

Easy2Learn - The development, design and use of the first complete Skills for Life online delivery platform

Leon Rodin - CEO Easy2Learn and Angus Turpin, Giunti Labs

Short Synopsis

This presentation will describe the Easy2Learn Basic Skills delivery platform development from the conceptual design to implementation and finally describe the success and learner feedback of its use. The Easy2Learn platform is the first time that competency based e-learning has been applied to support the delivery of a full recognised UK qualification.

Abstract

This presentation will describe the Easy2Learn Basic Skills delivery platform development process from conceptual design to implementation and finally describe the success and learner feedback of its use. The Easy2Learn platform is the first time that competency based e-learning has been applied to support the delivery of a full recognised UK qualification in Adult Numeracy and Literacy. The target group for the learning programmes delivered using the system comprises British adults without a formal numeracy or literacy qualification as well as recent immigrants, who might have attained a high level of education in their own country but who still lack basic UK-recognised qualifications.

E-learning has been applied to the delivery of numeracy and literacy qualifications in many situations however this application has traditionally been in a manually managed way (a combination of paper based, tutor lead and e-learning delivery) either within learndirect or a College VLE but not really fully utilising the the e-learning tools that exist in a joined up approach.

Since the learners come from various backgrounds, the learning materials require highly profiled learning paths, offering content profiling based on the user's background skills, competencies and prior knowledge. Easy2learn has used the competency based e-learning tools provided within the learn eXact suite (Giunti Labs) to create a solution from initial assessment of a numeracy or literacy need either provided in a learning centre or through the web/mobile phone, through to the assessment of skills gaps, enrolment and support with only the relevant content and finally through to assessment.

With our partners Giunti Labs and Oxford e-learning the full UK National numeracy and literacy curriculum has been mapped into Easy2Learn system and by using metadata we have associated small chunks of content that are specific to the various required competencies at the various levels (entry level 1, 2, and 3 to level 1 and level 2) within the curriculum. A first prototype of Easy2Learn is due to be released formally in June 2007 and will be used initially by between 300 and 500 people to help them gain recognised UK qualifications in numeracy and literacy.

This presentation will describe the initial concept and idea of applying competency based e-learning to a qualification framework, the development work that took place, and how the system has now been rolled out and is being used by learners across London in order to increase skills levels. Finally we will conclude with an introduction to how this concept is

now being developed for other curriculum areas and is also being reviewed as a possible mechanism for managing and delivering the core learning provision and processes in a Large Further Education College in London.