

DIRECTORY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGICAL COMPETENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA

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Intellectual property is a strategic resource, which determines success of a company in the 21st century. In order to solve a set of problems, a company may often require advice and services of an expert. However, it can be rather difficult to find a suitable person qualified in the specific field of expertise. On the other hand, it may be difficult for the specialist to find new clients. In order to enlarge the client range, a specialist needs to advertise his/her services.

Directory of competencies is a public service, which allows to find information about leading scientists of the University of Latvia in a required field. It also contains information about the services that scientists of the University of Latvia (LU) can offer to the potential customers, such as consultations, problem field research, a set of expertise and laboratory analyses, etc.

The directory of competencies opens new opportunities to the effective collaboration between scientists of the University of Latvia and the public sector, the investors, international organizations, communication media and everyone who may be generally interested in science. Therefore, it promotes research results into commercial sector, as well as further advancement of science in LU and capital formation to scientific projects.

Developed system can be divided into two modules. The first module, or data preparation module, is accessible only by LU stuff. This module is designed for data preparation and is implemented as the part of Latvian University Information System (LUIS). Data preparation module is developed using Oracle Application Server and Oracle DBMS. The second module, or the publication module, is accessible by everyone interested in information about LU scientists and available services in the field of science. This module is designed as a presentation of the data prepared in the first module and is implemented as the part of LU portal using Java technologies.

Directory of competencies was successfully implemented in May 2006. At the moment it is used by Academic and Planning Department of the University of Latvia.

This paper describes the development process of science and technological competence directory at the University of Latvia. It also considers the technologies utilized for project development and examines some problems of implementation.

This paper also mentions possible future improvements and possible additions to the system.