



Quatro Plus Pilots Under Way

Safer Internet Youth Panels Get Labelling

One of the main objectives of QUATRO Plus is to focus upon child safety aspects. As two of the partners, ECPNL and SW602, are Safer Internet Awareness Nodes, the project team approached Safer Internet representatives in Greece, the Netherlands and the Czech Republic to run pilots through their Youth Panels using the Quality Social Networking (QSN) application which provides the basic functions found in social networking sites along with the means to add labels and ratings for existing labels to websites and share these with other QSN members.

The QSN was adapted to use a specific labelling vocabulary developed to help members of the Youth Panel rate websites they came across according to their suitability for children and young adults.

The Dutch Youth Panel



The European Youth panels advise on and discuss safer internet issues. For example, the Dutch Safer Internet Youth Panel (<http://www.saferinternet.nl>) was founded in 2006. Twelve young people in the age group between 12 and 18 years old advise the Dutch government about how they can make the internet safer for young people. They give advice to the Dutch Minister of Economic Affairs and the Program Digivaardig & Digibewust (a Safer Internet Program) about activities which enable young people see how they can use the internet in a safe way. Involving young people in the program really pays off because they know how to approach this target group and they advise the government on the best way on communicating with them.

The Greek Youth Panel



The Greek Panel (<http://www.saferinternet.gr>) was formed in April 2008 with four youngsters aged 16-17 and got its current format in January 2009 with thirteen youngsters in the ages 12-18. The goal of the Greek Panel is to provide the Greek Safer Internet Centre with a view of the Internet world as seen through the eyes of the young Internet users and to act as young ambassadors of the Centre to their peers.



The Greek Panel has already met four times (one of these being for the Quatro+ pilot application) and is in constant communication with the Centre via e-mail, Facebook, and MSN.

The youngsters played a key role in this year’s Safer Internet Day, as all of them (in pairs) presented their view about the Internet to the wider public and received wide media attention.

Kicking Off the Pilots

Negative Vocabulary
User-generated content
Information Trustworthiness
Violence
Personal data infringement
Hate – Racism – Xenophobia
Sexual content – Nudity
Untrustworthy information
Disguised advertising
Incite to anorexia, drugs, illegal activities
Gambling
Positive Vocabulary
Valuable consulting information
Valuable educational content
Promotion of humanitarian values
Promotion of environmental issues
Promotion of Children Rights
Entertainment, educational games

The Youth Panel Vocabulary

xenophobia, disguised advertising and gambling - features that definitely make websites unsuitable for children. Another ‘negative’ characterisation is user-generated content as this may be an issue if the author has a false identity, writes inaccurate content or untruths. User-generated content is not necessarily negative but needs flagging. Positive characterisations are include valuable consulting content, valuable educational content, promotion of humanitarian values and promotion of environmental issues.

The pilot started with demos of the system held at NCSR “Demokritos” in early March. Ten youths and parents plus Greek Node personnel attended. To start with, a list of eight web resources was proposed for evaluation and free use of the QSN application was encouraged. The two additional positive descriptors added by the Czech node to the original four were promotion of children’s rights plus entertainment, educational games.

The first pilot was conducted by the Greek Youth Panel using a vocabulary defined by the Greek Awareness Node. This vocabulary has ten negative characterisations (descriptors) and four positive characterisations. Indicative negative descriptors include vulgar language, sexual content, hate, racism and

The project has already received some feedback from the pilots regarding the functionality, look and feel of the QSN. All these comments will be taken into account for improving the usability of the QSN application.

Youth Health Group and White Lists (Adolescent Health Unit Pilot)

The Adolescent Health Unit (AHU) of the Second Dpt of Pediatrics, University of Athens in Greece (<http://www.youth-health.gr>) specialises in the treatment of eating disorders for youth e.g. bulimia and anorexia. There are many websites which cover this subject - some provide helpful information for sufferers and parents whilst others may be considered harmful in that they promote conditions such as anorexia as a lifestyle choice and for example, provide advice on how to hide the condition (such sites are known as Pro Ana). The AHU pilot aimed to create a white list of good sites with help from their experts and content analysis technology.

Initially around 1,100 websites were found from which about 650 passed the content analysis and were also clustered. The domain expert then checked 200 randomly selected websites from the list of 650 according to their appropriateness for children as well as their match with the domain of eating disorders. This streamlined set of annotated web resources was then used to retrain the content analyser. Another set of websites was then selected by the trained content analysers and was given to the expert for a new test. 65 from the 70 web resources were said to be good by the AHU expert and these were used to create the white list. The overall procedure is independent of the domain providing suitable experts are available so this approach can be applied to any type of subject matter.

Safer Internet Explores Positive Content Concept

On the 25th March a focus group meeting entitled “Tools for parents including positive content” was held by the Safer Internet unit in Luxembourg to explore the concept of positive content. Another focus group is planned for September. Quatro Plus is encouraged by the Commission’s interest in this area as quality labels are all about promoting and sharing positive content. We look forward to wider participation in the future.

Labelling for All with the Quatro Plus Applications

Quatro Plus is now able to offer a set of tools which enables everyone from the recreational web surfer to Labelling Authorities to create and share content labels as well as rate existing labels. The following table briefly summaries the available applications.

LADI+, the Search Engine Wrapper, is a client application that gives users an indication of the existence of a label(s) for the web resources listed in the search engine results and which allows users to see more detailed information about those labels without having to go to the actual web site.

The QSN Label Sniffer permits end users to view the aggregated QSN label for resources that are accessible

Level of labelling expertise	Role and characteristics	Suitable Q+ Tool
Labelling Authority	To check content against a list of criteria – often several categories. Offer a high level of trust.	The Labelling Management Environment (LME) specifically designed for labelling authorities.
Domain expert e.g. medical professionals	May assess content on a specific subject area and may have a specialised topic vocabulary.	The Labelling Management Environment (LME) as this handles complex vocabularies well.
Teachers and providers of content for children	Typically are assessing websites for suitability and will use a limited set of broad descriptors.	The Quality Social Network (QSN) for easy labelling. QSN can allow children to add their own ratings.
Professional organisations	Interested in resources to share with colleagues for work purposes – descriptors likely to be subject specific but not as detailed as for a domain expert.	The QSN for easy labelling and sharing of useful resources with colleagues in a closed network.
Communities of interest	E.g. parents groups, societies and people with common interests	The QSN for easy labelling and sharing of resources with colleagues in a network.

Other QuatroPlus applications enable search engine results to be annotated to show whether labels are present and what the labels contain. These tools are:

ViQ+ which informs the user about the presence of labels in the web page currently being viewed while also enforcing the access preferences that the users may have set.

via the page they are currently visiting. The application detects links to other resources present in the current page and displays an icon next to them which denotes the presence of a QSN label for the corresponding resource. When the user hovers the mouse over the icon, the label details are presented in a way that permits the easy identification of the positive and negative characteristics of the resource that the link goes to.



POWDER Update



Phil Archer, iSieve

The Protocol for Web Description Resources (POWDER) finally became a W3C Proposed Recommendation on the 4th June 2009.

The purpose of POWDER is to provide a standard but flexible method for describing web resources so that people can search

for, display, filter and select the resources they choose based upon the descriptors which have to be understood by computers in order to provide this type of functionality.

According to W3C, this recommendation facilitates the publication of descriptions of multiple resources such as all those available from a web site, by defining (a) the creation and lifecycle of Description Resources and (b) the formal semantics of such descriptions. It is evident that, this recommendation will have a strong

impact on the future of semantic descriptions for web resources.

Quapro+ handles both POWDER and POWDER-S labels which means all the Quatro Plus applications will work with POWDER labels.

For further information see:
www.w3.org/2007/powder/

Coming Next ...

Over the next three months, the Quatro Plus project will be finalising the 'look and feel' of the tools according to the feedback from the pilots, promoting quality labelling to the wider community and encouraging use and installation of the applications across a wide range of stakeholders. The website will shortly be updated to reflect this progress and we will be organising some workshops/seminars to demonstrate Quatro Plus and how it can be used by different end users and organisations. Please go to the website for further information updates:
<http://www.quatro-project.org>

QUATRO+ Consortium Members



MDR Partners, UK - Co-ordinator and Project Manager.



National Centre for Scientific Research "Demokritos" (NCSR), Greece is the Technical Co-ordinator.



ECP.NL (PRO-SEC) are the SIAP Awareness Node for the Netherlands and lead the dissemination activities.



Coolwave Limited is a small technology company based in the UK responsible for the LADI tool.



Medical Association of Barcelona (COMB) provides quality labels for Spanish language medical information websites.



University of Milan (UNIMI) are providing usability expertise to ensure that all QUATRO tools are fit for purpose.



University of Insubria (UNINSUBRIA) are leading the development of Social Networking facilities.



Software602 are a technology provider and are also the Czech combined SIAP Node.



isieve is providing technology for filtering and creating white lists.

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