

# Relaunch of the FGF Website

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**The relaunched and restructured FGF Website with extended content is online since January 2008. This article will give a brief overview on the updated FGF website for those, who haven't visited them yet.**

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Forschungsgemeinschaft Funk e.V. (FGF) website. The header includes the logo and the text 'Research Association for Radio Applications'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- RESEARCH PROJECTS:** Includes links for Literature and Content, Exposure and Technology, In-vitro Studies, Human Studies, and Workshops.
- BACKGROUND:** Includes links for Biology/Medicine, Technology, Risk Communication, and Miscellaneous Topics.
- PUBLICATIONS:** Includes links for Newsletter, InfoLine, Edition Wissenschaft, Annual Reports, and ABOUT FGF (Objectives, Organisation, Project Allocation).
- SERVICES:** Includes links for Event Calendar, Media, Link Collection, Subscription FGF, and Publications.

News articles are displayed in a grid format, including:

- FMK/FGF information meeting: Genetic damage through mobile radio?** (07.08.2008) - A meeting in Vienna (Austria) on September 17th to discuss genetic effects of radio applications.
- BITF review of much discussed mobile radio studies** (05.07.2008) - A review of studies on the potential health effects of radiofrequency electromagnetic fields.
- Monograph: "Depulste Felder – eine besondere Gefahr für die Gesundheit?" (German only)** (27.06.2008) - A book about pulsed fields and their potential health risks.

The requirements to be met by a modern website are manifold: Up-to-date information and accessible to people with disabilities, interactivity and speed, information density and intuitive usability. With its relaunched website, the FGF wants to comply to these current requirements and simplify the path to relevant information on the topic of mobile communication and the environment - since the best information service is useless, if the relevant information cannot be found.

With the relaunch of the FGF website the numerous additions and additional functions which have been implemented since the last relaunch in 2001 are

combined under a uniform structure. New contents and services were added to the former version. The restructured navigation gives a overview on the comprehensive scope of information and provides a constant orientation to the user on his position in the system as in the previous version, the scientific discussion and the complex research work on the effects of electromagnetic fields on humans and the environment are in the focus of the FGF website. Focal points of information are:

- the FGF research effort
- the compact information units on many single topics from biology, technology and risk communication in the expanded column „Background“
- the archive of all FGF publications.

All documents and information of the former version can be found on the new pages too. But except the homepage, all pages got new web addresses due to the reorganisation. Therefore links to FGF pages have to be updated.

## What's new - the details

### Clear structure - additional functions

All current informations are presented on the home page at a glance: news from science and society, current events, new special articles and own statements of the FGF. All other information units and services can be reached with just a few clicks via the navigation system. The additional „breadcrumb navigation“ on the top of each page indicates the user's location in the system and the path he has taken to the correspondent page. This second navigation shall especially support users led by search engines to single FGF webpages to get an survey of the entire information structure. After all, 9 of 10 visitors of the FGF webpages comes this way.



Frequently used elements such as „Search“, „Sitemap“, „Contact“ as well as the individual adjustment of the font size according to the established web standards are located at the top of each page. The function to switch quickly between English and German language is new here.

Technical terms in the text are directly linked to a descriptive glossary entry. These links to the glossary of the EMF portal were provided with the support of the Aachen Research Center for Bioelectromagnetic Interaction (femu).

### New contents - new service

The following services on topics around the issue of possible effects of electromagnetic fields are new in the online information of the FGF:

- deep linking in the column „Background“: The information units on single scientific topics now also include hyperlinks to the web that allow more insight whereas the user is not referred to the home page of the correspondent information source, but directly to the topic-relevant content, hence the name „deep linking“. The

FGF special articles are thus part of a comprehensive and differentiated information network.

- comprehensive link collection: The collection currently includes more than 150 commented hyperlinks to national and international authorities, organizations and institutions who are engaged in the topic of EMCE at a scientific level. The respective description offers orientation before the hyperlink is clicked on, so the visitor can pre-estimate where he is going to.
- online press information: journalists will find here comprehensive information and facts about the FGF and its work, comprising a digital profile map, the press-information archive as well as contact form.

### Continuous updating and development

The only constant on the web is change - technical development, new information sources, new applications determine its use.

So the FGF website is not static either, but is continuously expanded to a complex portal on the topic of mobile communication and the environment. What does this mean concretely? Besides being continuously expanded by the implementation of weekly Infoline-news and professional articles from the quarterly Newsletter, especially the column „Background“ will systematically be enlarged by further chapters on detail issues. Herewith the FGF wants to emphasize the complexity of research and social discussion about the topic of mobile communication and the environment, at the same time offering orientation in handling the flood of information - so the available knowledge on the web can be found more easily and be used better.

„We are drowning in information but starved for knowledge.“ This quote of John Naisbitt, an American author in the area of futures studies makes clear what this is about. The media are filled with data and information - what is lacking is the organization of information, e.g. linking information with established knowledge inventories.

Due to its mission, the FGF in its work and by its online information wants to contribute to this: linking up scientific data to become information and information to become knowledge.



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