation. Therefore pages below level 3 (not counting the homepage) may be 'hidden' from visitors using only a keyboard. (This is also true for visitors using touch screen devices.) Tab ordering can be improved; but how well the tab navigation works appears to differ between browsers and platforms.

7.3 Until user agents allow users to freeze moving content, avoid movement in pages.

Yes, with a few exceptions.

Elements with moving contents, eg. videos, do not autoplay on the website. However, there is rotating text in embedded web gadgets where movement cannot be controlled by a user:

www.egi.eu/services/support/gadgets/rt/index.html

8.1 Make programmatic elements such as scripts and applets directly accessible or compatible with assistive technologies [Priority 1 if functionality is important and not presented elsewhere, otherwise Priority 2.]

Yes, but we can do more and need more in-depth assessment on plug-ins.

This section was checked within the limitation of what technologies we are aware of (screen readers, screen magnifiers (www.webcredible.co.uk/user-friendly-resources/web-accessibility/screen-magnifiers.shtml), keyboard input) and how/what we can assess ourselves, without being users of assistive technologies.

- As mentioned in checkpoint 6.4, embedded elements such as Flash and Google calendar have limited or no accessible capabilities without using a mouse.
- The homepage slide show and image gallery enlarging features (<http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/publications/>) that use Javascript/JQuery appear to be accessible using touch screens, keyboards, screen readers and mice (check point 9.3).
- plug-in relies on text created as an image, without supplying alt text (EGI logo embedded in example 4a on this page; also refer to check point 1.1): <http://www.egi.eu/services/support/gadgets/rt/index.html>
- overall, some plug-ins may not be coded correctly for accessibility purposes (eg. refer to check point 10.2), more investigation would be needed to make a full assessment.

9.2 Ensure that any element that has its own interface can be operated in a device-independent manner.

No. (refer to checkpoint 6.4)



9.3 For scripts, specify logical event handlers rather than device-dependent event handlers.

Yes. Forms and scripts appear to be device independent. Form elements; homepage slide show and image gallery enlarging features (<http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/publications/>) that use Javascript/JQuery are accessible using touch screens, keyboards, screen readers and mice.

APPENDIX 1

Samples of pages people are likely to visit, and samples of pages containing specific contents.

A variety of pages people are likely to visit:

- Homepage: www.egi.eu
- Newcomers, researchers: <http://www.egi.eu/links-for/researchers/index.html>
- Second level pages:
 1. <http://www.egi.eu/services/>
 2. <http://www.egi.eu/case-studies/>
- Third level pages:
 1. http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/newsfeed/news_0142_reviving_sounds_epigonion.html
 2. <http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/press/>

Pages with dynamically generated content:

www.egi.eu
<http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/newsfeed/>
<http://www.egi.eu/about/glossary/>
http://www.egi.eu/about/glossary/glossary_all.html
<http://www.egi.eu/about/site-map/>

Pages with images:

<http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/publications/>
<http://www.egi.eu/about/people/>
<http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/newsletters/>
<http://www.egi.eu/cms/case-studies/trex.html>
<http://www.egi.eu/about/egi-inspire/governance/>

Pages with videos:

<http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/videos/>

Pages with tables:

<http://www.egi.eu/about/ngis/NILs.html>
<http://www.egi.eu/community/vrcs/>
<http://www.egi.eu/community/resource-providers/>
http://www.egi.eu/infrastructure/operations/figures_and_utilisation/
http://www.egi.eu/infrastructure/operations/availability_and_reliability



<http://www.egi.eu/about/egi-inspire/metrics/>

<http://www.egi.eu/sso/Login.action;jsessionid=A79CC45E4BC9CE0EF7C879C618440B89?to=%2Fsso%2Fuser> (Note: incorrect usage of table for layout)

Pages with forms:

<http://www.egi.eu/404>

<http://www.egi.eu/sso/email>

<http://www.egi.eu/sso/Login.action;jsessionid=A79CC45E4BC9CE0EF7C879C618440B89?to=%2Fsso%2Fuser>

http://www.egi.eu/services/support/training_marketplace/index.html

<http://www.egi.eu/services/support/gadgets/rt/index.html>

Pages with inserted apps:

<http://www.egi.eu/community/events/>

http://www.egi.eu/services/support/training_marketplace/index.html

http://www.egi.eu/services/support/applications_database/index.html

<http://www.egi.eu/services/support/gadgets/rt/index.html>

<http://www.egi.eu>