# The RAI-NC Weblog Pilot

## A Case Study in Utilizing Weblog Technology to Accelerate the Test & Evaluation Process

A Department of Defense CIO Office Initiative

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# The RAI-NC Weblog Pilot Kickoff

**Oct 7 2003 John Stenbit, CIO Department of Defense announces winners of DOD wide RAI-NC Pilots,** including the *Test & Evaluation Weblog* proposal for DOD Project Management Offices sponsored by NUWC / ONR / DAU. This is one of four pilots (from 120 applicants) funded in FY 2004.

*"The solution provides a secure, low-cost alternative for centralizing daily communications in a web-based environment. The tool is universal in its applicability and can benefit all DoD components, program offices, and business functional areas"*

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# *What's an Enterprise Weblog?*

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# Personal Weblogs

Designed for “Individuals with an Attitude”
One voice per weblog

- Write what you think - easily
- Add notes using your browser
- Weblog server shows notes in time order
- Anyone with a web browser can read
- Links from other weblogs and search engines can make you famous!

# Enterprise Weblogs

## Designed for “Groups with a Goal”

***Traction’s unique Journal supports working communication and information sharing, in context, over time.***

Organized by Group, Importance, Topic, Time

- Project spaces have permissions, more private vs. more public
- Individuals see union of all activity, based on permissions

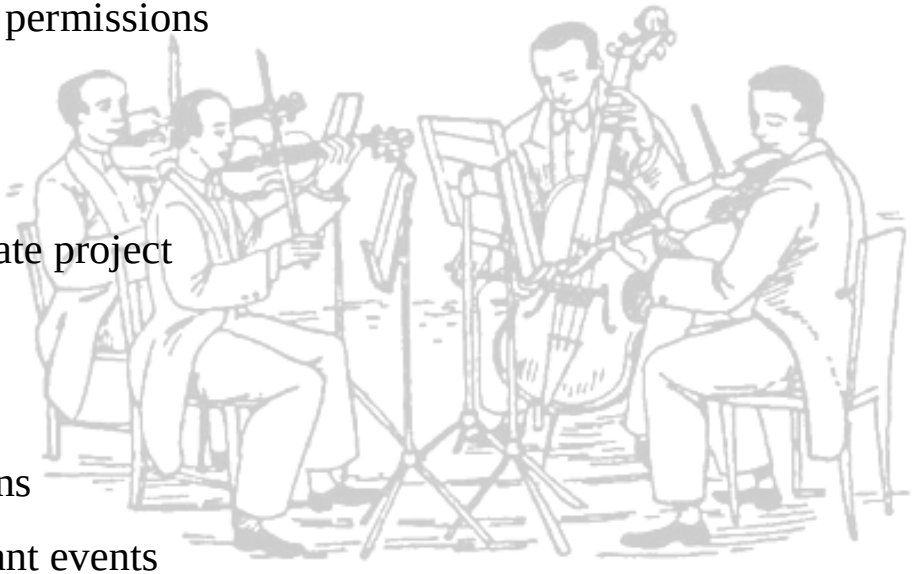
Overlapping Content

- Single article can appear in multiple projects
- Comment on public article can appear in private project

Always up to date

- All views are dynamic
- Search results are current and obey permissions
- Can deliver immediate notification of important events

Quick and easy to deploy, Simple to use



# Pilot Background

The Need:

- Lower the cost structure for Test & Evaluation - technology overload
- Focus on rapid assessment of capabilities - requires knowledge from the front lines
- Fuse the knowledge of end users to shorten the learning curve - expedites the speed to capability

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**System Integrator**
Migrates raw technology to application specific system

**Test Community**
DoD Services and First Responders, searching for the best tools for the job

**The RAI-NC WEBLOG Pilot**

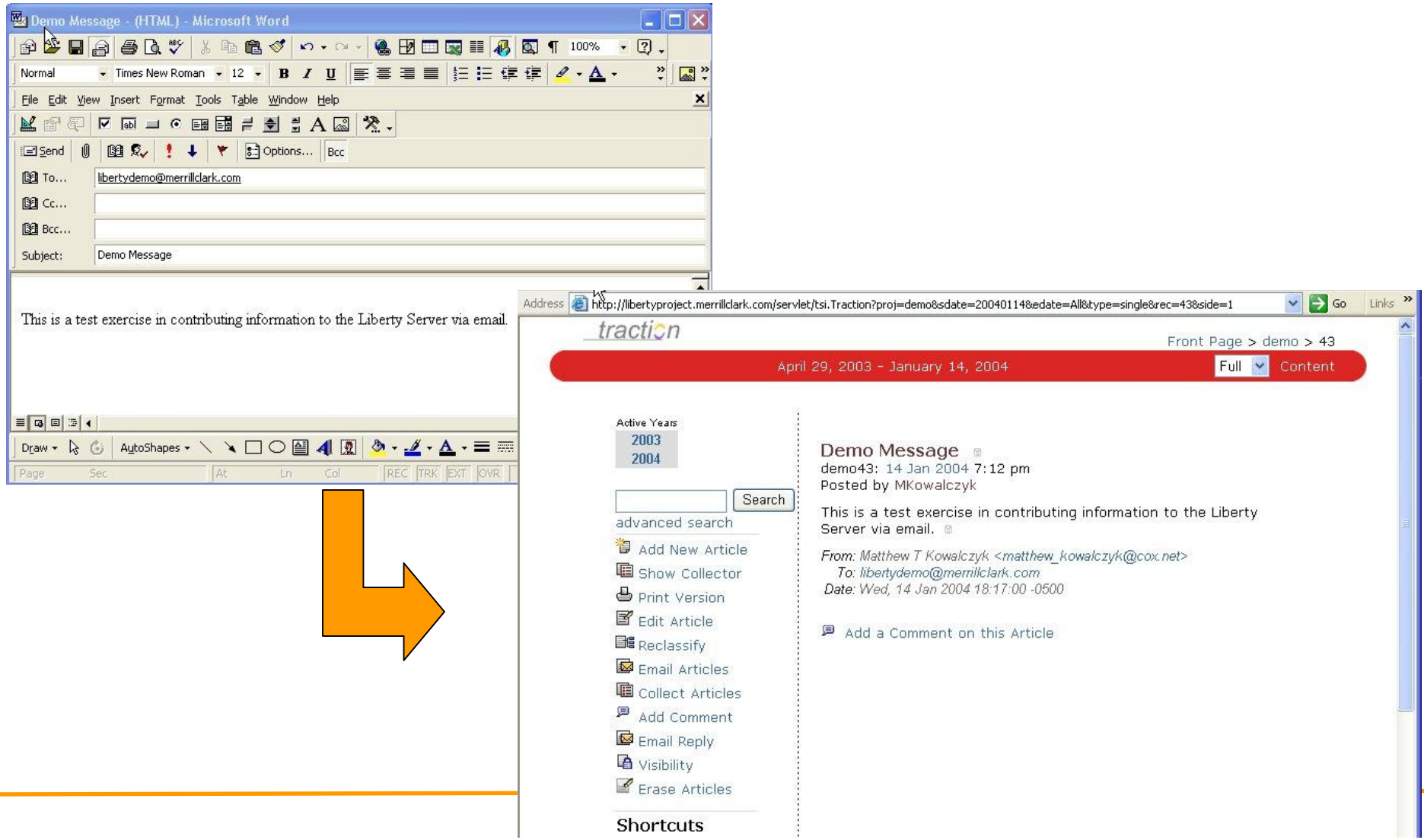
**Commercial Providers**
Interested in developing and expanding markets

**R&D Entities**
Subject matter experts, vested interest in ongoing technology development

# The User Perspective

## G8 Summit Use Case and Highlights

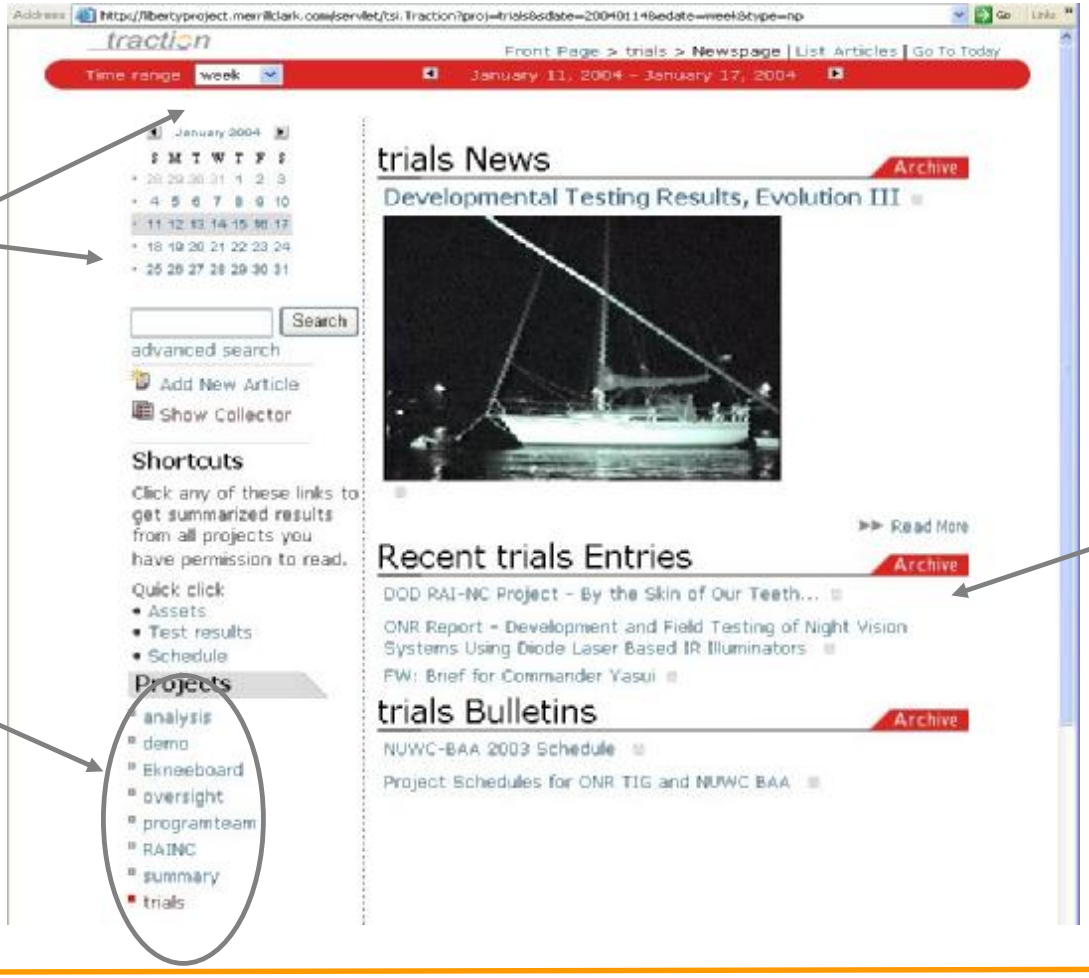
# Publishing via Email



# Pilot Weblog Structure

The News Page View is fully scalable for any time slice

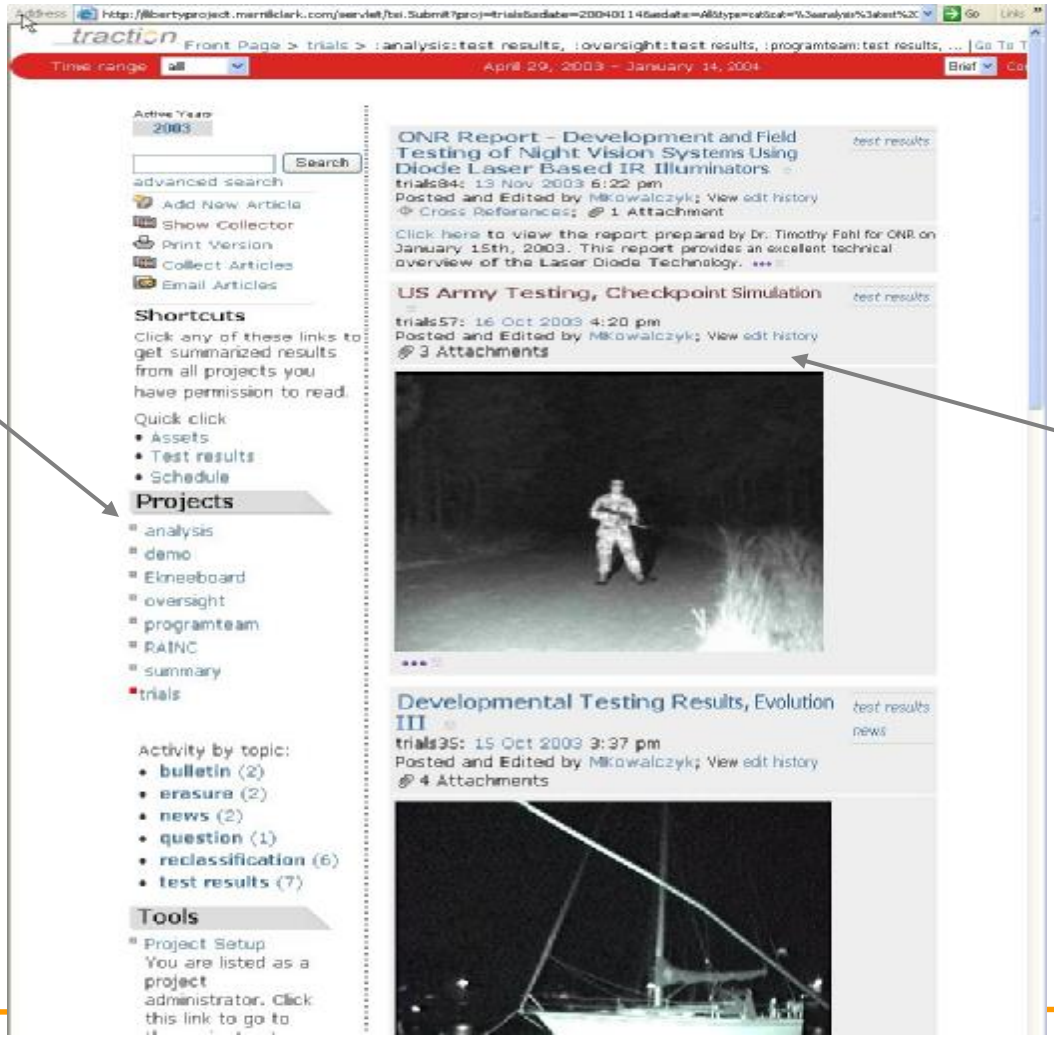
Project are analogous to sections of a newspaper, currently we are on the Trials Front Page




Entries self-populate by date and classification

# Accessing Test Results

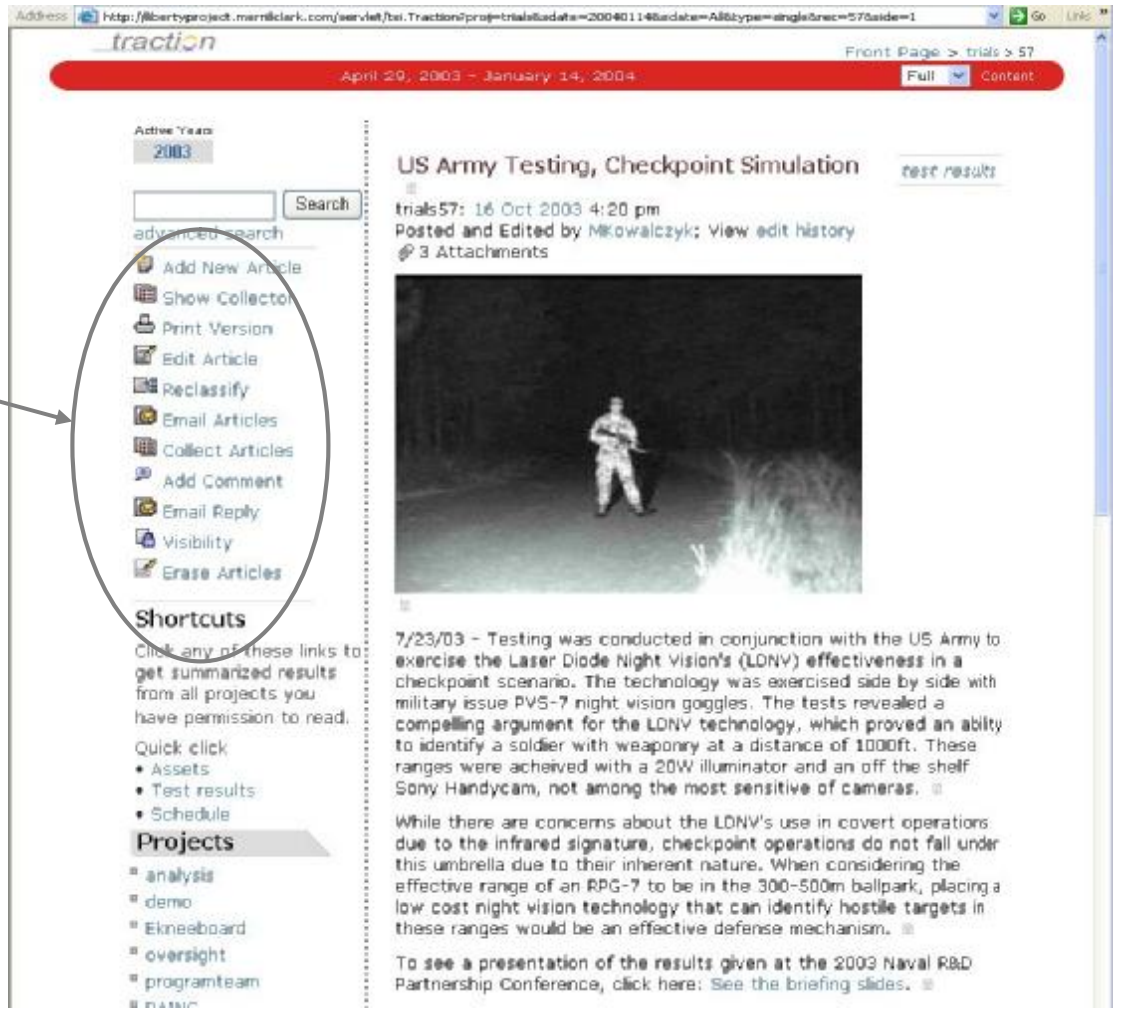
Items categorized with the “Test Results” label are instantly assembled to predefined shortcuts




Clicking on the nested headline brings the user to the full article

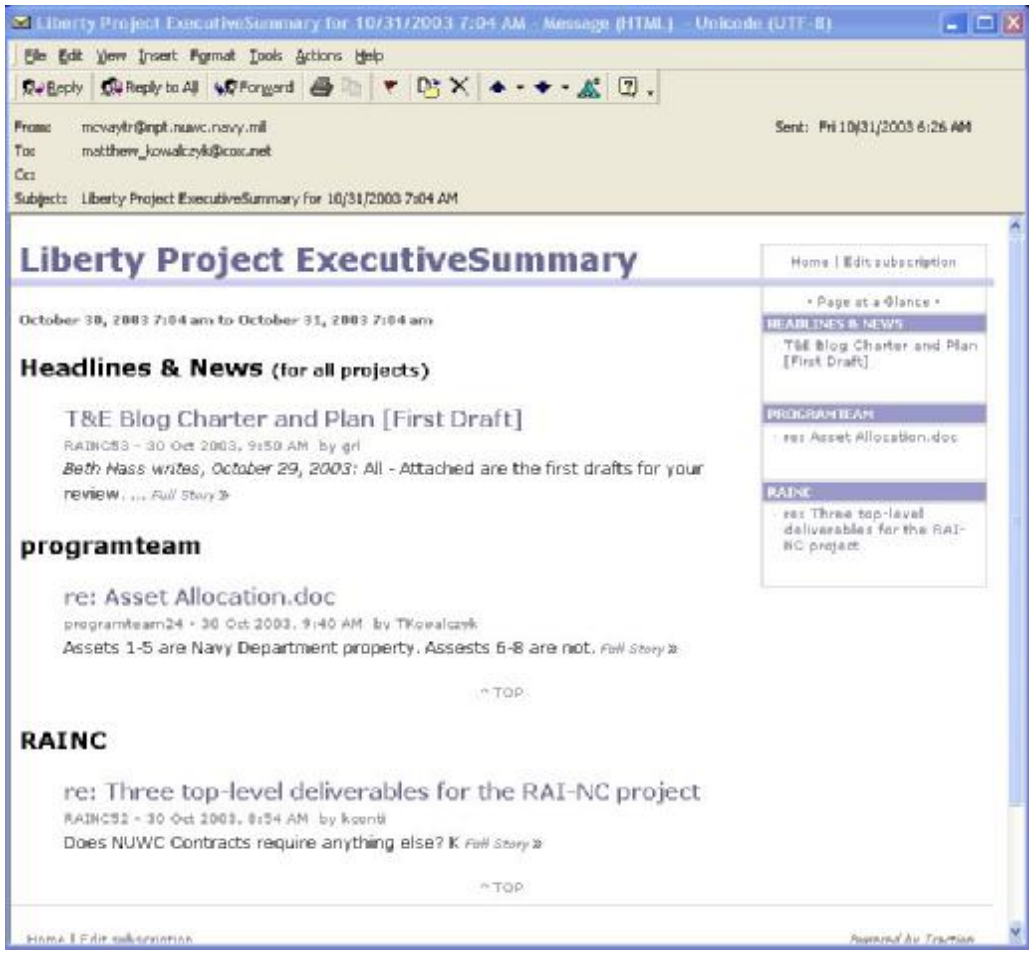
# Article Interface

Once in the article interface, the software allows the user to perform a host of functions (per permissions) including the ability to add nested comments, add links to other articles, or email the article to non-subscribers. This interactive ability fosters information flow and connectivity across a program team.



# The Executive Summary

The Executive Summary serves as a daily rundown of new information in the project, delivered via email. It is delivered only when there is new content, and filtered to the projects that a user has subscriptions to.



# *Situational Awareness*

The Executive Summary and RSS aggregator give the PM a pulse on project activities, without labor intensive manual report generation.

**Executive Summary** – A daily snapshot of new project information, automatically compiled and delivered through email

**RSS Aggregator** – A locally installed applications that surveys the weblog at 15 minute intervals and alerts when new information becomes available

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# *Direct Access to Project Information*

•The PM is a click away from accessing the latest snapshots of program information. Hyperlinks to the weblog space are dynamic, delivering the latest content and updates autonomously.

- •Action Items
- •Project Deliverables
- •Expenditures
- •Project Documents
- •Communications (both formal and informal)

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# T&E Weblog Results

- *50% Reduction in Time Expended for Electronic Communications Management (End-user)*
- *75% Reduction in Status Reporting Process*
- *29% Reduction in Total Ownership Costs*
- *89% Reduction in Bandwidth Usage*

T&E Weblog Opportunity Analysis (DoD Final Report)
December 2004 FOUO

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# Benefits Summary

-Ease of use, works like the web, new partners are easily brought up to speed

-Manages project data in an organized, searchable manner, accessible from any web connection

-Delivers the right data to the right people, minimizes information overflow, filters content and use through permissions

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