



PDS Home Page

Engineering Node

August 13, 2007

<http://pds.nasa.gov/>



Topics



- Status
- User Interface Input
- Issues Not Addressed
- Proposed Resolutions
- Visual Design Options
- Next Steps



Status



- Use cases and L4 requirements were finalized in April.
- Implementation work plan was presented to the MC in May.
- User interface, search prototype and usability test plan were reviewed in May.
- Feedback being addressed, some have been incorporated into mockup and prototype.
- System design review was held in July.
- System implementation is in progress.
- Visual design peer reviewed by the working group in early August.



User Interface Input



- Received input primarily from SBN, PPI, Rings, and NAIF
 - 36 issues raised (plus 4 duplicates)
 - All issues now tracked in EN defect-tracking system
- Key issues addressed (18)
 - Search category and layout problems (PDS-3,5,7,24,37,38)
 - Other search suggestions (PDS-30,41)
 - Search result pages (“real” mockups) (PDS-28)
 - Navigation suggestions and improvements (PDS-9,20,36)
 - Layout & organization issues (PDS-14,15,17,22)
 - “Won’t fix” (PDS-18,19) (need to confirm with authors)
- Issues deferred to implementation (8)
 - Target/type & instrument/type hierarchy (PDS-26,27)
 - Target name search/autocompletion (PDS-4)
 - Aliases for target names (PDS-34)
 - Especially relevant for Small Bodies
 - Other search improvements (PDS-6,8,35)
 - Need Node input/help (PDS-11)



Issues Not Addressed (10 of 36)



- **Stylistic preferences (probably don't affect usability much) (3)**
 - Node links (PDS-2,10)
 - “Users should not see links to Nodes”, “Page should have Node links”
 - Link repetition (PDS-8)
 - “Remove all duplicate links” (but almost all sites have some duplicates)
- **What is PDS's audience? (2)**
 - Nonscientific audiences (PDS-12)
 - Photojournal link on home page (PDS-13)
 - “Photojournal is not a PDS site: move to Related Sites”
- **Scope of content (1)**
 - “I wonder if we should have documentation on things other than proposing and data preparation” (PDS-16)
- **Catalog/Node inconsistencies -- Large number of comments (4)**
 - Missing data sets (PDS-31,32)
 - Superseded datasets (PDS-29)
 - Incorrect targets (TNO vs. asteroid, e.g.) (PDS-31)
 - Strange targets (PDS-40)
 - E.g., a mission snaps a few very-long-distance shots of a body, perhaps during calibration



Proposed Resolutions



- **Links to PDS Nodes**
 - *Do* show as a menu on main page
 - “PDS Nodes” or “PDS Web Sites” or ?
 - *Do* make PDS federated structure more clear on Home Page
 - *Do not* promote Node home pages as a search destination
 - On main search page, do not suggest visiting Node home pages
 - *Do* suggest visiting Node search tools
- **PDS Audience**
 - *Do* address nonscientific audience on home page, by encouraging them to go elsewhere
 - Photojournal, etc.
 - *Do* make it more clear that PDS Home Page is for scientists
 - *Do not* address nonscientific audiences further within the site



More Proposed Resolutions

- **Scope of Content**
 - Encourage Nodes to suggest further content/topics
 - Help Nodes create new content (perhaps in Phase 2)
 - Solicit suggestions for more content during usability testing
- **Catalog/Node Inconsistencies**
 - Two viewpoints encountered:
 - Central catalog will never be right, and it's too much work to correct, vs.
 - Catalog *must be correct*, else what is our business?
 - *Suggest* latter viewpoint is more useful, but will take time/effort to achieve
 - EN will work on more automated way of maintaining central catalog, e.g.
 - Consistent storage structure at Nodes would be helpful
 - Make sure there is a URL to all holdings of Node, in archived format
 - *Do not* show superseded data sets as search results (except for explicit search using ID)
 - *Do* make data sets available earlier in central catalog



Visual Design Options



- Four options distributed

This mockup features a dark blue header with the NASA logo and a search bar. A prominent red sidebar on the left contains navigation links for various scientific fields. The main content area is divided into three columns: Researchers, Data Preparers, and Reviewers & Proposers, each with a list of links. A 'New Releases' section is located at the bottom left.

NASA-inspired

This mockup has a clean, white layout with a blue header. It features a large 'Welcome to the Planetary Data System' section with a detailed introductory paragraph. Below this, there are three columns of links for Researchers, Data Preparers, and Reviewers & Proposers. A 'New Releases' section is on the right side.

Plain

This mockup uses a light blue and white color scheme. It includes a search bar and navigation tabs at the top. A large 'Welcome to the PDS' section is followed by a grid of links for Researchers, Data Preparers, and Reviewers & Proposers. A 'New Releases' section is on the left side.

PDS-inspired

This mockup features a dark gray header and a light gray main content area. It includes a search bar and navigation tabs. A large 'Welcome to the PDS' section is followed by a grid of links for Researchers, Data Preparers, and Reviewers & Proposers. A 'New Releases' section is on the right side.

Gray



Next Steps



- Finalize visual design based on input from the MC (August, 2007)
- Complete implementation and integration (October, 2007)
- Complete testing (November, 2007)
- Generate test report and review test results with Tech Staff (December, 2007)
- Present review result and demo to the MC (January, 2008)
- Release (February, 2008)