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Collaborative Content Creation for Any Device in a Fraction of the Time

Worldwide Interactive Network Inc. (WIN) was established in 1996 with the mission to ensure that all learners have the skills to be career and college ready. Along the way, WIN has revolutionized the use of interactive curricula for career and life skills training using all manner of training technology.

The Challenge

WIN was working to develop a set of workforce skills courses for recent high school and college graduates entering the workforce for the first time. With a development team dispersed across the entire U.S., a web-based tool was critical for the success of the project — but so, too, were robust assessment and authoring features. Equally important was the need to ensure that the courses were accessible across all major browsers and mobile devices.

WIN turned to Dr. Gabrielle K. Gabrielli of Gabrielle Consulting, Inc. to help them find the right solution. Dr. Gabrielli has devoted her life to understanding education and the effects of technology-mediated instructional strategies on motivation, performance, and self-directed learning. As an educator, author, consultant, and public speaker, Dr. Gabrielli has vast learning development experience in the education, government, military, non-profit, and private sectors.

The Solution

After an extensive research and evaluation process that examined over forty development tool requirements in categories such as scalability, interoperability, communication, productivity, course interactions, course development, as well as product support and quality of service, Dr. Gabrielli recommended that WIN select dominKnow Learning Systems' web-based content authoring and publishing tool.

After the evaluation process, Gabrielli was asked to spearhead the development of the new courses to further bolster WIN's own team. Gabrielli drew upon a network that included team members spread across the United States, including Massachusetts, Colorado, North Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, and Florida.

WIN

Company
- Worldwide Interactive Network Inc.
- www.winlearning.com, LLC

Industry
- Career and Life-Skills Training

Challenge
- Collaborative content creation for development team dispersed across the entire U.S.
- Robust assessment and authoring features
- Dynamic, feature-rich content that can accessed regardless of platform or device

Solution
- dominKnow's Web-based collaborative elearning authoring platform

Benefits
- Collaborative Workflow and collaboration tools (including screen sharing) with robust tracking and reporting capabilities
- Fully HTML5 compliant content that can be consumed when and where the user wants — desktop or mobile — on the devices they choose to use
- Web-based, programming free authoring with familiar, intuitive interface

What is Cloud-based Content Authoring ?

The dominKnow Platform was designed from the ground up to take full advantage of cloud-based computing, with several built-in features to help people work together, better. Features such as working on the same project at the same time, the ability to share learning resources across all projects, and the ability to allow subject matter experts and other stakeholders (an unlimited number) to review and approve content on line — with no special tools or configurations necessary.

Since it is web-based, everyone logs in to the system on the same safe and secure platform. It doesn't matter if the team is located together or spread out over several time zones.

With the dominKnow Platform, all stakeholders (even those outside the organization) can collaborate on elearning and mlearning content that is ready for consumption online, via the desktop, or on any mobile device or tablet — with no software installs or IT infrastructure necessary.

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While none of Dr. Gabrielli[1]s development team had used the dominKnow Platform before, they found it to be simple and intuitive. As a result, the project got under way very quickly, without a time-consuming learning curve. "All of my team members, regardless of their experience in working with various development tools, were easily able to learn the platform," says Gabrielli.

Part of what made working in the system so successful for her team, Gabrielli notes, were the tutorials, online help, and other built-in options for learning and understanding as you go. "The resources that dominKnow provides really help you master the product," Gabrielli says.

By using dominKnow's built-in design and tracking tools — including screen sharing, search, version history, check-in and check-out, and final approval features — Gabrielli was able to unite her entire content creation team (authors, subject matter experts, reviewers, project managers, etc.) allowing them to work together as productively and naturally as if they worked in the same physical office.

Along the way they also recognized how effective the platform made their authoring time. "We've used products where we would spend sometimes hours working on a single slide. It was both tedious and cumbersome," Gabrielli said. However, working in the dominKnow Platform shortened their authoring time significantly. And time savings, she notes, meant both cost savings as well as a quicker timeline for completion of the project.

"I am working with a different client right now who wanted a product developed with particular software. The content, while HTML5 compliant, has been glitchy and problematic, and our production time has taken three to four times as long as it would have if we had been able to work in the dominKnow Platform," Gabrielli notes.

The completed courses, Gabrielli says, are a testament to the value dominKnow has brought to the project. "I've been really pleased with the end result," she says. That end result is not only an engaging learning experience, but also one that has simplified the learning experience for end users. "What they're seeing is something that appears effortless," Gabrielli explains about how the courses launch and run. "Using Claro really eliminates a lot of end user issues."

Throughout the Claro authoring experience, Gabrielli says the people behind the product have also impressed her. The product support, she says, has been "head and shoulders above any other vendors with whom I've worked." Gabrielli commended dominKnow responsiveness and constant efforts to move the platforms feature set forward at a rapid pace by listening to client needs.