



## Tools for science communication and communication between scientists in the TRACE integrated project

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**Interdisciplinary research projects** such as Integrated Projects (IP) or Networks of Excellence (NoE) share lot of information and involve collaborative work amongst institutes from many countries with different experience. In the TRACE IP (Tracing the origin of food), the multidisciplinary nature (geochemistry, chemometrics, molecular biology, social sciences, information management), the international partnership (17 countries) and the large amount of information (14 Work packages involving over 250 persons from 50 research teams) that have to be managed, require specific tools to communicate between partners inside the project and for dissemination of results within and outside the scientific community.

For the **communication between the partners**, as well as the conventional methods of communication (e.g. telephone, meetings, reports) there are now many new tools available to help the project coordinator and the researchers. These range from shared work web spaces and project management tools, to web meetings and to web content management. In the TRACE project, the intranet was implemented under the Microsoft Windows Share Point Services 2003 release 2.0 (<https://intranet.trace.eu.org>). A project management software, MS Enterprise Project Management Web Access 2003 and 2 web meeting tools, MSN messenger and Webex have been assessed as well.

For the **dissemination of the results** to the public, as well as the conventional methods of communication to the public (media, press, peer reviewed publications, congresses) the web tools have become a major information channel. The main objective of the TRACE website is to disseminate European information on food authenticity and traceability, as well as information regarding the project itself to several target publics: to the scientists through description of analytical methods, international congresses, peer reviewed publications, training sessions and workshops; to the industries through standards delivery, good traceability guide and demonstration activities; to the consumers through brochure, workshops and collaboration with BEUC; to the general public through bibliographic references database, e-newsletter as well as news and events on-line. Several computer utilities such as Reference manager web publisher, Adobe flash player, Advanced web statistics and Google analytics are used as well to display references or lectures and to manage the website performance. The website can be accessed at <http://www.trace.eu.org>.

TRACE project provides its expertise in other networks as FP6CommNet which is an informal network of communicator scientists and communication managers involved in FP6 food projects or as SSA PETER (<http://www.eu-peter.org>) dedicated to disseminate the results of European research projects on food traceability.

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