

“Automating communication”

Agroscope, part of the Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture, exists of several agricultural research centres focused on developing the scientific and technical means to ensure efficient farming in a way that is respectful of the environment and economically viable. One of these research centres, Agroscope Changins-Wädenswil ACW, is occupied with research concerning all kinds of plant production, from grasses to grapes, including the protection of plants, the growth of trees, horticulture, agriculture and genetic manipulation. Agroscope Changins installed Netpresenter on the computers of its more than 200 employees.

“No more complaints!”

Most of the employees are out of the office a lot. Therefore they cannot check their e-mails regularly. “When returning to the office, researchers and other employees Netpresenter shows important information automatically on their screen, without the need for a search on the intranet. If they are interested in the message, they just have to click the hyperlink and instantly see the full article on the intranet or in a PowerPoint presentation on their screen,” says Daniel Joggi, manager of the information and communication department. Netpresenter is used to inform staff on messages from the top management, but also for the communication of new guidelines.

Thanks to the screensaver, employees stay up to date of planned activities. They for instance get informed when certain information systems are temporarily not working. According to Daniel Joggi, unread e-mails frequently got binned, including e-mails concerning system malfunctions, which resulted in a lot of unnecessary complaints. “E-mail clearly wasn’t the right kind of medium to get the message across. The screensaver is more effective. Since we use Netpresenter, everybody is informed. There are no more complaints.”



Netpresenter Screensaver at Agroscope

“Easy to update information!”

When the screensaver is active, a Netpresenter menu appears. The security of Windows is active inside Netpresenter, which means that when someone clicks a link, they first have to log in with a password.

At this moment, one employee is responsible for the content. He uses Netpresenter Editor software to update the news. All the old content and messages stay available within Netpresenter and are easy to find via a link to the archive.

Daniel Joggi plans to expand the use of Netpresenter. Therefore he wants to install the Netpresenter Message Server. With the Message Server it is easy for all the departments to import their messages directly into the Netpresenter presentation through the use of Internet Explorer. The messages appear directly on the screensaver of every computer that uses the Agroscope channel of Netpresenter.

Joggi also wants to integrate channels on department level: "The content of each subchannel will be filled in by the particular department. As an example, this would enable the technical team warn everybody directly with the Emergency Alert function in Netpresenter when the water has been cut off."

Agroscope

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www.blw.admin.ch

Sector

Agricultural research

Challenge

Inform staff on messages from the top management and for the communication of new guidelines. E-mail proved not to be the right medium.

Solution

An interactive screensaver with the key internal news items, including messages from top management, new guidelines and news for the departments.

Benefits

Staff is better informed because important information is automatically published on all screens. All departments can supply news.