

Training of Tutors Workshop on Advanced EasyNow

The Objectives

A trainers workshop was conducted on Easy Now in Wawasan Open University, Penang. The participants were drawn from Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Maldives, Malaysia and India. The workshop was conducted during June 21st - 24th, 2010.

The objectives:

- To create team of trainers
- To include enhanced/advanced list of Easy Now packages
- To introduce other open source operating systems like UBUNTU
- To bring in supports of WIKI-Educator and other course management supports like Moodle
- To create new ODL format

There were twenty participants attending the workshop who will be future trainers of Easy Now.

The following are the guidelines followed:

Workshop Takeaways for CEMCA:

An enhanced/advanced Easy Now package;
A team of Trainers in the region;
A successful (as in tested) workshop methodology

For participants:

An enhanced/advanced Easy Now package;
A successful (as in tested) workshop methodology with scope for customisation
An opportunity to operationalise Easy Now in a relevant manner in their institution
An opportunity to work with CEMCA as an expert

The Report

This report covers the list of packages covered, including the new enhanced list and also products tested, found useful and suggested by the participants. The participants list, the schedule followed and other relevant material are also included. Apart from this, the workshop methodology was discussed and a new ODL format suggested which is included here.

All participants were given password and server space has been allotted to operationalise Easy Now in their institution.

In general TEXT/AUDIO/VIDEO coverages have been accepted, an improved ODL format has been suggested.

Products revised

We have covered the usual products. The reason being few participants were new to EasytNow, apart from that there are newer versions for most of the products like Open Office and Any Video converter.

Open office current version:

OpenOffice.org 3 is the result of over twenty years' software engineering. Designed from the start as a single piece of software, it has a consistency other products cannot match. A completely open development process means that anyone can report bugs, request new features, or enhance the software. The result: OpenOffice.org 3 does everything you want your office software to do, the way you want it.

Download URL: http://www.openoffice.org/OOo_3.2.0_Win_x86_install-wJRE_en-GB.exe

TextAloud:

TextAloud is Text to Speech software that converts your text from MS Word Documents, Emails, Web Pages and PDF Files into natural-sounding speech. one can listen in PC or create audio files for use on portable devices like iPods, PocketPCs and CD players. TextAloud even has automatic iTunes/iPod syncing.

Download URL: <http://www.nextup.com/TA2321.exe>

Espeak another Text to Audio Product:
Espeak-1.43.03-win.zip

Audacity:

Audacity® is free, open source software for recording and editing sounds. It is available for Mac OS X, Microsoft Windows, GNU/Linux, and other operating systems.

The latest release of Audacity is [1.3.12 \(Beta\)](#). This is our active "work in progress" version with our latest features. Documentation and translations into different languages are not quite complete. We recommend this version for more advanced users, and for everyone on Windows 7, Windows Vista and Mac OS X 10.6. .

Download URL: <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/Audacity-win-1.2.6.exe>

Any Video Converter:

AVC is an All-in-One video converting tool with easy-to-use graphical interface, fast converting speed and excellent video quality. It can convert video files from mpg, avi, divX, mpg, vob, wmv (Windows Media Video formats), 3gp (mobile phone format), asf, mov, rmvb and more into mp4, avi, mpeg and wmv files.

With Any Video Converter you can convert your video files into the formats you need to watch on TV, put on a website, create a presentation, watch on your iPod and much more.

Download URL: <http://www.any-video-converter.com/>
Avc-free.exe

CDex - Open Source Digital Audio CD Extractor

The current version is a bug fix release to CDex 1.70 Beta 3 and features many internal and encoder updates. It is recommended that user may update to this version.

The installer includes the Microsoft Visual C++ 2005 Service Pack 1 Re-distributable Package ATL Security Update, which fixes an initialization errors also.

Download URL: <http://cdexos.sourceforge.net/>
CDex-win32-1.70-b4-2009.exe

Universal Media Player VLC:

The media player that fills all your needs. It can handle DVDs, (S)VCDs, Audio CDs, web streams, TV cards and much more. It plays everything.

VLC has all codecs built-in. It comes with support for nearly all codec there is. We need not download and install codecs.

And what is more it can even play back the file or media if it is damaged! Missing or broken pieces are no stop to VLC, it plays all the video and audio information that's still intact.

Download URL: <http://www.videolan.org/vlc/>
Vlc-1.0.5-win32.exe

The new products covered are:

PPT to AVI converters:

If one has a PowerPoint presentation that one wants to share with the world or to easily carry along, converting powerpoint to flash is the way to go.

A flash video is highly-compatible with major operating systems, web-friendly, and far more entertaining than a series of slides your readers have to flick through.

Here below find a list of all the pros you have if you opt to convert ppt to flash:

Download URL:
<http://opensource.software.informer.com/download-opensource-convert-powerpoint-to-flash/>
Smart-ppt-converter-setup.exe

Photoshop equivalent:

GIMP is an acronym for GNU Image Manipulation Program. It is a freely distributed program for such tasks as photo retouching, image composition and image authoring.

It has many capabilities. It can be used as a simple paint program, an expert quality photo retouching program, an online batch processing system, a mass production image renderer, an image format converter, etc.

GIMP is expandable and extensible. It is designed to be augmented with plug-ins and extensions to do just about anything. The advanced scripting interface allows everything from the simplest task to the most complex image manipulation procedures to be easily scripted.

Download URL: <http://www.gimp.org/Gimp-help-2-2.6.0-en-setup.exe>

Radical Image Optimization Tool

Radical Image Optimization Tool (RIOT for short) is a free image optimizer that will let you to visually adjust compression parameters while keeping minimum filesize.

It uses with a side by side (dual view) or single view interface to compare the original with the optimized image in real time and instantly see the resulting file size.

It is lightweight, fast and simple to use, yet powerful for advanced users. You will be able to control compression, number of colors, metadata settings and much more, and sele

Download URL:
<http://luci.criosweb.ro/riot/>
Riot-setup.zip

Further Linux/Ubuntu products covered:

Openshot_wizard_1.0.6.tar.gz
Skype-ubuntu-intrepid_2.1.0.81-1_i386.deb

Further Products suggested by participants:

Open source software which the participants had used and shared at the workshop which I though could be useful to all in terms of content creation and delivery.

Crazy Talk - Animated talking head which can be used for delivering audible content

Download URL : : <http://www.reallusion.com/crazytalk/>

Hot Potatoes - Learning object creation tool for creating quizzes/puzzles etc...

Download URL : <http://hotpot.uvic.ca>

Team Viewer - A remote access application which you can use to share your desktop with others or your home PC in real time.

Download URL : <http://www.teamviewer.com/index.aspx>

Justin.TV - A live broadcast of streaming video which you can use to do tutorials etc...

Down Load URL: <http://www.justin.tv/>

Wikieducator - A wiki specifically for learning www.wikieducator.org

UBUNTU: Super-fast and great-looking, Ubuntu is a secure, intuitive operating system that powers desktops, servers, netbooks and laptops. Ubuntu is, and always will be, absolutely free. Created by the best open-source experts from all over the world, Ubuntu is available in 24 languages and ready for download today.

Download URL: <http://www.ubuntu.com/>

Sites suggested by Dr. Sanjay Jasola:

hippocampus.org

freeRice.com

visiblebody.com

nonleprize.org/educational

edheads.org/activities/hip

fas.org/immuneattack

goanimate.com

classtools.net

goanimate.com

wordle.net

exelearning.com

courselab.com

wiziq.com

dimdim.com

lamsinternational.com

Mr. Ishan Abeywardena
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His opinion:

[EasyNow](#) is a 'concept' where largely Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) / technologies are used to create learning material which can be efficiently delivered over the internet. [EasyNow](#) stresses on the word 'efficiently' as this is crucial for the successful access of these materials by the students in countries like India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Maldives and Bangladesh (which were the countries represented in the workshop) where bandwidth is still a costly commodity.

Throughout the past few days, many techniques were introduced in terms of optimising audio, video and textual content to be delivered online so that even very slow connections can access these materials without much delay or loss of quality. Although the use of these techniques were eye opening, some of them are not directly applicable to the WOU scenario as we are not a conventional face to face university which conducts classrooms.

However these techniques will be very helpful to us at WOU in terms of using multimedia for enriching our learning materials which are put on the course material CDs and WawasanLearn. You can get an understanding of these techniques from the [EasyNow](#) website and also from the printed material which I will be handing over to the library.

ODL format

A new ODL format template has been created. After my return from the Penang trip, we have discussed and a format evolved will be put on Eduframe site.

Activities	Text Content	Multi Media
	Content recall links	Teacher/Learner Interaction
	Reference Links:	

The strategy has been worked.

The Participants

The participants are drawn from India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Maldives and Malaysia.

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Day I: Monday, June 21st, 2010

Session	Time	Theme	Expert participation
	0815	Registration	
One	830-930-	Inauguration	Introduction to Workshop WaWasan Representatives About CEMCA By CEMCA Respresentative The Purpose of Seminar CEMCA Respresentative
	930 - 945	Tea Break	
	1000-1100	Introduction of Participants	Pre-Workshop Expectations (Fill Form) CEMCA Respresentative
Two	1130-1200	General Introduction to EasyNow	V Krishna Moorthy (Discussion cum Lecture)
Three	1200-1330	Multiple Deliverables / Open Source software/Current trends – An introduction	Mr. Krishna Moorthy (Lecture cum Demonstration)
	1330-1430	Lunch Break	
Four	1430-1500	Division of Participants into groups and submission of group wise finalised Activity)	Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy CEMCA Representative (Co-ordination & Guidance)
Five	1500-1530	Textual document handling and delivery modes (New documents and existing documents)	Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy (Lecture) Intro to http://w3schools.com/ Introduction to Website Management objects
	1530-1545	Tea Break	
Six	1545-1645	A Live classroom Lecture	By A Participant/Class Grab Demostration
	1645- 1700	Wrap-up	Ms. Rukmini Vemraju Ms Pema Eden Samdup (Ph D) Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy

Learning Outcomes: Creation of Educational content for Textual Delivery/Website handling

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Day II: Monday, June 22nd, 2010

Session	Time	Theme	Expert participation
Seven	0900-1030	Video Recording Enriching Video (Discussions)	Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy Participants demonstration
	1030-1045	Tea Break	
Eight	1045-1230	Video Recording Enriching Video (Discussions)	Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy Participants demonstration
	1230- 1300	Audio recording, Editing, various formats- Part I Grabing Audio from Video	Mr. V Krishna Moorthy Participants demonstration
	1300- 1330	Audio recording, Editing, various formats- Part II	Mr. V Krishna Moorthy Participants demonstration Software: Audacity/Lame_inc
	1330- 1430	Lunch Break	
Nine	1430- 15:30	Creating Streaming Slide Shows – Part I	Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy (Lecture) Product DEMonstration
	1530-1545	Tea Break	
	1545- 1615	Creating Streaming Slide Shows – Part II	Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy (Lecture/Hands on) Software: Audacity Open Office- Presenter/power point / Window Movie Maker
Ten	1615- 1645	ODL Formats	Discussions
	1645- 1700	Wrap-up	CEMCA Representatives

Learning Outcomes: Creation of Audio Educational content streaming Slide shows
Delivery using products

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Day III Wednesday, June 23rd, 2010

Session	Time	Theme	Expert participation
Eleven	0900-1015	Participants' comments on Group-work experience, bottlenecks, suggestions,	CEMCA Representative Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy

Session	Time	Theme	Expert participation
		etc.	
	1015-1030	Tea Break	
Twelve	1030-1215	EasyNow Classroom teaching Schedule and Products	Group Discussion
Thirteen	1215-1330	ODL Format	Group Discussion
	1330-1430	Lunch Break	
Fourteen	1430-1530	Introduction to Website Applications Joomla/Wiki Educator	Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy & Participants
	1530-1545	Tea Break	
	1545-1645	Introduction to UBUNTU	Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy & Participants
	1645-1700	Wrap-up	CEMCA REpresentatives
Learning Outcomes: Finalising EASYNOW Classes conduction			

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Day IV Thursday, June 24th, 2010

Session	Time	Theme	Expert participation
Fifteen	0900-1015	EduFrame Site creation	Mr. V Krishna Moorthy (Guidance)
	1015-1030	Tea Break	
Sixteen	1030-1130	Finalisation & submission of Text Mode in ODL format	Participants
Seventeen	1130-1330	Achieving multiple delivery modes and uploading presentations on the web/ Indexed Video on demand/On Mobile Phones	Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy (Lecture) Software: EasyNow Codes
	1330-1430	Lunch Break	
Eighteen	1430-1530	Question/ Answer Session: Clarification of Doubts	Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy & CEMCA Representatives
	1530-1545	Tea Break	
Nineteen	1545-1615	Collection of Participatory Feedback forms	CEMCA Representatives
	1615-1645	Group wise Presentations/ Comments	Mr. V Krishna Moorthy (Lecture)
	1645-1700	Valedictory and distribution of Certificates	CEMCA Representatives

Learning Outcomes: Learn Net streaming/ Uploads/ Grouping your Lesson for Indexed Video on Demand/Photo Gallery