

Commonly used E-Learning Applications and Tools in VET



E-standards for Training

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# Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of commonly used software tools and applications used by vocational education and training (VET) teachers and trainers to deliver e-learning.

A brief description of each tool is provided, as well as basic technical information for installing and using the software.

It is intended as a companion document to the nationally endorsed *VET Teacher E-learning Toolkit*:

<http://e-standards.flexiblelearning.net.au/implementation/vet_teacher_e-learning_toolkit/index.php>

# How do I use this Information?

The information is aimed at two broad audiences; teachers/trainers, and information technology (IT) staff:

* Teachers and trainers can use this document when requesting or planning access to e-learning applications or functionality across VET computer networks.
* IT staff can use this information when planning applications and functionality available across their computer networks and for discussing computer network and firewall access issues with staff.

# Disclaimer

The document is intended solely as a guide, with care having been taken in its preparation. Software vendors may change configurations and recommended network settings without notice. Anyone wishing to implement any of these applications should refer to the vendor for current documentation and information, perform their own research and make judgments accordingly.

# Further Information

This document was commissioned by the national training system’s e-learning strategy, the Australian Flexible Learning Framework (Framework[[1]](#footnote-2)). The Framework provides the VET system with the essential e-learning infrastructure and expertise needed to respond to the challenges of a modern economy and the training needs of Australian businesses and workers.

The data for this document was gathered by surveying a range of e-learning practitioners across all jurisdictions, together with research from a range of vendors, system administrators and IT managers. The documentation is not intended to be prescriptive about how networks, internet gateways and firewalls are set up or run, but to provide IT staff and teachers with information on the functionality of commonly used software applications to support e-learning. The document was originally prepared in 2008 and then updated in 2010 and 2012 based on further interviews and surveys each time.

# Web-Based Tools and Applications

## Access to National VET Teaching and Training Resources

### 5.1.1 Flexible Learning Toolboxes

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://flexiblelearning.net.au/toolboxes> |
| Vendor | Australian Flexible Learning Framework |
| Functionality | Flexible Learning Toolboxes (Toolboxes) are designed to support the delivery of VET qualifications from Certificate I to Diploma level. |
| Example uses | In Tasmania, e-learning practitioners extensively use Toolbox learning objects, downloaded from the Toolbox Repository for the delivery of specialised learning content. |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Toolboxes require modern internet browsers and an Adobe Flash Player plug-in. The Flash plug-in needs to be manually configured to enable access when running content locally: <http://toolboxes.flexiblelearning.net.au/documents/docs/config_flash.doc>  |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| * Toolboxes are packaged as CD-ROMs for installation on a training provider's web delivery system. Learning objects from Toolboxes have been packaged and are freely available from the Toolbox Repository - <http://toolboxes.flexiblelearning.net.au/repository/index.htm>
* Further Toolbox implementation guidelines are available at <http://toolboxes.flexiblelearning.net.au/documents/docs/Implementation_Guide.doc>
 |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A |
| Further information |
| <http://toolboxes.flexiblelearning.net.au/documents/pdfs/toolbox_catalogue_2012.pdf> |

## Access to Online Resources to Support Teaching and Training

**5.2.1 Google Apps**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | [http://www.google.com/a/help/intl/en/edu/index.html#utm\_medium=et&utm\_source=catch\_all](http://www.google.com/a/help/intl/en/edu/index.html%22%20%5Cl%20%22utm_medium%3Det%26utm_source%3Dcatch_all)  |
| Vendor | Google  |
| Functionality | Google Apps is an application suite that provides online:* messaging applications
* collaborative applications
* document authoring applications.
 |
| Example uses | In many jurisdictions, teachers and trainers frequently use the Google Apps suite of tools for:* management of classes and consultations
* real-time editing of documents
* creation of collaborative groups.
 |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access – requires registration. Google Apps Education edition is free. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| * Standard web access.
 |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| None identified. |
| Further information |
| <https://www.google.com/support/hosted/bin/answer.py?answer=139019>  |

### 5.2.2 Google Maps/Google Earth

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | [http://maps.google.com.au](http://maps.google.com.au/)http://www.google.com/earth/index.html |
| Vendor | Google |
| Functionality | Google Maps and Google Earth provide access to satellite imagery and street maps |
| Example uses | Some teachers direct learners to a location whereby they examine and report on visible aspects of the terrain. |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| JavaScript, ActiveX and binary behaviours may need to be enabled for some functionality. |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| None identified. |
| Further information |
| [http://www.google.com](http://www.google.com/)  |

### 5.2.3 WebQuest

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | http://webquest.org/ |
| **Vendor** | WebQuest |
| **Functionality** | WebQuest is an inquiry-oriented lesson format in which most or all the information that learners work with comes from the web.American based and not particularly VET focused but an example of actual content resource base used in some VET institutions |
| **Example uses** | Used by some VET practitioners for example in Tasmania |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| Standard web access. |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| http://webquest.org/ |

### 5.2.4 GCF Learnfree

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | http://www.gcflearnfree.org/ |
| **Vendor** | GFCLearnfree |
| **Functionality** | Free source of learning materials/courses aimed at individual students but used by some VET practitioners |
| **Example uses** | Used in general education programs |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| Standard web access. |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| http://www.gcflearnfree.org/ |

### 5.2.5 TeacherTube

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.teachertube.com/> |
| Vendor | TeacherTube LLC |
| Functionality | TeacherTube provides search and discover functionality for teaching and training videos developed by teachers and trainers worldwide and is stored in a single repository. TeacherTube also allows the posting of a locally produced video for learners to view in order to learn a concept or skill. |
| Example uses | In many jurisdictions, teachers use this site to find videos for specific learning areas to be used as part of lesson delivery or for self professional development. By subscribing to a particular interest area, teachers are able to receive RSS feeds to automatically track updates. |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| Uploaded video must be in .WMV, .AVI, .MOV, .MPG, .MP4 or .FLV format, where it is automatically converted to .FLV. Viewing of resources requires Adobe Flash plug-in installed. |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| None identified. |
| Further information |
| <http://www.teachertube.com/staticPage.php?pg=help>  |

### 5.2.6 YouTube

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.youtube.com/> |
| Vendor | Google |
| Functionality | YouTube provides centralised storage for both teacher and learner produced videos. |
| Example uses | In several jurisdictions, some teachers use this site as a video repository for a learning activity and assessment. For example: * a teacher developed video of a skill is stored on YouTube for learner viewing or group discussion.
* a learner can record their activity when demonstrating a particular competency for assessment, the video being posted on YouTube for teacher viewing and comment.
 |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| Uploaded video must be in .WMV, .AVI, .MOV, .MPG, or .FLV format, whereupon it’s automatically converted to .FLV. Viewing of resources requires an Adobe Flash Player plug-in. |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| None identified. |
| Further information |
| <http://www.google.com/support/youtube/?hl=en_US>  |

##  Access to Social, Collaborative Communication and Content-Creation Tools

### Blogger

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | [http://www.blogger.com](http://www.blogger.com/) |
| Vendor | Google |
| Functionality | Blogger is used as a tool by teachers to communicate with learners on matters such as posting a teaching schedule, progress through a course, assignment due dates, examination times etc.Blogger is used by learners to record their activities on a particular assignment or project. |
| Example uses | In Tasmania, some learners are required to create a blog which is a diary of their activities and progress throughout a particular assignment. This is particularly useful for project work, where the blog becomes a journal and is part of the project submission. |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access – requires registration. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| N/A |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| None identified. |
| Further information |
| <http://www.blogger.com/about>  |

### Edublogs

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://edublogs.org/>  |
| Vendor | Edublogs |
| Functionality | Edublogs is an education-specific blogging application for teachers and learners. |
| Example uses | E-learning practitioners consider reflection an important part of the overall learning process. Teachers in a face-to-face class may use a blog to advertise class progress through a particular competency unit or module. Teachers managing a flexible learning group may also use a blog to outline the learning sequence for the competency unit or module. |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access – requires registration. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| * Edublogs Free (learner option): 20Mb storage without any additional features
* Edublogs Pro (teacher option) - $3.33 per month: 10Gb storage, full privacy options and access to additional features.
* Edublogs Campus (ideal for organisation) – price available on request: unlimited storage, and full range of additional applications and management tools.

Further details on the range of Edublogs subscriptions are available at: <http://edublogs.org/guide/>.  |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| None identified. |
| Further information |
| <http://edublogs.org/why-edublogs/>  |

### del.icio.us

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://del.icio.us/> |
| Vendor | Yahoo Inc.  |
| Functionality | del.icio.us is a bookmarking service that allows users to store tagged bookmarks on a centralised website thus providing access to bookmarks from any computer connected to the internet. |
| Example uses | In TAFE NSW, del.icio.us has been used with learners to keep track of all the websites that are study resources for the *Certificate of General Vocational Education*. |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| N/A |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| None identified. |
| Further information |
| <http://del.icio.us/help/>  |

### Diigo

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.diigo.com/>  |
| Vendor | Diigo Inc. |
| Functionality | Diigo is a social-bookmarking tool that allows registered users to highlight, bookmark, and take screenshots and pictures of online resources. Diigo Groups provides access to collaborative user groups allowing collaboration and sharing of all the features offered by Diigo.Has an iPad App |
| Example uses | In Victoria, e-learning practitioners use Diigo as an alternative to del.icio.us as it gives teachers the ability to collaborate in Diigo groups.  |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access – requires registration. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| N/A |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| None identified. |
| Further information |
| <http://www.diigo.com/about>  |

### Facebook

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | [http://www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com/)  |
| Vendor | Facebook |
| Functionality | Facebook is a social-networking tool that enables registered users to communicate with each other directly, through social groups, and third-party plug-ins and applications. |
| Example uses | A teacher or practitioner may set up a collaborative communication group, allowing learners and other teaching professionals to participate in an ongoing educational dialogue.  |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access – requires registration. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| N/A |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| Some jurisdictions have voiced their concerns regarding the potential problems Facebook and other social-networking tools pose to underage learners, and the duty of care that is required by the VET organisation. Some jurisdictions/institutions block Facebook. Concern has been raised about the need for policy guidelines to be developed to foster appropriate, safe and secure use by teachers especially in terms of privacy. |
| Further information |
| <http://www.facebook.com/help/?ref=pf>  |

### Flickr

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.flickr.com/> |
| Vendor | Yahoo  |
| Functionality | Flickr is a source of graphics for learning resources and is used as a photo repository (e.g. for blogs). |
| Example uses | In Tasmania, teachers use this site to download graphics under an open licence – such as Creative Commons – for inclusion in lesson delivery material (typically PowerPoint) and learning resources.Learners use this site to upload photos that are linked to their blog. |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access – requires registration. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| * Adobe Flash Player plug-in recommended.
* Flickr basic account – Free.
* Flickr Pro (more functionality, bigger storage –about $24per year.
 |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| None identified. |
| Further information |
| <http://www.flickr.com/tour/>  |

### Ning

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.ning.com/>  |
| Vendor | Ning Inc. |
| Functionality | Ning is a social-collaboration platform that allows users and groups to create and participate in custom social networks. |
| Example uses | In Victoria, GO TAFE uses Ning in the Outdoor Recreation department to form a collaborative environment where learners can obtain information relating to their course objectives (field trip dates, activities, files etc) and also provide information back to the facilitator such as the results of field trips, photos, diary entries (using blog entries etc). |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access – requires registration. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| Ning is no longer free to use. New pricing was implemented on 20 July 2010. Users now have three registration options:* Ning Mini: $3.95 per month, or $24.95 per year (Up to 150 members).
* Ning Plus: $24.95 per month, or $249.95 per year (unlimited members).
* Ning Pro: $59.96 per month, or $599.95 per year (unlimited members).
 |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A |
| Further information |
| <http://about.ning.com/index.php>  |

### Picasa Web Albums

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://picasaweb.google.com/>  |
| Vendor | Google |
| Functionality | Picasa allows users to organise and edit photos, and upload to Picasa Web Albums: a collaborative, image sharing online service. |
| Example uses | See example uses under Flickr above. |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| Standard web access – requires registration. |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| None identified. |
| Further information |
| <http://picasa.google.com/support/bin/answer.py?answer=93184>  |

### Twitter

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | [http://twitter.com](http://twitter.com/)  |
| Vendor |  Twitter Inc. |
| Functionality | Twitter is a social-networking tool that allows users to send and receive messages – tweets – to other Twitter users. Twitter is considered a micro-blogging tool, as it allows registered users to post messages of up to 140 characters. |
| Example uses | A social networking tool that allows teachers and learners to communicate asynchronously within a closed group environment i.e. one where the members set who can participate. This allows sharing of quick references and ideas and allows each member to alert others to key contemporary references for the subject being studied. |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access – required registration. |
| Installation/usage requirements |
| Standard web access – requires registration. |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| Many jurisdictions are concerned that the use of Twitter by learners may result in various privacy issues, especially with underage learners.  |
| Further information |
| <http://twitter.com/about>  |

### VoiceThread

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://voicethread.com/>  |
| Vendor: | VoiceThread |
| Functionality: | VoiceThread is a collaborative, multimedia slide show that holds images, documents, and videos and allows people to navigate pages and leave comments. |
| Example uses: | VoiceThread enables asynchronous communication from learners and teachers alike around pieces of rich media such as video clips, images and presentations.  |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| * VoiceThread accepts the following image types: JPEG, GIF, BMP, PNG, doc types: PPT, PPS, PDF, DOC, XLS and varying video formats.
* A Free VoiceThread account allows 50 pages per VoiceThread and limited creations.
* A Pro VoiceThread account allows up to 500 pages for VoiceThread and unlimited creations and costs less than $5.00 per month.
 |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access – requires registration. |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| Certain firewall-related issues may arise. Manual configuration may be required: <http://voicethread.com/help/forum/comments.php?DiscussionID=31>  |
| Further information |
| <http://voicethread.com/support/faq/>  |

### Wikispaces

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | [http://www.wikispaces.com](http://www.wikispaces.com/)  |
| Vendor: | Tangient LLC |
| Functionality: | Wikispaces are used by learners as a collaborative tool to record their individual activities throughout a particular assignment or project. The wiki is submitted as part of the project documentation.Also used as a tool by teachers to communicate with learners throughout a course as part of a quality control process.  |
| Example uses: | Wikis can be useful to learners needing to produce a single document when working as a group on a set project. Benefits to the teacher include the ability to review the learning process over time and confirm individual contributions.In Tasmania, teachers have been creating wikis for course delivery. Learners are encouraged to post their comments about the course and suggestions for improvement in delivery. This is used by teaching staff to identify and implement quality improvements. |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| N/A |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Standard web access – requires registration. |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| None identified. |
| Further information |
| <http://www.wikispaces.com/about>  |

### 5.3.12 Mediawiki

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | http://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/MediaWiki |
| **Vendor:** | Mediawiki  |
| **Functionality:** | Free open source software PHP based. Version as at June 2012: 1.19.0 |
| **Example uses:** | Used by teachers to facilitate collaborative work by students |
| **Installation/usage requirement** |
| N/A |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| Self-hosted: Internet provider must have PHP 5.3.2 or later greater enabled – see http://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Manual:Installation\_requirements#PHP |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| N/A |
| **Further information** |
| http://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/MediaWiki |

### 5.3.13 Yammer

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | https://www.yammer.com/ |
| **Vendor:** | Yammer |
| **Functionality:** | Enterprise based secure private social networking |
| **Example uses:** | Used by Queensland VET as an alternative to Facebook |
| **Installation/usage requirement** |
| N/A Basic service is free, Other premium services charged per user or per group per month: $79 per group , $5 per user up to $15 per user for comprehensive service with full administration/integration options |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| Browser based/cloud based no hardware or software to install |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| N/A |
| **Further information** |
| https://www.yammer.com/ |

### 5.3.14 Instagram

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | http://instagr.am/ |
| **Vendor:** | Instagr.am ( acquired by Facebook) |
| **Functionality:** | Free photo sharing site with good functionality for linking to Twitter and Facebook |
| **Example uses:** | Used by VET practitioners who use Twitter and Facebook type functionality in their courses or use mobile devices |
| **Installation/usage requirement** |
| Runs on variety of mobile devices including iPads and AndroidsLog on required |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| Need Open GL ES2 or Android 2.2 or later. For latest version of Instagr.am 2.0 need iOS 4.2.1 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| Samsung Galaxy Y causes images to be black on filter screens when uploaded ( being investigated June 2012) |
| **Further information** |
| http://instagr.am/ |

### 5.3.15 Pinterest

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | http://pinterest.com/ |
| **Vendor:** | Pinterest |
| **Functionality:** | Free sharing site. Can share pictures but also ideas and learning content. Can be used to create collaborative ideas generation |
| **Example uses:** | Mentioned by VET practitioners as both an alternative to photo sharing sites and an extension of that idea. |
| **Installation/usage requirement** |
| None |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| N/A |
| **Further information** |
| http://pinterest.com/ |

### Wordpress

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://wordpress.org/>  |
| Vendor: | Wordpress.org  |
| Functionality: | Wordpress is a semantic, personal publishing platform with a focus on aesthetics, web standards, and usability.Used by learners as a collaborative tool to record their individual activities throughout a particular assignment or project. Also used as a tool by teachers to communicate with learners throughout a course as part of a quality control process. |
| Example uses: | Used as a tool by teachers to communicate with learners on matters such as posting a teaching schedule, progress through a course, assignment due dates, examination times etc.Used by learners to record their activities on a particular assignment or project. |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| N/A |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Wordpress blogs can be self-hosted, or hosted by Wordpress: * Wordpress hosted: Standard web access – requires registration.
* Self hosted: Internet provider must have PHP 4.3 or greater and MySQL version 4.1.2 or greater enabled – see <http://wordpress.org/about/requirements/>
 |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A |
| Further information |
| <http://codex.wordpress.org/Main_Page>  |

## Access to Virtual Classroom and Synchronous Communication Tools

### Adobe Connect

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.adobe.com/products/connect/> |
| Vendor: | Adobe Systems Inc.  |
| Functionality | Adobe Connect connects geographically dispersed users into a virtual classroom environment.Adobe Connect can be used as project team collaboration tool |
| Example of uses: | TAFE NSW is currently running Adobe Connect for teacher professional development (PD) as well as online delivery to learners. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| **User connections for Adobe Connect server**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Number** | **Access** | **Protocol** |
| 80 | Public | HTTP, RTMP |
| 443 | Public | HTTPS, RTMPS |
| 1233 | Public | External database (optional) |
| 1935 | Public | RTMP |

 |
| **Internal communication ports**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Number** | **Bind Address** | **Access** | **Protocol** |
| 1111 | 127.0.0.1 | Internal | RTMP |
| 1434 | 127.0.0.1This port is active only when the embedded database is used. | Internal | TSQL |
| 2909 | 127.0.0.1 | Internal | RMI |
| 8510 | 127.0.0.1 | Internal | HTTP |

 |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| * Available on a hosted-subscription basis or as licensed software that can be deployed behind a firewall
* Adobe Connect Clients (audience members) require:
	+ Windows 7: IE 8 or later; Mozilla Firefox 3.x; Flash Player 8 or later
	+ Windows Vista: IE 7 or later; Mozilla Firefox 2.x, 3.x; Flash Player 8 or later
	+ Windows XP (SP2): IE 6 or later; Mozilla Firefox 2.x, 3.x; Flash Player 8 or later
	+ Mac OS X(Intel): Mozilla Firefox 2.x, 3.x; Safari 2.x, 3.x, and 4.x; Flash Player 8 or later
	+ Mac OS X(PowerPC): Mozilla Firefox 2.x, 3.x; Safari 2.x; Flash Player 8 or later
	+ Linux: Mozilla Firefox 2.x, 3.x; Flash Player 9 (Flash Player 10 available for Red Hat 5).
* Adobe Connect Clients (presenters, administrators, hosts) require:
	+ Flash Player 9 or later (for all the aforementioned client categories above)
* Adobe Connect Enterprise Server requires Microsoft Windows Server® 2008R2 and 2003 with Service Pack 2 (32 bit or 64 bit)
* Full list of system requirements – for all Adobe Connect versions can be found at: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobatconnectpro/systemreqs/>
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems:** |
| Accessibility: Not accessible for users with screen readers. |
| **Further information:** | <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobatconnectpro/faq/>  |

### Centra

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | http://www.saba.com/products/centra/ |
| **Vendor:** | Saba Inc. |
| **Functionality** | Centra connects geographically dispersed learners into a virtual classroom for both course delivery and PD.Centra can also be used as a project team collaboration tool. |
| **Example of uses:** | Used in South Australia as a state-wide initiative for Distance Education Centres and Indigenous training. Some pilot projects for online delivery have been conducted by TAFE SA.Used in Western Australia as the virtual classroom platform for TAFEs and SIDE (Schools of Isolated and Distance Education). |
| **Network configuration requirements:** |
| * User connections are via ports 1709 (registered to Centra with IANA), 80 and 443
* If Centra server components are split into separate servers, need to allow direct TCP bi-directional communication between the servers over ports 1709, 1710 and 1711.
 |
| **Installation/usage requirements:** |
| * Available on a hosted subscription basis or as licensed software that can be deployed behind a firewall.
	+ MSDE (bundled with application) can be replaced by Microsoft SQL Server 2000 (SP3) or Oracle 9i.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems:** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information:** | <http://www.saba.com/products/centra/details.htm>  |

### Blackboard Collaborate

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | http://www.blackboard.com/platforms/collaborate/overview.aspx |
| **Vendor:** | Blackboard  |
| **Functionality** | Blackboard collaborate connects geographically dispersed learners into a virtual classroom for both course delivery and PD.Blackboard collaborate can be used as a project team collaboration tool. |
| **Example of uses:** | At Chisholm TAFE (in Victoria), pilot projects have taken place for delivery of VET courses using Blackboard collaborate. The use of a whiteboard as a shared learner workspace, breakout rooms for learner collaboration and multiple simultaneous communications around whiteboard images were recorded as positive outcomes.In Queensland, evaluation pilots are being conducted for the Central Queensland Institute of TAFE. |
| **Network configuration requirements:** |
| * Blackboard collaborate connects on one of two ports – 2187 or 80.
* Communication is in a proprietary protocol called the Collaborative Communication Framework (CCF), which is layered on Transmission Control Protocol (TCP).
 |
| **Installation/usage requirements:** |
| * Available on a hosted subscription basis or as licensed software that can be deployed behind a firewall.
* Java Webstart software.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems:** |
| * Some bandwidth issues in remote areas.
*
 |
| **Further information:** | http://www.blackboard.com/platforms/collaborate/overview |

### Horizon Wimba Live Classroom

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | http://www.wimba.com/products/wimba\_classroom/ |
| **Vendor:** | Wimba Inc (Blackboard Inc. set to acquire Wimba Inc.) |
| **Functionality** | Live Classroom connects geographically dispersed learners into a virtual classroom for both course delivery and PD.Live Classroom can be used as a project team collaboration tool. |
| **Example of uses:** | In Victoria, TAFE VC uses this application for online delivery to learners. Training organisations can access the application (fee based) for training, meetings, PD etc. |
| **Network configuration requirements:** |
| **Participant:** Generally, standard web access **(Port 80, TCP).** Live Classroom can be accessed through a direct connection or web proxy, through Port 80 TCP. Components of Live Classroom will upgrade to use more efficient transport methods, when possible. In these instances, the application will seamlessly upgrade by trying multiple alternate/raw ports for connectivity. * For TCP, and alternate HTTP: 5998, 443, 5190, and 7074.
* For UDP: port 5998, 33434, 5190, and 16384.

Note: for presentations using QuickTime or RealMedia, the port used depends on the transport settings specified in a participant's player. Some firewalls are not compatible with RealMedia's tunnelling mechanism.**Presenter:** same as the above requirements for participants, with the following exceptions: ***For presentations using QuickTime:*** * For live presentations, presenters use the HorizonMedia Audio Controller, instead of the QuickTime plugin that participants use. Therefore, port requirements for HorizonMedia apply.

***For presentations using RealMedia*:*** Port 7074 must be open.
* System Administrators may also want to consider opening Ports 7079 and 7071.
* Port 7079 allows for monitoring of RealServer activity (e.g. # of users connecting to the RealServer) and Port 7071 is required for the web interface to the RealServer administrative tools.

The Live Classroom server must not reside behind a Network Address Translation (NAT); it can be behind a firewall, but not one that does NAT. |
| **Installation/usage requirements:** |
| * Windows 7, Vista, or XP; Mac OSX 10.4+
* IE 7.0+, Safari 3.0+, Firefox 3.0+ (Browser must be Java and JavaScript enabled).
* Sun Java Virtual Machine 1.4 and admin rights to install JVM on computer.
* Sun, Apple and IBM versions of Java are compatible with Live Classroom.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems:** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information:** | <http://www.wimba.com/products/liveclassroom/> |

### IDL REACT (Remote Education and Conferencing Tool)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | [http://darwinnt.biz](http://darwinnt.biz/) |
| **Vendor:** | M&S Consultants |
| **Functionality** | IDL REACT can:* + connect geographically dispersed learners into a virtual classroom (using satellite and terrestrial networks)
	+ provide interactive ’real‘ time collaboration tools
	+ used as project team collaboration tool
	+ used as a videoconferencing tool.
 |
| **Example of uses:** | * Face-to-face delivery to distance-education learners (standard curriculum as well as electives e.g. music, yoga, junior rangers etc).
* Building communities with learner groups such as Indigenous students and leadership programs.
* Expanding engagement in educational programs, such as ‘Tournament of the Minds’ to remote sites.
* Sharing celebrations between urban and remote sites, meetings, training and PD to teachers and school staff.
 |
| **Network configuration requirements:** |
| * REACT aims to minimise latency over satellite networks, uses Peer2Peer (P2P) network architecture.
* Ports used include: UDP - 5005/5006, 6501/6502/6503, TCP – 8083.
 |
| **Installation/usage requirements:** |
| PC only - requires .NET Framework 2.0 and Windows Media Player 11 installed. |
| **Known technical issues/problems:** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information:** |
| <http://www.consensus.com.au/SoftwareAwards/CSAarchive/CSA2006/REACT.htm><http://www.consensus.com.au/SoftwareAwards/CSAarchive/CSA2006/Attachments/REACT%20Brochure%20V3.4.pdf> |

### Second Life

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://secondlife.com/>  |
| **Vendor:** | Linden Research, Inc |
| **Functionality** | Second Life is a free 3D virtual world where users can socialise, connect and create using free voice and text chat. |
| **Example of uses:** | Second Life allows e-learning practitioners to create learning scenarios in a virtual world that wouldn’t be possible in a real-life situation, such as:* fire-fighting scenarios to demonstrate how to fight and control house and forest fires
* health-care scenarios to inform nursing students how to react to varying patient health issues and drug therapies.
 |
| **Network configuration requirements:** |
| High-speed internet access. |
| **Installation/usage requirements:** |
| * Cable or DSL internet access (Not compatible with dial-up, satellite and some wireless internet services).
* Windows Vista, XP.
* Mac OS X 10.4.11 or better (10.5.4 recommended).
* 512MB RAM (1GB recommended).
* NVIDIA GeForce 6600 or better, ATI Radeon 8500, 9250 or better.
* Participants must be over the age of 18 to join Second Life.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems:** |
| * Bandwidth issues.
* Strict system requirements for graphics and model rendering.
* Security issues with providing access to Second Life externally.
 |
| **Further information:** |
| <http://secondlife.com/whatis/?lang=en-US>  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.gotomeeting.com.au/fec/> |
| Vendor: | Owned by Citrix |
| Functionality: | Virtual classroom/on line meeting/web conferencing functionality |
| Example uses: | Used by Victorian VET  |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Fee based: about $700 per year, maximum 25 participants per session but unlimited number of sessions |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Firewall security needs to be addressed. GoToMeeting components need to be admitted through three ports: 80, 443 and 8200. One-way TCP connectivity is needed (TCP outbound).Extensive information on site:<http://support.citrixonline.com/en_US/GoToMeeting/help_files/GTM130015?Title=Troubleshooting+GoToMeeting+with+Firewalls> |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A apart from firewall type ones |
| Further information |
| http://www.gotomeeting.com.au/fec/ |

### Netviewer/GoToMeeting

### 5.4.8Skype

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.skype.com/intl/en-gb/home>  |
| **Vendor** | Skype Limited |
| **Functionality** | Skype is a real-time communication tool that allows registered users to make voice and video calls over the internet. |
| **Example uses** | E-learning practitioners use Skype in various jurisdictions as a communication tool for chat and audio/visual conversations between teachers and learners. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| Standard web access. |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| Certain firewalls may have to be configured manually to enable Skype. Further information can be found at: <http://www.skype.com/intl/en-us/support/user-guides/firewalls/> Free for Skype to Skype calls, fees apply to Skype to telephone calls |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| Bandwidth issues with voice and video calls. Configuration problems with firewalls and ports. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.skype.com/intl/en-gb/features/>  |

### 5.4.9 Bridgit conferencing

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | http://smarttech.com/bridgit |
| **Vendor** | Smart |
| **Functionality** | connect SMART Board interactive whiteboards or flat panels to each other or to remote computers and iPads |
| **Example uses** | Used in NSW in connection with Smart Boards |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| * 2.0 GHz or faster processor
* 2 GB of RAM
* Windows Server 2003 R2 or 2008 R2 operating system
* 100 Mbps network interface card (NIC) that supports the TCP/IP protocol
 |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| Windows XP SP3 or Windows 7 operating system * 2.0 GHz processor
* 2 GB RAM
* Broadband Internet connection
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| N/A |
| **Further information** |
| http://downloads01.smarttech.com/media/sitecore/en/support/product/smartbridgit/4windows/specsheets/specsbridgit4\_5v13feb12.pdf |

## Access to Tools to Support Evaluation and Assessment Activities

### Hot Potatoes

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://hotpot.uvic.ca/index.php>  |
| **Vendor** | Half-Baked Software Inc.University of Victoria Humanities Computing and Media Centre. |
| **Licence** | Commercial – no cost. |
| **Functionality** | The Hot Potatoes suite includes six applications, enabling creation of interactive multiple-choice, short-answer, jumbled-sentence, crossword, matching/ordering and gap-fill exercises for the internet.  |
| **Example uses** | In most jurisdictions, teachers use Hot Potatoes to create assessment-related content such as multiple choice and short answer quizzes and exercises.  |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| * Windows 98/ME/NT4/2000/XP/Vista.
* Java Virtual Machine for Java Hot Potatoes.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| Unlikely to work on some mobile devices |
| **Further information** |
| <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/hotpotatoesusers/>  |

### Lime Survey

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.limesurvey.org/> |
| Vendor: | Limesurvey |
| Functionality: | Free open source surveying tool. Version2.0 released 30 May 2012. |
| Example uses: | Used in NSW as a survey and assessment tool with learners |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Free hosting service available at <http://www.limeservice.com/>Otherwise software can be downloaded |
| Network configuration requirements |
| One of these databases: MySQL 4.1 or higher, Microsoft SQL Server 2000 or higher, Postgres 8.1 or higher -PHP 5.x or higher with mbstring library installed. (for localizations)detailed requirements at <http://docs.limesurvey.org/tiki-index.php?page=Installation> |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| No support partners of Lime Survey in Australia.  |
| Further information |
| <http://www.limesurvey.org/> |

### Poll Everywhere

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | http://www.polleverywhere.com/ |
| Vendor: | Poll Everywhere |
| Functionality: | Instant quick polling/surveying using mobile devices |
| Example uses: | Currently being investigated/trialled by a number of institutions. Used for engaging learners either in face to face or distributed classroom .Could be used for assessment but would need fee based service for this. |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Free service for use with 40 or less in a group for short time frame. Range of service fees up to $1500 per month, Teacher presenter fee of $65 per month for 250 group size. |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Log on requiredExtensive FAQ information at:<http://www.polleverywhere.com/faq> |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A  |
| Further information |
| <http://www.polleverywhere.com/> |

### Respondus

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.respondus.com/> |
| Vendor: | Respondus ( USA based) |
| Functionality: | Tool for creating and managing assessments that can be printed or rendered to an LMS |
| Example uses: | Currently used in a number of VET institutions in Australia for exams and tests |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Respondus 4.0 licence costs depend on student body size. For under 2500 students it is about $1700 per year plus a one-time $200 registration fee. A single user licence also available at $150 |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Links to most LMS including Blackboard, Moodle |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A  |
| Further information |
| <http://www.respondus.com/> |

### Survey Monkey

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.surveymonkey.com/> |
| **Vendor** | Surveymonkey.com |
| **Functionality** | Survey Monkey is used by practitioners to gather feedback from learners. Also used by teachers as an assessment tool. |
| **Example uses** | Teachers use this site to present multiple choice questions to learners as part of formative assessment. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| Standard web access – requires registration. Can pair with an existing Google account. |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| Survey Monkey’s free version only allows 10 questions per survey. Advanced survey-tool controls and data collection options are only available in the Pro version – available for $19per month. Plus higher level versions at $25 and $65 per month offer increased functionality |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.surveymonkey.com/Home_CompanyInfo.aspx>  |

# Desktop Functionality

## Ability to Author and View Documents

### Adobe Writer

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/?promoid=BPDDU> |
| **Vendor** | Adobe |
| **Licence** | Commercial |
| **Functionality** | Adobe Write creates PDF documents. |
| **Example uses** | In most jurisdictions, this application is used to create PDF documents such as learner notes, assignments, projects and assessments where the document integrity must be preserved. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A. |
| **Installation requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobatstd/>  |

### CutePDF Writer

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.cutepdf.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp> |
| **Vendor** | Acro Software Inc. |
| **Functionality** | CutePDF Writer is a free PDF-creation software tool.  |
| **Example uses** | CutePDF Writer allows teachers and learners to create PDF documents from virtually any Windows-based application that has print functionality. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| * Supports Microsoft Windows 98/ME/2000/XP/2003/Vista/7 (x86/x64).
* Requires PS2PDF converter such as Ghostscript (recommended). GPL Ghostscript 8.15 is available for free: <http://www.cutepdf.com/download/converter.exe>
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.cutepdf.com/> |

### Microsoft Office

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://office.microsoft.com/en-au/>  |
| **Vendor** | Microsoft |
| **Licence** | Commercial |
| **Functionality** | Microsoft Office is a collection of applications that provide word-processing, presentation development, management of emails and calendars, spreadsheets and database applications. |
| **Example uses** | Microsoft Office gives teachers and learners a full range of tools for use in education, including:* teachers in most jurisdictions use Microsoft PowerPoint to create presentations for lesson plans
* teachers use Microsoft Outlook to manage their email and appointments.
* learners in all jurisdictions use Microsoft Word for their written assignments.
 |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A. |
| **Installation requirements** |
| * 256Mb RAM (512Mb recommended).
* 3Gb disk space.
* Windows XP with Service Pack (SP) 3 (32-bit operating system (OS) only) or Windows Vista with SP1, Windows 7, Windows Server 2003 R2 with MSXML 6.0, Windows Server 2008, or later 32- or 64-bit OS.
* 1024x576 or higher resolution monitor.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://office.microsoft.com/en-au/>  |

### Prezzi

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://prezi.com/> |
| Vendor: | Prezzi |
| Functionality: | Software for creating engaging presentations |
| Example uses: | Currently used in a number of VET institutions in Australia for enlivening content |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Free licence available but limited features and all presentations will be public and only 100MB of storage$59 and $159 per year services availableNote: for education use free licence allows 500MB and privacy of presentations and for $59 per year 2GB and logo customisation allowed. |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Adobe Flash Player 10 or higher installedUsable on an iPad |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A  |
| Further information |
| <http://prezi.com/> |

### Drop Box

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <https://www.dropbox.com/> |
| Vendor: | Dropbox |
| Functionality: | Virtual storage and document file sharing including photos and videos |
| Example uses: | Currently used in a number of VET institutions mainly to share among staff but some teacher/student activity for content creation/sharing |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| 2GB of storage free (with options up to 18 on referral of new clients). Then various levels from $100 per year for 50GB ( + referral options) |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Works on most mobile devices |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A  |
| Further information |
| <https://www.dropbox.com/> |

### Google Docs

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | [https://docs.google.com/#home](https://docs.google.com/%22%20%5Cl%20%22home) |
| Vendor: | Google Docs |
| Functionality: | Collaboratively create and share documents  |
| Example uses: | Currently used in a number of VET institutions mainly to share among staff but some teacher/student activity for content creation/sharing. |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| N/A |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Works on most mobile devices |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| Blocked in some jurisdictions  |
| Further information |
| [https://docs.google.com/#home](https://docs.google.com/%22%20%5Cl%20%22home) |

### OpenOffice

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.openoffice.org/> |
| **Vendor** | Oracle |
| **Functionality** | OpenOffice is a free, open-source office productivity suite, available on all major computing platforms. It stores all user data in an international open standard format and can also read and write files from other common office software packages, including Microsoft Office, Acrobat PDF and Open Document Format. |
| **Example uses** | OpenOffice gives teachers and learners a full range of tools for use in education, including:* word processing
* spreadsheet processing
* presentation creation
* database management.
 |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| * Java
	+ Java Runtime Environment (JRE) 1.5.x, required to use full OpenOffice.org functionality that needs Java (<http://java.com/>).
* Microsoft Windows
* Windows 2000 (Service Pack 2 or higher), Windows XP, Windows 2003, Windows Vista, Windows 7.
* 256 Mbytes RAM (512 MB RAM recommended).
* At least 650 Mbytes available disk space for a default install (including a JRE) via download. After installation and deletion of temporary installation files, OpenOffice.org will use approximately 440 Mbytes disk space.
* 1024 x 768 or higher resolution with at least 256 colours.
* Mac OS X
	+ Mac OS X 10.4 (Tiger) or higher.
	+ Intel Processor.
	+ 512 Mbytes RAM.
	+ 400 Mbytes available disk space.
	+ 1024 x 768 or higher resolution with 16.7 Million colours.
* Linux
	+ Linux kernel version 2.4 or higher, glibc2 version 2.3.2 or higher (starting with OOo 3.3 glibc2 version 2.5 or higher is required).
	+ 256 Mbytes RAM (512 MB recommended).
	+ 400 Mbytes available disk space.
	+ X-Server with 1024 x 768 or higher resolution with at least 256 colours.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://why.openoffice.org/why_edu.html>  |

## Ability to Play Audio and Video Content

### QuickTime

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download>  |
| **Vendor** | Apple Inc. |
| **Licence** | Commercial |
| **Functionality** | QuickTime enables playback of digital media files. |
| **Example uses** | Used by teachers and learners in all jurisdictions to play QuickTime-based multimedia resources. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| Basic player is free download; QuickTime Pro has a licence fee. |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.apple.com/quicktime>  |

### Windows Media Player

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | [http://www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com/) |
| **Vendor** | Microsoft |
| **Licence** | Commercial – no cost. |
| **Functionality** | Windows Media Player enables playback of digital media files. |
| **Example uses** | Used by teachers and learners in all jurisdictions to play Windows Media Player-based multimedia resources. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| [http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/player/11/readme.aspx#Knownissues](http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/player/11/readme.aspx%22%20%5Cl%20%22Knownissues)  |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download/AllDownloads.aspx?displang=en&qstechnology>=  |

### Windows Movie Maker

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | Windows XP users: <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/downloads/updates/moviemaker2.mspx> Vista, Windows 7 users: <http://explore.live.com/windows-live-movie-maker>  |
| **Vendor** | Microsoft |
| **Licence** | Commercial – no cost. |
| **Functionality** | Windows Movie Maker creates movies and slide shows from photos and videos.  |
| **Example uses** | In some jurisdictions, Windows Movie Maker allows learners to create slide shows and presentations from their collections of photos and videos. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| * Windows XP with Service Pack 2 (32-bit edition only), Windows Vista (32-bit or 64-bit editions), Windows 7 (32-bit or 64-bit editions), or Windows Server 2008.
* 512 MB of RAM for Windows 7 or Windows Vista; 128 MB (256 MB or more recommended) for Windows XP.
* Video card that supports DirectX 9 or higher, and Shader Model 2 or higher.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| [http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/player/11/readme.aspx#Knownissues](http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/player/11/readme.aspx%22%20%5Cl%20%22Knownissues)  |
| **Further information** |
| Windows XP users: <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/downloads/updates/moviemaker2.mspx> Vista, Windows 7 users: <http://explore.live.com/windows-live-movie-maker>  |

### Vimeo

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://vimeo.com/> |
| Vendor: | Vimeo |
| Functionality: | Upload videos and share with others plus browse and search for videos. Uses Creative Commons licences. Vimeo works on diverse devices including iPads and minimises bandwidth usage. |
| Example uses: | Currently used in a number of VET institutions  |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Free basic service available 500MB per week. Plus (5GB) and Pro(50GB) services available for $60 and $200 per year  |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Works on most mobile devices |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A |
| Further information |
| <http://vimeo.com/> |

### Kaltura

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.kaltura.org/project/moodle_plugin> |
| Vendor: | Kaltura Moodle plug in |
| Functionality: | Easily add video content to coursesCreate a synchronized playback of a video and documentAllow students to submit videos to assignments |
| Example uses: | Currently used in some VET institutions where Moodle is the LMS on a trial basis |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Open Source Software but Kaltura is also software for fee service.“You can sign-up for our fully hosted Software-as-a-Service offering, or self-host the video platform behind your firewall, or on the cloud. We offer our on-premise edition under both a commercial licenses as well as under an AGPL license (Kaltura Community Edition).” <http://corp.kaltura.com/Products/Deployment-Options> |
| Network configuration requirements |
| Depends on deployment option used |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A |
| Further information |
| <http://www.kaltura.org/> |

### ClickView

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.clickview.com.au/> |
| Vendor: | ClickView |
| Functionality: | Create access, play and stream videos. Make college catalogue viewable on the internet |
| Example uses: | Currently used in TAFE: VET specific content available in the library<http://www.clickview.com.au/videolibrary/video_category.php?category_type=tafe>Used in WA institutions |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| ClickView Player and ClickView Library Server and ClickView Library Manager all available for down loadMixture of free trials and pay per software/service |
| Network configuration requirements |
| ClickView Player for Windows requires the [.NET 3.5.1 framework](http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=22) ClickView Player for Mac OSX Lion requires [Java for OS X](http://support.apple.com/kb/DL1421) |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| Accessible on mobile devices |
| Further information |
| http://www.clickview.com.au/downloads/index.php |

## Ability to Create and Customise Multimedia Content

### Audacity

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/> |
| **Vendor** | Open source |
| **Licence** | Released under the GNU public licence. |
| **Functionality** | Audacity supports the development of audio based learning resources:* translation of an audio recording into a digital format
* creation and editing of recordings for publication as a learning resource.
 |
| **Example uses** | In New South Wales, this application is used to publish recorded interviews with industry personnel as a podcast learning resource. For example, a teacher may extract a five minute segment from an ABC podcast that targets a specific topic to give to learners.It is also used at GippsTAFE to create podcasts for learners within a range of learning areas. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A. |
| **Installation requirements** |
| Requires LAME encoder to save files as .mp3. |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| Some issues when capturing audio. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/help/>  |

### ARED[[2]](#footnote-3)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://pre2009.flexiblelearning.net.au/flx/go/home/projects/2006/newpractices2006/pid/369>  |
| **Vendor** | Australian Flexible Learning Framework  |
| **Licence** | Commercial – no cost |
| **Functionality** | ARED is designed to allow e-learning practitioners, with little more than basic computer skills, to build their own e-learning resources using templates. The templates are based on media-rich interactions that are commonly used in e-learning materials and remove the need for practitioners to learn the multimedia skills commonly required to build such resources. |
| **Example uses** | Teachers without specific development experience and knowledge use ARED to design and develop interactive, media-rich learning material. *During the 2010 review, it was noted that ARED was widely popular due to its ease of use.* |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| ARED v2.1 is the current version. |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| Some usage issues identified by practitioners mainly in terms of clunkiness |
| **Further information** |
| <http://pre2009.flexiblelearning.net.au/flx/go/home/projects/2005/pid/121>  |

### Camtasia

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.techsmith.com/camtasia.asp>  |
| **Vendor** | TechSmith |
| **Licence** | Commercial |
| **Functionality** | Camtasia is screen recording and editing software that allows users to create interactive training and support videos. |
| **Example uses** | Teachers use Camtasia to record and annotate their screen with text and voiceover to go into their learning content and courseware. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| * Microsoft Windows XP, Windows Vista, or Windows 7.
* Microsoft DirectX 9 or later version.
* 1.5 GHz, single-core minimum ~ Recommended: Intel 2.0 GHz dual-core or better.
* 1 GB RAM minimum ~ Recommended: 2.0 GB or more.
* 500 MB of hard-disk space for program installation.
* Display dimensions of 1024x768 or greater.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.techsmith.com/camtasia/features.asp>  |

### Captivate

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.adobe.com/products/captivate/>  |
| **Vendor** | Adobe |
| **Licence** | Commercial |
| **Functionality** | Adobe Captivate allows users to create demonstrations, simulations and quizzes without the need for programming knowledge. |
| **Example uses** | Teachers use Captivate to embed videos of software demonstrations, images and animations into their learning content and courseware.  |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| **Windows*** 1GHz or faster processor Intel® Pentium® 4, Intel Centrino®, Intel Xeon®, or Intel Core™ Duo (or compatible) processor.
* Microsoft® Windows XP with Service Pack 2 (Service Pack 3 recommended); Windows Vista® Home Premium, Business, Ultimate, or Enterprise with Service Pack 1; or Windows 7.
* 1GB minimum RAM (2GB recommended).
* 3GB of available hard-disk space for installation; additional free space required during installation (cannot install on flash-based storage devices).
* DVD-ROM drive.
* 1,024x576 display (1,280x1024 recommended) with 16-bit video card.
* Broadband internet connection required for online services.

**Mac*** Multicore Intel® processor.
* Mac OS X v10.5.7 or v10.6.
* 1GB minimum RAM (2GB recommended).
* 3GB of available hard-disk space for installation; additional free space required during installation (cannot install on a volume that uses a case-sensitive file system or on flash-based storage devices).
* DVD-ROM drive.
* 1,024x576 display (1,280x1024 recommended) with 16-bit video card.
* Broadband internet connection required for online services.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.adobe.com/products/captivate/educators/>  |

### Flash Creative Suite

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.adobe.com/products/flash/> |
| **Vendor** | Adobe |
| **Licence** | CommercialFlash Player plug-in required for playback – free download. |
| **Functionality** | Flash Creative Suite creates learning resource material published as .swf or .flv. |
| **Example uses** | Used by TAFE NSW to create interactive learning resources for plumbing and construction courses. The resource demonstrates the performance of a skill for learners to view as part of a learning sequence. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| Requires 2.5GB of available hard disk space for Flash authoring application.Flash Player plug-in is available for free to view Flash (.swf, .flv) files. |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| Issues with mobile devices |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.adobe.com/products/flash/features/>  |

### Jing

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.jingproject.com/>  |
| **Vendor** | TechSmith |
| **Licence** | Jing Standard – commercial no cost.Jing Pro been superseded by Snagit. Jing Pro will expire in 2013 |
| **Functionality** | Jing allows users to take screenshots, and record videos of online screen actions with the ability to share these over the web, as well as easy integration with Snagit and Camtasia studio. |
| **Example uses** | E-learning practitioners in various jurisdictions use Jing to create screenshots, screencasts of lesson plans and software demonstrations then share these objects over the web with learners. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| **Windows** * Windows XP, Vista, or Windows 7.
* Microsoft .NET Framework 3.0.
* Broadband recommended.

**Mac** * Mac OS X 10.4.11, or 10.5.5 or later.
* QuickTime 7.5.5 or later.
* Broadband recommended.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| N/A |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.jingproject.com/faq/>  |

### Photo Story

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/digitalphotography/photostory/default.mspx>  |
| **Vendor** | Microsoft |
| **Licence** | Commercial - no cost |
| **Functionality** | Photo Story allows users to create show-and-tell presentations and slideshows from their digital photos.  |
| **Example uses** | In many jurisdictions, Microsoft Photo Story allows learners and teachers alike to create slideshows and presentations from their photo collections. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| * 256Mb RAM (512Mb recommended)
* 400Mb of disk space
* Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition, Windows XP Professional, Windows XP Media Center Edition, or Windows XP Tablet PC Edition.
* Direct X 9 or later
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/digitalphotography/photostory/default.mspx>  |

### Photoshop

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.adobe.com/products/photoshop/family/>  |
| **Vendor** | Adobe |
| **Licence** | Commercial |
| **Functionality** | Photoshop provides graphics editing for image files. |
| **Example uses** | In many jurisdictions, practitioners use this site to create/edit graphics for the production of learning resources. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| * 1 GB RAM.
* 1GB of available hard-disk space.
* Microsoft® Windows® XP with Service Pack 3; Windows Vista® Home Premium, Business, Ultimate, or Enterprise with Service Pack 1 (Service Pack 2 recommended); or Windows 7.
* Mac OS X v10.5.7 or v10.6.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.adobe.com/products/photoshop/index.html>  |

### Snagit

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.techsmith.com/snagit/features.asp> |
| **Vendor** | TechSmith |
| **Licence** | Commercial |
| **Functionality** | Snagit is a computer screen capture tool. |
| **Example uses** | Used by practitioners to capture computer screen sequences for a particular application as part of learning resource development. The sequence is used to describe a skill being developed by the learner or to explain a particular concept. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| * 512Mb RAM (1GB recommended).
* 60MB disk space.
* Microsoft Windows XP, Windows Vista, or Windows 7 – 32-bit or 64-bit.
* MAC version in beta.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.techsmith.com/learn/snagit/default.asp>  |

### Articulate Storyline

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.articulate.com/> |
| Vendor: | Articulate Storyline |
| Functionality: | Create multimedia interactive content. E-learning community of users available. |
| Example uses: | Currently used in some VET institutions on a trial basisUsed in WA by private RTOs |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| $1400 one off licence. Free trials available. Earlier products also available |
| Network configuration requirements |
| See technical specs at<http://www.articulate.com/products/storyline-tech-specs.php> |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A |
| Further information |
| <http://www.articulate.com/> |

### Sloodle

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.sloodle.org/moodle/> |
| Vendor: | Sloodle  |
| Functionality: | Supports integration of virtual environments such as Second Life and Moodle LMSSee <http://www.sloodle.org/blog/?page_id=2> for details  |
| Example uses: | Currently used in TAFENSW on a trial basis |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Free Open Source |
| Network configuration requirements |
| SLOODLE currently supports Moodle 1.8 and 1.9.Moodle 2.0 support coming in [SLOODLE 2.0](http://www.sloodle.org/moodle/mod/forum/view.php?f=61).( as at June 2012) |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A |
| Further information |
| <http://www.sloodle.org/moodle/> |

## Ability to Access and Subscribe to Information Feeds

### Juice

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://juicereceiver.sourceforge.net/> |
| **Vendor** | Open source |
| **Licence** | Released under the GNU public licence.  |
| **Functionality** | Juice is used for the creation of:* audio-based learning resources
* audio-based reflective journal.
 |
| **Example uses** | In Victoria, for a particular class of learners with low-level literacy, the teacher produced a podcast that introduced the learners to skim reading. Learners were able to play the podcast as many times as required to begin skill acquisition. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| Download from <http://juicereceiver.sourceforge.net/download/index.php>  |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://juicereceiver.sourceforge.net/>  |

### RSS/ATOM

(various - Google Reader used as profile example)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.google.com/reader>  |
| **Vendor** | Google |
| **Licence** | Commercial – no cost |
| **Functionality** | RSS and ATOM are used for the automatic tracking of information updates. |
| **Example uses** | In most jurisdictions, teachers subscribe to various websites for automatic tracking of new entries or changes to that website. Considered to be a valuable time saver by teachers who use this tool. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| Standard web access – requires Google account. |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.google.com/intl/en/googlereader/tour.html> |

## Ability to Develop Web-Based Learning Content

### Adobe Dreamweaver

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.adobe.com/products/dreamweaver/>  |
| **Vendor** | Adobe |
| **Licence** | Commercial |
| **Functionality** | Adobe® Dreamweaver® CS5 software provides an (optionally WYSIWYG) interface for development of the text-based components of websites. |
| **Example uses** | In most jurisdictions, teachers use Adobe Dreamweaver to develop web-based learning content. Dreamweaver allows users to design and create web pages both visually and with code.  |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| * 512MB RAM (512MB recommended).
* 1GB disk space.
* Microsoft® Windows® XP with Service Pack 2 (Service Pack 3 recommended); Windows Vista® Home Premium, Business, Ultimate, or Enterprise with Service Pack 1; or Windows 7.
* Mac OS X v10.5.7 or v10.6.
 |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.adobe.com/support/dreamweaver/>  |

### eXe

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://exelearning.org/wiki>  |
| **Vendor** | [University of Auckland](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/), [The Auckland University of Technology](http://www.aut.ac.nz/)[Tairawhiti Polytechnic](http://www.tairawhiti.ac.nz/) |
| **Licence** | Open source |
| **Functionality** | eXe assists teachers and academics in the publishing of web content without the need to become proficient in HTML or XML markup. Resources authored in eXe can be exported in IMS Content Package, SCORM 1.2, or IMS Common Cartridge formats or as simple self-contained web pages. |
| **Example uses** | In Western Australia, eXe allows practitioners to create their own learning content without the need for specialised development skills. It allows teachers to easily embed rich media objects into learning object as well as the creation of assessment activities such as quizzes. |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| None identified. |
| **Further information** |
| <http://wikieducator.org/Online_manual>  |

### Wimba Create

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | <http://www.wimba.com/products/wimba_create/>  |
| **Vendor** | Wimba Inc. (Blackboard Inc. is set to acquire Wimba Inc.) |
| **Licence** | Commercial annual fee based on enrolled numbers |
| **Functionality** | Wimba Create allows users to create interactive web-based content from Word documents – including navigation and interactive tools such as:* rich media (audio/video)
* Java code
* Flashcards.
 |
| **Example uses** | In some jurisdictions, teachers use Wimba Create to develop interactive learning content and assessment-related documents, using the familiar Word environment.Queensland use Wimba Create Campus version 2.5.5 (also available for staff to use at home) |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Installation/usage requirements** |
| Windows XP, Windows Vista, Word 2003 or 2007. |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| Compatibility problems when used in conjunction with MS Word on some instances, requiring a system reboot. |
| **Further information** |
| [http://www.wimba.com/products/wimba\_create/#wCr-features](http://www.wimba.com/products/wimba_create/%22%20%5Cl%20%22wCr-features)  |

### Cybertrain

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://cybertrain.info/index.html> |
| Vendor: | Cybertrain |
| Licence | Free ware with optional donations |
| Functionality: | Create quizzes and games to enliven ( on line) course delivery. |
| Example uses: | Currently used in some VET institutions.  |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Free software but some products for sale e.g. Quiz Game Master |
| Network configuration requirements |
| No browser plugins are required, no Flash and no java applets are used.You can modify the games you create because code is openAll html, javascript and css. |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A |
| Further information |
| <http://cybertrain.info/index.html> |

### Kognito

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | [**http://www.kognito.com/**](http://www.kognito.com/) |
| **Vendor:** | Kognito ( American based) |
| **Licence** | Commercial |
| **Functionality:** | Use and create on line role playing games and simulations |
| **Example uses:** |  Designed for health industry but used in VET for relevant programs ( Tasmania use it).  |
| **Installation/usage requirement** |
| Need to buy content but pricing not easily available |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| Content may be USA centric |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.kognito.com/> |

### WIX

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.wix.com/> |
| Vendor: | Wix  |
| Licence | Open Source |
| Functionality: | Create interactive websites via simple “drag and drop” techniques. Free Wix content available for access |
| Example uses: |  Used in Tasmania  |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Free but to get premium service you need to pay fees. Free service means you get Wix adverts on the site created. Log in required |
| Network configuration requirements |
| N/A |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A |
| Further information |
| <http://www.wix.com/> |

### iSpring

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.ispringsolutions.com/> |
| Vendor: | iSpring  |
| Licence | Commercial |
| Functionality: | Create on line content including conversion of Powerpoint type presentations. Quiz software also available |
| Example uses: |  VET institutions are trialling  |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Free trials but mainly commercial software with multiple user licences. E.g. 10 licences $3000 once off payment. Annual open ended licence also available, e.g. $250 per year, Also significant educational discounts available plus whole of institution licence |
| Network configuration requirements |
| N/A |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A |
| Further information |
| <http://www.ispringsolutions.com/> |

### Adobe Presenter

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | [**http://www.adobe.com/products/presenter.html**](http://www.adobe.com/products/presenter.html) |
| **Vendor:** | Adobe |
| **Licence** | Commercial approx. $500 |
| **Functionality:** | a plug-in for Microsoft® PowerPoint, that helps convert PowerPoint slides into rich media presentations and eLearning content without leaving the familiar PowerPoint environment. Also creates surveys and quizzes in PowerPoint |
| **Example uses:** |  Used in WA |
| **Installation/usage requirement** |
| N/A |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| N/A |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| N/A |
| **Further information** |
| <http://www.adobe.com/products/presenter.html>  |

### Adobe Creative Suite

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **URL** | **http://success.adobe.com/en/au/sem/products/creativesuite/family.html** |
| **Vendor:** | Adobe |
| **Licence** | Commercial  |
| **Functionality:** | a collection of [graphic design](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graphic_design), [video editing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Video_editing), and [web development](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_development) [applications](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Application_software) |
| **Example uses:** |  Used in Queensland and NSW version 5.5 |
| **Installation/usage requirement** |
| See further information |
| **Network configuration requirements** |
| See further information Also see Cloud functionality http://www.adobe.com/products/creativecloud.html |
| **Known technical issues/problems** |
| N/A |
| **Further information** |
| <http://store1.adobe.com/store/en_us/popup/software/creativesuite/mastercollection5_5/systemreqs.html>  |

## Ability to use e-portfolios as part of the teaching and learning process

### Mahara

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <https://mahara.org//>  |
| Vendor: | Mahara |
| Licence | Open Source |
| Functionality: | E-portfolio software. Integrates with Moodle |
| Example uses: | Used across VET institutions mainly in small pockets rather than whole of institution approach. |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Free Open Source Software. Can be hosted internally or externally. If hosted internally will also need other software such as Apache web server and PostgreSQL database system. Full details at<https://wiki.mahara.org/index.php/System_Administrator%27s_Guide/Installing_Mahara> |
| Network configuration requirements |
| See above |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A |
| Further information |
| <https://mahara.org//>  |

### PebblePad

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <http://www.pebblepad.co.uk/> |
| Vendor: | PebblePad |
| Licence | Commercial per user |
| Functionality: | E-portfolio software (UK based but with an Australian office). Also promoted as a Personal Learning Space |
| Example uses: | Used in a number of VET institutions |
| Installation/usage requirement |
| Licence fees apply. For large users can be as little as $2.50 per user within an institution. |
| Network configuration requirements |
| External hosting option only. Log on required |
| Known technical issues/problems |
| N/A |
| Further information |
| <http://www.pebblepad.co.uk/> |

#

# More Information

**National VET E-learning Strategy**

Email: enquiries@flexiblelearning.net.au

Website: [flexiblelearning.net.au](http://www.flexiblelearning.net.au/content/e-portfolios-resources)

**E-standards for Training**

Email: e-standards@flexiblelearning.net.au

Website: [e-standards.flexiblelearning.net.au](http://e-standards.flexiblelearning.net.au/index.php)

1. The Framework is the national training system’s e-learning strategy. For more information, go to: [http://flexiblelearning.net.au](http://flexiblelearning.net.au/) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Crosses over with *Section 2.5:Ability to create web-based learning content* [↑](#footnote-ref-3)