

GammaWiki (and GammaForum)
as a source of information
on gamma spectrometry

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Background

- After the GammaSem seminar 2009 various working groups were formed
- The Icelandic Radiation Safety Authority (IRSA) offered to contribute setting up:
 - **GammaForum**, a web based discussion forum where ideas within working groups could be presented and developed
 - **GammaWiki**, a wiki based web where output from the working groups could be presented, as well as other relevant material



Managing policy

- Various forms of editorial control are possible on (wiki) webs, e.g.:
 - a) **Anybody** can input material, but it is subject to review by some type of editor or editorial board
 - b) The **editorial board** (here: the working groups) are responsible for inputting material

Option (b) was selected (**less work for me**)



Advantages of wiki webs

- **Familiar user interface** (like Wikipedia)
- **Easy to input** information (text, tables, PDF files, images) and make links to outside webs
 - Appearance is controlled by the system based on a few formatting commands.
 - Automatic indexing if a page gets long
- **Powerful search** (web is kept in a database, its content is indexed)
 - All pages containing any given word can quickly be found



Beginning of use

- Development was done by ISRA system manager using known freeware packages, ISRA pays for hosting web site.
- GammaWiki and GammaForum were introduced at the GammaSem 2010 planning meeting **18-19 March**. Instructions on use were given and passwords distributed.
- How has the use been?
Let's take a look!
- <https://www.gr.is/forum/GammaForum/>
- <https://www.gr.is/wiki/GammaWiki/>



GammaForum

- No (proper) use
- Thanks though, Stefan, for registering!
- Not surprising
 - The ICRM Gamma-Ray Spectrometry Working Group Forum at:
 - http://laraweb.free.fr/forum_GRS/
- seems to be almost inactive as well



GammaWiki

- No material has been put in by anyone apart from webmaster
- Material was however received
 - Initial material from Seppo Klemola
 - Rajdeep Sidhu provided PowerPoint slides from the ALMERA workshop
- Very positive comments have however been received (thank you!)
- I would like to demonstrate to you how easy it is to use GammaWiki
- **Chairman: Please let me know when I have 3 minutes left!**



Conclusions

- Web forums can be an efficient way of exchanging information within a group that uses the forum **regularly**.
- This does **not** seem to be the case here.
- It is therefore recommended that **GammaForum should be shut down, unless argument to the contrary are presented.**
- GammaWiki does not depend on active use, its usefulness increases as more material is put in.
- **Should GammaWiki be continued?**
- **Thank you!**

