ParisTech
GRANDES ECOLES D'INGENIEURS DE PARIS
PARIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

world summit on the information society
Geneva 2003 - Tunis 2005

TUNIS 2005

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v3

Press Release

In January 2006,

More than 800 Open Access Educational Resources

from the eleven Paristech "Grandes Ecoles"

freely available at www.paristech.org

A grand project:

The eleven ParisTech* engineering institutions launched an ambitious project in November 2003, aiming at making available some of their educational resources (lecture notes, exercises, yearly archives, simulations, animations, course notes and videos). One target of this project is to promote the excellent high-quality teaching provided by those institutions, in order to attract foreign students. Another goal of the project is to contribute to bridge the digital divide by making available Open Access Educational Resources, in accordance with the recommendations of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). This initiative appears in the WSIS stocktaking database.

This project is based on three principles:
- Contributing to world-wide knowledge sharing;
- Promoting pedagogical efforts from the staff from the eleven ParisTech institutions;

- Fostering dynamics concerning the use of new information and communication technologies combined with teaching and educational innovations within those institutions.

The teaching teams are at the heart of an innovative action plan:
One of the strengths of the project is the deep involvement by teaching teams in building the project:
1/ each institution is internally unrolling a project, aimed at empowering existing educational resources through an "educational web site" in order to make those resources available to its own students;
2/ teachers, that are all volunteers, agree to let publish on the Internet, the whole internal educational site or parts of it.
3/ each institution then evaluates and empowers its own educational site, while updating them regularly through ParisTech, without further intervention. The ParisTech web site is then directly and automatically supported by the work being achieved in-house and targeted for their own students, by the all-volunteer teaching teams.

Law and rights:
The educational resources made available by ParisTech abide by several commitments set out in an "Open Knowledge" Charter. For each resource made available online:
- ParisTech abides by current laws in terms of third-party copyrights;
- ParisTech undertakes to define its rights to use, after having established those with authors;
- ParisTech follows a process and criteria for assessment.
The educational resources that are made available, are among those used currently by students at the various ParisTech institutions.
Furthermore, each ParisTech institutions undertakes to foster open access availability of existing resources and creation of new ones by implementing targeted internal policies and activities.

Content:
The website www.paristech.org is going to give access to:
- details of all the courses being offered by the eleven institutions (Masters degrees, Master of Science degrees, postgrad courses, MBAs and engineering degrees);
- details of all the teaching units available at the eleven institutions;
- educational resources from some of the teaching units,
for all the scientific and technical fields covered by the eleven institutions

(mathematics and its application; information and communication science and technologies; physics and optics; materials science, mechanics and mechanical engineering; fluid mechanics and energetics; chemistry, physical chemistry and chemical engineering; life sciences and bioengineering; earth sciences and environmental science and engineering; economics, management, and social sciences; languages and culture and humanities.). Contents are, for the time being, available in French, translations in English and Spanish are scheduled.

The site (already accessible through http://paristech.org), which is scheduled to open officially in January 2006, already includes over 800 educational resources from around 100 teaching units.

These figures should double in a year from now.

*ParisTech brings together eleven of the foremost French institutes of engineering education and research in Paris: L'Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts et Métiers (ENSAM), L'Ecole Polytechnique (EP), L'Ecole des Mines de Paris (ENSMP), L'Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées (ENPC), L'Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Techniques Avancées (ENSTA), Télécom Paris (ENST), L'Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Chimie de Paris (ENSCP), L'Ecole Supérieure de Physique et de Chimie Industrielles (ESPCI), L'Institut Agronomique (INA P-G), L'Ecole Nationale du Génie Rural des Eaux et des Forêts (ENGREF) and L'Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Administration Économique (ENSAE).

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