

ICI moves to on-line learning with NETg

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61623; Intranet-delivered training worldwide

61623; Contract valued at £350,000

22 January 1999 - NETg, a global leader in technology-based training, has been selected by ICI, one of the world's largest specialty chemicals and materials companies, to deliver on-line learning via the company's intranet. Under the terms of the agreement, which is worth around £350,000, NETg will be providing training for the full suite of Microsoft Office 97 applications including Word, Excel, Powerpoint and Outlook, as well as a selection of NT courseware and Lotus Notes. In addition, ICI has tailored a NETg-supplied induction programme to meet its own specific needs and this too will be delivered via the company's intranet.

Paul Dent, training and development manager for Group Information Services at ICI said: 'During the selection process we evaluated the entire IT training market and scored each supplier according to our specific criteria. Not only was NETg able to deliver applications in the languages that we required across the 55 countries in which we operate, but it also built up a first class relationship with our people. In a head to head with its competitors, NETg was the clear leader.'

The NETg courses will be deployed across the ICI corporate intranet and will be made available to ICI's end-users of nearly 27,000 worldwide.

'A critical factor is that we have to be able to evaluate the effectiveness of the training solutions that we are providing our people. With the NETg courseware, we will have consistent training standards worldwide and we will be able to measure literacy levels for every user in every territory,'said Dent.

Previously, ICI had used predominantly face-to-face classroom based training that had proved costly, time consuming and difficult to evaluate. With the online learning applications from NETg, ICI will be able to track and evaluate the effectiveness of the training internationally.

Paul Dent, said: 'We selected NETg for a number of reasons. Firstly, the team is excellent; they are always available, very helpful and offer a lot of support. Secondly, the training products provide solid content with hands-on practice, and thirdly, NETg is able to modify some of the courseware to our own house style which makes it look like an in house ICI system.'

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About ICI

ICI is one of the world's largest coatings, specialty chemicals and materials companies. ICI has over 10,000 products and more than 200 manufacturing facilities in over 55 countries worldwide.

About NETg

NETg is a leading provider of technology based training for IT professionals and users and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Harcourt Brace, a \$3 billion plus organisation working in the field of educational publishing and other related industries. On July 27, Harcourt Brace announced that it had acquired GartnerLearning and this has been integrated into NETg.

NETg offers a comprehensive, constantly updated, range of courseware in areas such as client/server, networking, enterprise wide computing, SAP, desktop computing, certification, management and professional development. The company continues to increase delivery options for customers, who can run NETg's interactive courses on CD-ROM, diskette, over a local area network, corporate intranet or the Internet. NETg offers its courseware in a variety of languages and works with international business partners to provide an ever increasing number of translated products.

NETg courseware is renowned for its instructional superiority, making it the first choice for organisations that seek to boost skills and productivity and maximise investment in IT:

61623; Advanced Skill Builder® technology provides hands on simulation and interaction that ensures sound understanding.

61623; Unique pre-test facility, Precision Learning, saves users' time by tailoring courses to the individual.

61623; SkillVantage Manager system enables managers to track their organisation's entire multimedia training programme.

61623; Unique Learning Object download architecture optimises course performance over corporate intranets and other networks.

NETg has strategic alliances with Oracle, Microsoft, Cisco, Netscape and Novell, worldclass companies which recognise NETg's unique commitment to quality and effective instructional design.

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