



... for a brighter future

InterLab 2006

Open-process web design through WIKI

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Crystal Web Project Overview

- **Need for change:** Current Intranet design is organically grown, resulting in inefficient layout, fractioned content structure, and visually unengaging presentation
- **Goal:** To develop an Intranet web design basis that works for everyone:
 - unified, flexible, modern
 - for web content and web applications
 - works for many web technologies
 - cross-divisional application – design for universal use across different divisions and applications
- **Future projects** will focus on:
 - adapting this design for public-facing web sites
 - developing tools and infrastructure for supporting Argonne's web space



Involving Argonne Web Community

- **Who is the Argonne Web Community?** – People with many different roles, most of which are not directly web-related.
- **Who can participate?** – Lab-wide involvement in creating the most popular design that will suit most aspects of the lab's web requirements
- **What are we looking for?** – ANY ideas or suggestions for look-and-feel concepts or improvements for design, layout, color, navigation, etc.
- **What are we going to be doing?**
 - Interviewing groups within Argonne's web community for their input
 - Asking interested employees to submit a design concept
 - Involving the web community and the Lab at large in the evaluation process
 - Taking the best of the submissions and creating a final design

Deliverables

- **A new Argonne Intranet web design**
 - based on community involvement
- **An Argonne Intranet style guide**
 - defines the required and optional elements of the design
 - recommends best practices
- **An implementation of the web design** as a set of HTML/CSS files
- **Reference implementations**
 - as a set of Dreamweaver templates
 - as a set of includes that can be adapted for multiple environments
- **A web architecture process**
 - for developing and reviewing additions and changes to Argonne's web standards and best practices
- **Identification of alternate site maintenance tools for future projects**

Project-related Processes

Project Administration:

- **Web Architecture Group (WEB-ARG)** – Representative webmasters and developers from across the Lab
- **Web Steering Committee** – Members of upper management.

Design Process:

- **Open Process** –Open to the Lab; the whole community can influence the design by submitting constructive input into the design process as it happens
- **Online reviews** – Preliminary versions of the design will be posted on the Crystal Project Wiki page for Web Community evaluation and feedback
- **Composite design** – Final design will be a blend of the best features and ideas submitted throughout the design process

WIKI and the Open-process Web Design

■ What is WIKI?

- A web site or similar online resource that allows users to add and edit content collectively. (Google)
- A wiki is a type of web site that allows the visitors themselves to easily add, remove, and otherwise edit and change some available content . (Wikipedia)

■ Why WIKI?

- Ease of use – low entry barrier
- Rapid content creation
- Supports project's grassroots philosophy

■ Crystal Web Project Site Demo

■ Results to date

- Community participation
- Project maintenance
- Concept submissions
- Future plans for Wiki use