



ICT-287760

Vconect

Video Communication for Networked Communities

Specific targeted research project ICT – Networked Media

D7.4.1 Dissemination, Training and Standardisation Plan

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Abstract

This document describes how the knowledge and the results of Vconect are being disseminated.

It serves as a source of information to the public and the European Commission, and as guide for all Vconect consortium partners.

The Vconect dissemination plan is a living document and re-issued annually. At the end of the Vconect project in November 2014 there will be a final version available which will also describe the plans for disseminating Vconect knowledge after closure of the project.

This is the first issue of the Vconect Dissemination, Training and Standardisation Plan and naturally has open items, particularly concerning participating in concrete dissemination events. The next issue will become available in July 2013.

Target audience

Everybody interested in Vconect results and how they are planned to be disseminated.

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Executive Summary

This document presents the dissemination, training and standardisation plans for the knowledge created in the FP7 Project Vconect. Besides being a source of information for the public, it also serves as a guide for all the Vconect consortium partners and as information source for the European Commission.

Dissemination is taken to mean making the public aware of the project results. Vconect considers three main categories of target audiences: general public, academic audiences and commercial audiences. They determine the types of dissemination activities considered in Vconect.

The main dissemination channels employed in Vconect include

- Public website, including document portal for public deliverables
- Electronic Newsletters
- Social network presence
- Targeted media and publicity activities
- Applications shown to real audiences
- Articles in academic journals and conferences
- Contributions and presentation at events related to FP7
- Capability demonstrations
- Information activities within the Vconect partner organisations

With regards to training, Vconect distinguishes between internal and external training. Internal training is that targeting people who are affiliated with the project consortium institutions. External training targets audiences outside the consortium institutions. Internal training has already started in Vconect, particularly through the involvement of MSc and PhD students in the Vconect work.

External training and standardisation are activities that require more robust project results; therefore they will be presented in more detail in the second version of this deliverable due for publication at the end of June 2013.

This deliverable -i.e. the plan for dissemination, training and standardisation -is a living document issued annually. At the end of the project, in November 2014, there will be a final version available which will also describe the plans for disseminating Vconect knowledge after closure of the project.



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1 Introduction

This deliverable reports on the dissemination and training activities carried out, or just started, in Vconect by the date of publishing (August 2012), and presents the plans for dissemination, training and standardisation for the coming year (more or less until June 2013¹).

The boundary between dissemination and training cannot clearly be drawn, but this document takes the view that a training activity is more significant than a presentation of an academic paper or giving a software demonstration.

The deliverable is organized in three main sections, one for each of the three main activities already mentioned: dissemination, training and standardisation. There is a natural progression in time between these activities. Dissemination is the first to kick-in. Training, particularly that carried out outside the project's consortium, requires more robust results. Finally, standardisation requires even more robust results. For this reason, the present version of this deliverable focuses on dissemination.

This deliverable is related to the public deliverable D6.2 *Results Use Case One and Two Trials*, already published. D6.2 describes a number of experiments that may be carried out in Vconect and which will provide results for dissemination, possibly systems that could be demonstrated, and contexts for training. These links will be made explicit in the document, where they are relevant.

¹ Obviously, the overall picture of a three year project is always considered, but this deliverable focuses on the plans until June 2013 when the next version is due.



2 Dissemination

2.1 Generalities

The dissemination activities in Vconect observe three major target groups

- **General Public** requiring information described in easy to understand language.
- Academic Audiences requiring rigorous presentation of scientific results.
- **Commercial Audiences** requiring concise and convincing presentation of exploitation opportunities.

They inform not only the languages used in the presentation of the project's findings, but also and the dissemination channels which should maximise audience reach and impact. The table below summarises the dissemination channels used in Vconect.

Target Group	Main dissemination channels		
General public	Project website, public deliverables, newsletters, social networks, media and publicity activities, prototype demonstrations, and involvement in end-user experiments and trials (including for participants from the consortium institutions, but from other departments/groups)		
Academic audiences	Peer-reviewed publications (in journals, conferences and workshops), workshops and demonstrations in conjunction with relevant conferences (tutorials will be included as training), and FP7 related events		
Commercial audiences	FP7 related events, and presentations and demonstrations pitched to individuals and groups with influence on commercial decisions (from inside the project consortium's institutions but also from commercial institutions outside it)		

Table 1 Dissemination channels for different target groups	Table 1	Dissemination	channels for	different target groups
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The following bullet point list describes them in brief.

- Vconect Project Website (http://www.vconect-project.eu/). The public part ensures that all interested parties can access the publicly available results of the project.
- **Document Portal (http://www.vconect-project.eu/publications.html).** The Vconect Website contains a document portal for deliverables, newsletters, and academic papers (some readily available for download, other being redirections to established digital libraries)
- Electronic Vconect Newsletters. These will contain, in an easy-to-read format, the latest news and results from the project. They will be issued every few months and be put on the public Vconect Website, and in addition sent electronically to a targeted audience. There are 4 issues of the Vconect Electronic Newsletter planned.



- **Social networks**: there is already presence in international social networks such as Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube, but also in national social networks such SAPO.
- **Targeted Media and publicity activities.** The project will conduct press releases, and distribute brochures and other PR material.
- **Applications shown to real audiences.** Vconect will do evaluations with real users. Some of the scenarios, as far as copyright and license restrictions allow, will be used to generate wider media interest through which a wider public audience can be made aware of the work of Vconect.
- Articles in academic journals and conferences. Vconect will submit articles to targeted international journals and conferences.
- **External presentations at events related to FP7.** Vconect results will be presented at targeted events related to FP7, such as FIA events, Concertation Meetings and suitable ICT exhibitions.
- **Capability demonstrations.** Capabilities developed in Vconect will be illustrated through appropriate prototypes and demonstrated to different target audiences.

2.2 Planned Experiments

Vconect has an ambitious plan for experimentation which will drive the research and development work until the major end-user trials planned to be carried out on the first release of the Vconect platform in spring 2013. They have also a strong influence upon the dissemination activities, as it is results achieved from them that will provide the content for dissemination.

They are described in some level of detail in the public deliverable D6.2 *Results Use Case One and Two Trials*², but for convenience are also summarised here.

	Class of Experiments	Aim
1	Patterns of behaviour on social media platforms	Investigates how people currently employ different social media services, such social networking sites, sharing video, tweet and use videoconferencing
2	Orchestrated multi-camera interaction between three locations	Investigates the benefits of employing multiple cameras in supporting group communication between multiple locations, obviously supported by the necessarily required process of automatic orchestration
3	Orchestrated Group Conversation between Individuals from Multiple Locations	Investigates how more complex orchestration behaviour might improve communication experiences in Google+ Hangouts like contexts
4	Quality of Media	Investigates how the quality of media could be dynamically adapted in order to maximise the quality of the orchestrated group audio-video communication.

Table 2 Classes of experiments planned to be carried out in Vconect until spring 2012

² can be downloaded from <u>http://www.vconect-project.eu/publications/deliverables.html</u>



5	Multi-Screen Composition Formats	Investigates the impact of different composition strategies upon orchestrated group audio-video communication	
6	Virtual Microphone	Investigates how a moving virtual microphone could be implemented using three fixed arrays of microphones in a performance context	
7	Audience feedback in performance contexts	Investigates how physiological sensors could be used interpret audience feedback in a performance context, and how this feedback could be made available to the performers	
8	Self-Aware Network and Network Optimisation and Adaptation	Investigates how technical capabilities could be developed to implement a media overlay network that could adapt itself to maximise the quality of experience in a group synchronous audio-video communication context	

All the experiments in the first seven categories are end-users facing. The experiments in the 8th category are essentially technological investigations.

2.3 Dissemination for the General Public

2.3.1 Achievements

Project website. It is available at <u>http://www.vconect-project.eu/</u>

Facebook. The project has a Facebook account at <u>https://www.facebook.com/vconect</u>

Twitter. The project tweets under the hash-tag "vconect" and the twitter account is accessible at <u>https://twitter.com/vconect</u>

Public deliverables. Three public deliverables (including this one) are now available in the project's document portal <u>http://www.vconect-project.eu/publications/deliverables.html</u>

End-user experiments. A first round of end-user experiments have been carried out at University College Falmouth in the context of the *Performance* application. They involved drama and dance students and staff from the college.

2.3.2 Plans

Project website. The website will be updated continuously, significant updates will be made when relevant results will be refined from the planned experiments.

Facebook. The project will continue to maintain the Facebook account.

Twitter. The project will continue to maintain the Twitter account.

YouTube. The project is in the process of editing video recordings from the first user trials and publishing them on YouTube. The upcoming experiments will be a further source for such recordings and Vconect will employ YouTube as a dissemination platform.

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Public deliverables. A number of public deliverables will be published in June, July and August 2012, presenting significant results after the completion of the first release of the prototype V conect platform and its evaluation in end-user trials. All public V conect deliverables will be available on http://www.vconect-project.eu/publications/deliverables.html

Newsletter. A project newsletter presenting some of the most significant results to date and some of the ambitious challenges of Vconect will be published at the end of August 2012. Vconect Newsletters will be available on <u>http://www.vconect-project.eu/publications/newsletters.html</u>

Project brochure. A project brochure planned for the end of September 2012

End-user experiments. Many of the planned experiments will be carried out with real potential users. For example, the first class of experiments will be carried out with SAPO users, being organised on SAPO's social networking platform. This could have a potentially significant impact. The other end-user based experiments (categories 1 to 6) will also have a dissemination impact, but the number of users involved in them will not be that substantial.

Trade shows: Fraunhofer IIS will exhibit a Vconect-Demo on IFA 2012 (31 August - 5 September 2012)³. The demo shows an orchestrated 4-point videoconference similar to +Hangout but with Full-HD voice quality based on AAC-ELD. As end points, a SmartTV, two office-PCs and an Android-Phone are used (the latter one using audio only). As another trade show with similar demo concept, we consider CeBit.

2.4 Academic Dissemination

2.4.1 Achievements

Although only in its eight month from start, V conect has already got a good academic output⁴. The academic publications to date are summarised in the table below.

Туре	Event	Title	Date	Venue	Authors
Invited talk	Public consultation on the FP7 ICT Work Programme 2013 for the Networked Media sector	Virtual Director: key technology for live media services	27/01/12	Brussels, Belgium	Rene Kaiser
Invited talk	Workshop on Next Generation Multimedia Research & Development	Socially-Aware Multimedia	02/05/12	New York Abu Dhabi University	Pablo Cesar

³ <u>http://b2b.ifa-berlin.com/en</u>

⁴ It should be acknowledged that some of this output is a joint effort of Vconect and its predecessor TA2 (<u>http://www.ta2-project.eu/</u>).



Invited talk	Future Internet Assembly (FIA). FIGARO, Smart Living Workshop	Simplifying Remote Education	09/05/12	Aalborg, Denmark	Marian Ursu
Proceedings (peer- reviewed)	2nd workshop on Making Sense of Microposts (at WWW2012)	When social bots attack: Modeling susceptibility of users in online social networks	16/04/12	Lyon, France	Claudia Wagner
Proceedings (peer- reviewed)	International Conference on Advances in Multimedia	Synchronization Techniques in Distributed Multimedia Presentation	29/04/12	Chamonix / Mont Blanc, France	Dick C.A. Bulterman, Shahab Ud Din
Proceedings (peer- reviewed)	International Workshop on Emerging Multimedia Systems and Applications (at ICME 2012)	A Rule-Based Virtual Director Enhancing Group Communication	09/07/12	Melbourne, Australia	Rene Kaiser, Manolis Falelakis, Marian Ursu, Wolfgang Weiss
Proceedings (peer- reviewed)	ACM Symposium on Document Engineering (ACM DocEng) 2012	Just-in-Time Personalized Video Presentations	04/09/12	Paris, France	Jack Jansen, Dick C.A. Bulterman, Pablo Cesar, Rodrigo Laiola Guimaraes
Proceedings (peer- reviewed)	IEEE International Conference on Intelligence in Next Generation Networks	Video Communication for Networked Communities: Challenges and Opportunities	08/10/12	Berlin, Germany	Tim Stevens, Pablo Cesar, Ian Kegel, Niko Farber, Doug Williams, Marian Ursu, Phil Stenton, Pedro Torres, Manolis Falelakis, Rene Kaiser
Proceedings (peer- reviewed)	Workshop on Socially-Aware Multimedia (at ACM MM 2012)	Automatic orchestration of video streams to enhance group communication	29/11/12	Nara, Japan	Manolis Falelakis, Martin Groen, Rene Kaiser, Marian Ursu
Proceedings (peer- reviewed)	ACM International Conference on Multimedia (ACM MM) 2012	Enabling 'Togetherness' in High-Quality Domestic Video Conferencing	29/11/12	Nara, Japan	Ian Kegel, Pablo Cesar, Jack Jansen, Dick C.A. Bulterman, Tim Stevens, Niko Farber
Accepted Workshop	ACM International Conference on Multimedia (ACM MM) 2012	Socially-Aware Multimedia	29/11/12	Nara, Japan	Pablo Cesar and Doug Williams

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2.4.2 Plans

The following academic papers are in write-up stage and are all, but a book, scheduled to be completed by the end of 2012. (The complete author lists are not published here, as the collaborations are yet to be finalised.

 Table 4
 List of Vconect articles and contributions to magazines and books in write-up stage

Leading Author		Provisional Title	Deadline
Michael Frantzis	International Conference on Interactive Digital Storytelling (ICIDS) 2012	Interactive Video Stories from User Generated Content: A School Concert Use Case	15/07/12 (under review)
Wolfgang Weiss	Forum Medientechnik	Videoconferencing Orchestration	03/09/12
Dick C.A. Bulterman			15/09/12
Pablo Cesar IEEE Multimedia Magazine (IEEE MM)		Conversational Multimedia	15/09/12
Marian Ursu	ACM SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (ACM CHI) 2013	Orchestrated Video Communication: A Persuasive Idea	15/09/12
Jack Jansen	ACM Multimedia Systems Conference (ACM MMSys)	VideoLat: Measuring Perceived Latency in Video Conferencing Systems	17/09/12
Manolis Falelakis			30/10/2012
Rene Kaiser	Springer Multimedia Tools and Applications (MTAP)	Semantic Lifting for Communication Orchestration	30/10/2012



Vilmos	IEEE MM or	NSL: A Declarative Language for Interactive	31/11/2012
Zsombori	ACM TOMCCAP	Narrative Generation	
Erik Geelhoed	Book chapter (tbd)	Vconect's First Exploration of a Performance Space	20/12/2012
Phil	Book by	Performance Research	Spring
Stenton	Taylor&Francis		2013

Apart from the papers in write-up stage, Vconect has a clear agenda plan disseminating the scientific results achieved. This is driven by the experiments listed in Section 2.2. The extensive experimentation plans gives the confidence that significant results will be published. Furthermore, each set of experiments is accompanied by concrete research questions and experimental methodology (for details, please refer to the public deliverable D6.2 *Results Use Case One and Two Trials*⁵).

The main topics on which Vconect will publish results include

- human-computer interaction
- collaborative work
- intelligent interfaces
- social media and the WWW
- games and entertainment
- ubiquitous computing
- digital creativity
- knowledge representation and reasoning
- network optimisation
- multimedia systems
- multimedia applications
- signal processing
- speech processing
- event processing

Conferences targeted by Vconect include: ACM CHI, ACM CSCW, ACM DIS, ACE, ACM MMSys, ACM MM, IUI, ACM DocEng, ACM UbiComp, IEEE ICME, ICIDS, AES, WASASP, ICASSP.

Journals targeted by Vconect include ACM TOCHI, ACM TOMCCAP, IEEE MM, MTAP, IEEE TMM.

⁵ can be downloaded from <u>http://www.vconect-project.eu/publications/deliverables.html</u>

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2.5 Commercial Dissemination

2.5.1 Achievements

In terms of commercial dissemination, Vconect partners have been actively involved in EU FP7related events. Moreover, the project has carried out a number of presentations and demonstrations targeted individuals and groups with influence on commercial decisions.

Regarding FP7-related events, Vconect was represented at:

- Networked Media 8th FP7 Concertation meeting⁶ (Brussels, 13-14 December 2011)
 - Plenary presentation: *Vconect overview*⁷ (Marian Ursu, Goldsmiths College)
 - Presence in two clusters: *3D Immersive Interactive Media* (Marian Ursu) and *User Centric Media* (Doug Williams, BT and Peter Stollenmayer, Eurescom)
- Future Internet Assembly (FIA) Aalborg⁸ (Aalborg, 9-11 May 2012)
 - Presence at the main event (Marian Ursu)
 - Invited talk by Marian Ursu at the associated *FIGARO*, *Smart Living Workshop*⁹ (listed in Section 2.4.1)

On a different thread, Vconect is seeking to establish strong links with commercial partners and to identify exploitation opportunities throughout its lifetime. In its first year, Vconect has explored such opportunities, particularly via its main commercial partners: British Telecom, Alcatel-Lucent-Bell Labs, and SAPO/Portugal Telecom. The research groups from these companies involved in Vconect disseminate internally, in departments closely connected to production and commercialisation, project ideas and results. They influence the decisions taken in the project and increase the profile of the project within their companies. This strategy will continue, but it will be extended to other companies not involved in the Vconect consortium after the first Vconect platform will be released and evaluated in spring 2013.

Further details cannot be provided in this document as they are too closely related to the consortium's exploitation plans which are confidential.

⁶ <u>http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/netmedia/events/concertation-meetings-platform/concertation-meeting/8th-cm/index_en.htm</u>

⁷ <u>http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/events/cf/nm-cm-8/item-display.cfm?id=7576</u>

⁸ <u>http://www.fi-aalborg.eu/</u>

⁹ <u>http://www.fi-aalborg.eu/index.php/program</u>



2.5.2 Plans

Trade shows targeted by Vconect include IFA¹⁰ and CeBit¹¹

Vconect (Fraunhofer) is already committed to exhibit at IFA¹², Consumer Electronics Unlimited, to be held in Berlin from August 31^{st} until September 5th, 2012 (details see section 2.3.2).

Moreover, Vconect will continue to have active presence at the upcoming EU-FP7 events:

- Networked Media events: NEM Summit, Concertation Meetings
- Future Internet Assembly (FIA) Events.

A major milestone concerning commercial dissemination is the completion of the first Vconect platform and its evaluation through end user trials in spring 2013. This will allow the project to showcase and to demonstrate the technological capabilities it develops. These plans will be detailed in the next dissemination deliverable due in June 2013.

¹⁰ http://b2b.ifa-berlin.com/en

¹¹ <u>http://www.cebit.de/home</u>

¹² <u>http://b2b.ifa-berlin.com/en/</u>

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3 Training

Vconect distinguishes between *internal* and *external* training. Internal training is that targeting people who are affiliated with the institutions forming the project consortium. It refers to people directly involved in the project's activities as well as to those who work in different departments. They might not be directly involved in the project, but could benefit from learning about the results produced by the project. External training targets audiences outside the consortium institutions.

As already stated in the introduction, except for the training carried out for people directly involved in the project work, the training activities require more robust results. Therefore, they will kick-in later in the project. The next version of this deliverable, to be published at the end of June 2013, will provide more detail about training.

3.1 Internal training

Internal training has started with a number of undergraduate, MSc and PhD-research students having begun to work in Vconect:

- University College Falmouth (UK) involved a number of undergraduate students studying Theater and Dance in the first Mediate Performance trials; from this point of view they are being trained as "beneficiaries" of the capabilities targeted by Vconect.
- CWI (Netherlands), Fraunhofer (Germany), Goldsmiths College (UK) and Joanneum Research (Austria) have employed a number of Masters and PhD research students in the development of technological capabilities; from this point of view, they are being trained as "developers".

Training, bordering significant dissemination, has taken place within the University College Falmouth (UK), Goldsmiths College (UK) and Joanneum Research (Austria), with activities targeting other (i.e. not directly involved in the project) internal departments of the respective institution. These are expected to generate parallel activities to the Vconect ones, such as complementary research projects, which would, in turn, require actual training in the Vconect capabilities.

3.2 External training

Although this has not been a focus of Vconect, two significant achievements have to be highlighted:

- The tutorial on *Social Interaction Design for Online Video and Television*, at CHI 2012, Austin Texas (led by Pablo Cesar)
- SAPO's link with academic institutions through SAPO LABS¹³, through which the Vconect project has already been exposed (led by Benjamin Junior Junho)

Such opportunities will continue to be exploited, but external training will become more prominent from summer 2013 onwards; that is in the period covered by the second version of this deliverable.

¹³ <u>http://labs.sapo.pt/</u>



4 Standardisation

Standardisation provides an opportunity to spread project results into the market and to influence future developments in the field. Hence, it is considered as a core dissemination activity in Vconect. Many Vconect partners are already active in several standardisation bodies (in particular, MPEG and W3C) and will continue their activities within the project when appropriated.

Nevertheless, as indicated in the introduction, standardisation requires robust results, so it is too early to report concrete achievements. In this period, the partners of Vconect have put their efforts on identifying the most relevant standardisation bodies and opportunities, based on the research topics covered by the project. In particular, so far the following key topics have been identified:

- **MPEG:** Fraunhofer IIS has a long reputation in ISO/IEC MPEG since the standardisation of MP3 in 1992. More recently, the Advanced Audio Coding (AAC) and MPEG Surround formats have been standardised in MPEG with significant contributions from Fraunhofer IIS. AAC-ELD v2 is made up of the communication versions of both standards: AAC-ELD and Low Delay MPEG surround. During Vconect, the intention is to actively contribute to the MPEG reference software (ISO/IEC 23003-2, 14496-5), and amend the MPEG conformance procedure (ISO/IEC 14496-26).
- W3C:
 - CWI has been actively involved in W3C since 1995. During Vconect, CWI sees three opportunities: W3C Linked Data¹⁴ activity and its relationship to social networking; W3C Media Fragments¹⁵ as part of the Video on the Web activity; and standardisation activities related to multimedia composition (HTML5¹⁶, Web-RTC¹⁷).
 - JRS: Claudia Wagner is already contributing to the W3C's Microposts Community Group¹⁸ on behalf of Vconect. Such community is extremely relevant for SAPO's goal of providing integrated social networking experiences.

As indicated before, these are preliminarily plans that will be concretized as more results become available. In the coming months, Vconect will actively explore further opportunities within different standardisation bodies (e.g., IETF, DVB, 3GPP). The next version of this deliverable, to be published at the end of June 2013, will provide more details about standardisation.

¹⁴ http://www.w3.org/standards/semanticweb/data

¹⁵ <u>http://www.w3.org/2008/WebVideo/Fragments/</u>

¹⁶ <u>http://www.w3.org/html/wg/</u>

¹⁷ <u>http://www.w3.org/2011/04/webrtc/</u>

¹⁸ <u>http://www.w3.org/community/microposts/</u>

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5 Conclusions

This deliverable outlined the dissemination, training and standardisation activities carried out so far in Vconect and the plans for the coming year, until June 2013.

As the project has only just passed its first six months, dissemination activities were the ones in focus. Training, particularly that carried out outside the project's consortium, and standardisation require more robust results, therefore they will be more prominently represented in the second version of this deliverable, to be published in June 2013.

The consortium has already completed a good number of dissemination activities, for all the three main categories of target audiences: general public, academics and commercial audiences. The clear plan of experiments formulated in Vconect for the following year, which lead the development of technological capabilities, also provide the backbone for further dissemination activities. Dissemination channels and future dissemination goals have been clearly delineated in this deliverable.

External training and standardisation activities will receive more attention in the next version of this deliverable, due in June 2013.