

The Open University enhances online learning offerings with the help of Tridion's content management software

Submitted by: Pleon
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LONDON - The Open University, the major distance learning institution in the UK, has chosen Tridion, a leading European provider of XML-based web content management software, as its preferred supplier of content management solutions. Tridion's flagship product DialogServer will become a core component of The Open University's production service, and was chosen in part due to its ease of application and XML-based technology. In the first phase of the project, eight educational courses (one from each of Open University's faculties) will be given an online site, with a further 30 expected to be rolled out over the next six months.

The Internet has offered The Open University new ways of presenting materials to its students as well as employing new, "interactive", teaching and working methodologies. An Open University course currently on offer is 'You, Your Computer and The Net', which is taught entirely online with no face-to-face tuition. Tridion's DialogServer has enabled The Open University to move their online productivity one step further, with the introduction of DialogServer's content management capabilities, The Open University will now be able to produce content once and easily distribute it over multiple channels.

Dave Meara, The Open University's Head of Online Applications commented, "It is important that establishments such as The Open University make use of emerging technologies. Many people will associate The Open University with BBC broadcastings; in reality we have been making use of the Internet since its advent. Tridion's DialogServer lends itself to organisations such as The Open University - where content management drives much of the production process and there is an emphasis to reduce costs. DialogServer runs on an XML database making content updates quick and easy, a defining factor in our choice of Tridion."

Alun Cope-Morgan, UK Managing Director Tridion indicated, "Tridion is thrilled to be working with The Open University to help deliver enhanced services to its students. With the large-scale delivery of course material that The Open University must provide, content management, and specifically content management delivered on an XML database, is a core necessity, and this is why The Open University arguably offers the most pioneering educational service available on the Internet."

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About Tridion and Tridion DialogServer

Tridion is a leading European provider of advanced XML-based Web Content Management software. Its core product, Tridion DialogServer, enables enterprises to update, manage and re-use their content across multiple websites, channels and business applications in a consistent and cost-effective manner.

Built on a non-proprietary and component-based architecture, Tridion DialogServer makes extensive use of open Internet standards, such as XML (Extensible Markup Language), COM+ and J2EE, enabling seamless integration with complementary business applications.

Many well-known organisations use Tridion DialogServer as the basis of their Internet activities. These include ADAC, Akzo Nobel, AXA, Blackwell Publishers, Carrefour, Datamonitor, GE Access, ING Real Estate, Intergamma, KLM, Open University, Scania, Smurfit Communications and Wolters Kluwer. Tridion is headquartered in Amsterdam with offices in Barcelona, Brussels, London, Munich, Paris, Stockholm and Zurich. For more information, visit <http://www.tridion.com>.

About The Open University

The OU is Britain's largest university, with more than 200,000 people studying its courses. Since the OU was established in 1969 as a world pioneer of 'supported open learning', more than 2 million people have used it to gain access to higher education from their homes and workplaces.

Today the OU remains at the forefront of the global development of distance education, with students in 42 countries studying for a range of degrees and vocational qualifications. Most OU students are online, but generally they use a combination of traditional teaching methods, multimedia resources and the latest communications technologies.

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