EU-IST Project IST-2003-506826 SEKT

SEKT: Semantically Enabled Knowledge Technologies



D14.1.1 Web based environment for self-learning

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Abstract

The deliverable of this workpackage is a website

www.keapro.net/sekt/

designed to support the SEKT training activities.

The SEKT training activities address the needs of technical managers and decision makers who want to be informed about the capabilities which SEKT technology offers for their tasks.

The SEKT training site is intended to have a simple structure which leads quickly to selected information. The core will be presentations on relevant topics by experts from the SEKT consortium. This will include video lectures and presentations which present and complement the information which is also included in seminars and workshops.

The site will be complemented with content from the SEKT project partners.

Keyword list: web site, self-learning, video lectures, training

Task 14.1 Setting up a web-based environment for self-learning and support of teaching activities

Deliverable 14.1.1 Web-based environment for self-learning and support of teaching activities going on line (with an initial set of learning content)

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SEKT Consortium

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Executive Summary

The objectives of training in the SEKT project are to make the knowledge developed in the project available to relevant individuals outside the project in order to maximise the impact of the RTD work. Training is directed at technology experts who might complement and extend semantic knowledge technology, and application experts and decision makers in the user community who will be empowered to manage the takeup of semantic knowledge technology. For this purpose reusable training materials are created and maintained on the SEKT training site.

The intended audience for the SEKT training website are experts and professionals who at this stage are not active within the semantic knowledge RTD community, but whom it is desirable to introduce to SEKT. Initially this will be more technically oriented, and during a later stage of the project the focus will be extended to application experts and decision makers.

The SEKT training website intends to be easily accessible for interested individuals, including those who are focussed on applications rather than technology, also non-IT specialists. It has a streamlined and simple navigation structure and look-and-feel, enabling easy and simple access. More specialised technical sources will be available on lower layers, and through links to the sources of partners. An added value of the SEKT training site is the set of recommendations leading to quality content.

A set of presentations and video lectures will be available which partly reproduce presentations given at training events, workshops and seminars of the SEKT project.

The initial version of the site includes the general structure, which will be extended and completed with further content which is taken from the ongoing SEKT activities.

Use of the website is free, but certain areas will require registration (this feature will be installed when more content is available).

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1 Objectives of the Training Activities in the SEKT project

The objectives of training in the SEKT project are to make the knowledge developed in the project available to relevant individuals outside the project in order to maximise the impact of the RTD work. Training is directed at technology experts who might complement and extend semantic knowledge technology, and application experts and decision makers in the user community who will be empowered to manage the takeup of semantic knowledge technology. For this purpose reusable training materials are created and maintained. This includes electronic documents and materials (available for self-study and reference), and material for seminars and workshops. The distance learning material is intended ideally to follow up training in seminars and workshops, but should also enable individuals with appropriate initial qualifications to acquire important competences by self-learning.

The training will address external organisations, and will partly be open to participants from related projects upon agreement to be reached. The training activities will aim to develop a common understanding of the new technology and applications developed. SEKT aims to make a strong impact on the concepts and standards in the domain. The training activities for professionals and decision makers complement the dissemination to the technical public and support the introduction of semantic knowledge technologies into end user organisations by empowering decision makers to assess potential, benefit and RoI for their organisations. Organisations pursuing complementary technical development activities should be provided with the knowledge to do so in an effective manner beneficial to the field as a whole.

Training will be targetted in the initial phases towards the needs of information technology specialists who are implementing and deploying semantic knowledge technology. Emphasis will shift towards experts and decision makers responsible for selecting and managing knowledge technology applications. As the use cases are implemented, training for end users and decision makers to enable them to prepare more users for the deployment of semantically enabled knowledge technology will be offered.

The activities will partly build upon ongoing training in SEKT partner organisations, use the leading edge expertise to present the knowledge developed in SEKT to make the same high level knowledge available to individuals outside the SEKT consortium. Training material will use documentation generated as part of the development and use case WPs. It will also provide an interface between developers and users, taking account of the need to complement open-source software with appropriate training material. The academic partners will contribute some modules which they use in their ongoing teaching. Some material will be developed specifically for training purposes, and preferably used for multiple purposes in training events and for self-study on the web..

2 The SEKT Training website

The intended audience for the SEKT training website are experts and professionals who at this stage are not active within the semantic knowledge RTD community, but whom it is desirable to introduce to SEKT. Initially this will be more technically oriented, and during a later stage of the project the focus will be extended to application experts and decision makers.

The SEKT training website intends to be easily accessible for interested individuals, including those who are focussed on applications rather than technology, also non-IT specialists. It will have a streamlined and simple navigation structure and look-and-feel, enabling easy and simple access. More specialised technical sources will be available on lower layers, and through links to the sources of partners. The added value of the SEKT training site is the set of recommendations leading to quality content.

A selected amount of material (documents, presentations, video lectures) will be produced or adapted and maintained on the site. Links will be provided to further material, indicating some recommendations and preferences of the different groups of users.

The training events (workshops and seminars) carried out by the SEKT project will be supported by information on the site. A large share of the material used in the events should also be available on-line.

The following requirements were realized on the site:

The site should be a modular set of training and learning materials which can be adapted flexibly to different demands. For different user groups recommended tracks giving priority to selected material will be provided (such as technical and non-technical users).

A common terminology and appearance will be aspired where useful and possible, even for the material external to the site.

The training resources should be complementary to other academic and research oriented publications and resources. Links will be provided to specific information on the sites of related projects, in particular

- Knowledgeweb project
- DIP project
- SDK-cluster pages

Structure

The structure of the SEKT training is adapted to the suggested reading sequence for the users, providing a top-down route of access from the more general to specific information. A top-level of six pages is defined. Below this level, a variable number

of "topics" – brief introductions – which provide entry points to defined themes, and which are followed up by presentations, videos, documents and commented links.

The home page provides access to the six top-lever pages of the site:



Semantic knowledge technology will provide powerful and easy access to a wide range of information sources

the aim: knowledge available at your fingertips

Semantic Knowledge Technology and the Semantic Web will build a new basis for automatic and semi-automatic processing of information with the aim to make knowledge available easily, comfortably, and more providing more comprehensive results than today.

Semantic Knowledge Technology is the combination of advanced technologies for the management of knowledge, including ontologies, advanced text analysis, and search capabilities.

The result will be new applications for the analysis, archiving, retrieval, and documentation of knowledge. Rather than keyword search as used today, knowledge will be retrieved on the basis of semantics - meaning.

We want to enable IT managers and decision makers to assess the potential value of semantic knowledge technology.

Let us inform You about the solutions available today, and about the technology which will be available for integration into applications in the near future!

Experts from the SEKT project team introduce the basic facts of Semantic Knowledge Technology to enable technical managers and decision makers to assess the current state-of-the-art of semantic knowledge technology for their purposes, and to plan for their adoption of Semantic Knowledge Technology.

In this location we continue to assemble information about the basic technology, reports about the growing experience with applications, and references to further information sources.

We will also carry out a series of workshops and seminars where we provide the most up-to-date view of the state-of-the-art of Semantic Knowledge Technology, and where we discuss future developments and potential applications with experts and potential future users. If you are interested in participating in one of the planned workshops, do let us know at events@sekt-project.com.

How to use this site:

As a start we recommend to proceed to the INTRODUCTION, or to the individual

The initial structure of the site is as follows:

```
Structure of the SEKT training site as of 10.1.2005
home http://www.keapro.net/sekt/
   introduction
     Presentation and video lecture introducing to Semantic Knowledge Technology
   topics
     Semantic Web
     Applications of SEKT and case studies
     Integration of semantic knowledge technology into existing systems
     constructing ontologies
     knowledge discovery
     ontology mediation
     metadata extraction
     ontology languages and standards for the semantic web
         Each "topic" is followed up by presentations and in-depth information
   presentations
     full list of presentations at JSI
     Track a (recommended list of links and documents)
     Track b
   links (commented links)
   events
      Registration form for seminar
      Registration form for workshop
   about (Impressum)
```

When more content is available on the site, a very light access regime may be introduced for access to parts of the content, for example the resource-intensive video lectures. Access will be free, but users will be asked to register in order to access certain areas of the site. (This feature will not make sense to users with the initial small amount of content.)

In addition, external links to sites of the SEKT project partners may require registration separately.

(1) A public section will include content of use to a general audience, among these a brief introduction to SEKT technology, Semantic Web issues, and SEKT training items.

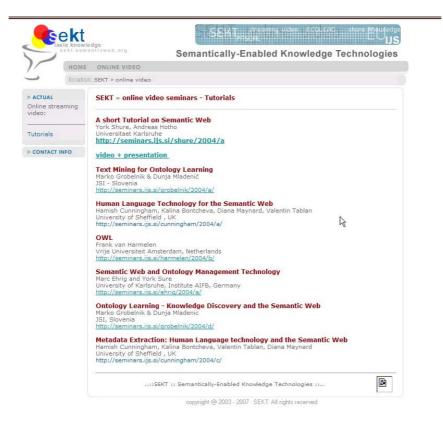
(2) High-level tutorial introductions (in-depth continuations of the topics at level 1) and selected and commented links to further material will be added continuously to the site.

(3) Presentations of lectures and tutorials, in the form of presentation slides plus audio and video. The video lectures will be added as they become available in the project activities. Due to high cost for productions it is not considered to produce lectures specifically for the site.

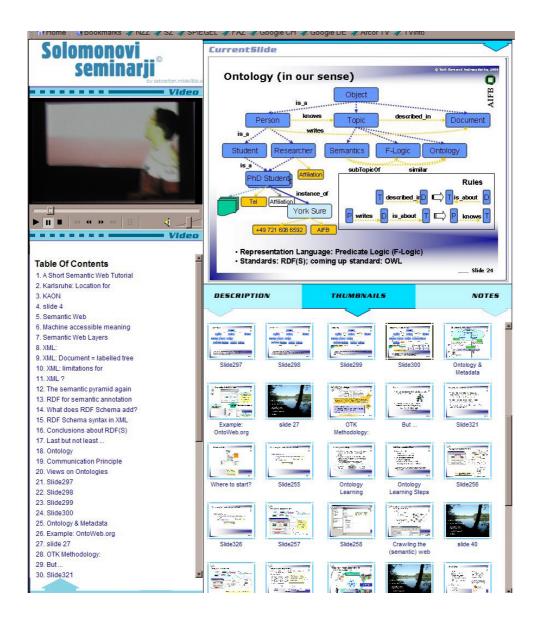
(2) and (3) will be partly private, and will be accessible to registered users only. Some of the material will be hosted by the owners and authors, who are also using and maintaining the content for other purposes under their responsibility.

(3) will be hosted by JSI, using the video server platform set up in the ECOLEAD project (http://seminars.ijs.si/ecolead/newsletter/). The current state of the technology will limit to one technical platform, which is Windows Media Player and Powerpoint presentations. This is a limitation which most video server platforms imply.

The following two illustrations show the entry point to the list of videos available at the JSI video lecture server site, and a video lecture.



The user interface to the video lectures shows a synchronised presentation (powerpoint slides) and video. Navigation within the video stream is possible by selecting individual slides, which is followed by the video stream synchronised with the slide.



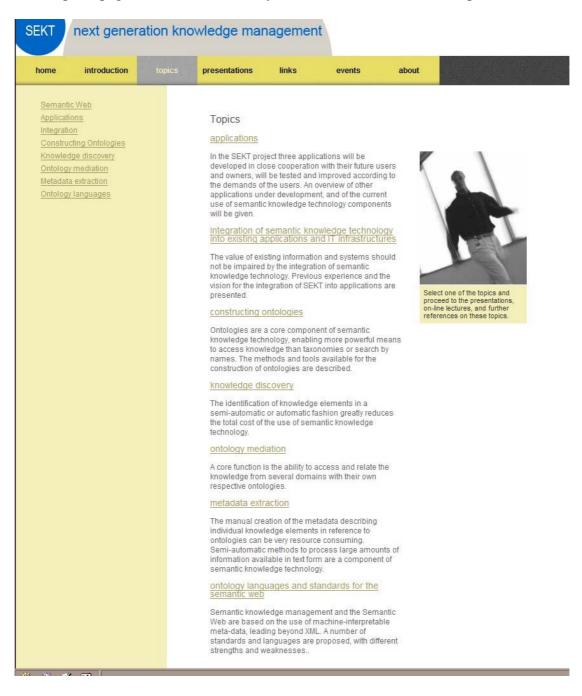
4 Content

The content used on the site is selected from material available in the SEKT project from the partners, and reviewed and edited by experts and kea-pro, where needed.

Some presentations to be given at training events will be recorded and included in the video lectures made available on the site.

The evolution of content follows the development of project results. The content is produced as spin-off of the documents, publications, and events of the SEKT project.

The "topics" page structures the initially contained content, and is adaptable.



5 Web site "marketing"

The SEKT training site will be made known by means which target the intended audience. The goal is to attract individuals who can contribute to the uptake of SEKT technology in their organisations.

- Publications of the SEKT consortium, preferably in non-scientific technical publications
- Project publicity material distributed as part of the dissemination activities
- Agreements and banners on related websites

Bibliography and references

The site address is

www.keapro.net/sekt/

Further links and references are contained on the site.