



LEARN IT



Education and Culture DG  
Lifelong Learning Programme  
Leonardo da Vinci

**LearnIT project PL/08/LLP-LdV/TOI/140001**

Newsletter

Issue 6

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*Dear Reader,*

*We are pleased to present the sixth issue of the LearnIT Newsletter. In this issue we would like to tell you more about the LearnIT courses as we are making some considerable changes to their development and show you a few pictures from Madrid, the city where our last meeting took place. As we are closer to the very important part of the project – testing, we would also like to say a few words about the preparation of the testing phase. We hope that you will find our newsletter interesting.*

*The LearnIT project consortium*

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## More about Courses

Our courses change as we develop them. We were provided with recommendations of the external expert as to how the courses should look. New ideas came from partners and future users to re-align the courses considering these views and opinions accordingly, we modified the previous arrangements.

With regards to the **Women in IT** module it was agreed by partners this section would be more meaningful if the interviews were in the format of short video presentations accompanied by their transcripts depicting the successes of women employed in the male dominated world of IT

The final shape of the **COMPUTER NETWORKS** course is close to the format of the original plan. However it is being enhanced further by adding more slides to each of the modules to exploit the interactivity to its greatest.

Big changes are being implemented to the **TECHNICAL ENGLISH COURSE**. The method of teaching will be changed to become more innovative, in the form of scenarios which will be built throughout the course. It was decided that the six modules will be told as a story which could be more interesting to the reader. We are also changing the titles of the modules, which now are as follows: I – Networks, II – Topology, III - Building a network, IV - Security (firewalls), V - Cost of the network (economics), VI – Troubleshooting.

We are confident that the improvements made within the courses will be more inspiring and user-friendly than those originally planned. To ensure we proceed in the right direction with the methodology of teaching, we have asked an expert in e-learning and m-learning – Dean of The University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszow for his opinion about the system. In his opinion, the system is innovative:

***“Elaborated ‘LEARN-IT’ training system, based on m-learning supported by e-learning concept, has clearly innovative character and answers contemporary trends of distance learning.”***

and the methodology is appropriate:

***“...treating m-learning course as a component of the system based on e-learning support, methodology of presented content does not raise reservations...”***

## **Meeting in Madrid**

The 4<sup>th</sup> international meeting took place in Madrid. The hosting organisation was the Spanish partner – Femxa Formación whose main office is in Vigo.



LearnIT consortium members at the meeting in Madrid

The main discussions concerned the last improvements for the LearnIT system and preparation for the testing phase. Brainstorming on many aspects took place including how to make the system as easy to use as possible? How to organise the recruitment? Where to find people that are representatives of our target groups and are willing to engage by completing

the courses and providing measureable feedback? How to record participant's progress?

The view from the window of the meeting room was at the one of the main streets, very busy and very interesting - Gran Via.



One of the amazing buildings located on the Gran Via

Our meeting took two days. We had time to discuss all the project's aspects but also to tour parts of the city and sample local cuisine in a one of traditional Spanish restaurant.

## **Preparation for testing phase**

Work and slight modification of the system has taken a lot of time but we are mindful about the recruitment of users for the testing phase. Another 'big job' for the partners is to find tutors that will be available for participants during the whole period of testing. Presence of Tutors was recommended by the experts and the consortium fully agrees with it. Each partner will find two Tutors that will support trainees in networks and in English.

The testing itself will be performed according to the testing plan prepared by our external expert – who has already become acquainted with the system by preparing its review. It is expected the plan will help the partners by specifying the following issues:

- test process timeframe along with the realisation schedule,
- target group specification and selection
- pilot methodology description
- validation tools and techniques.

If the above considerations are adopted and the participants correctly identified it will allow meaningful feedback which will generate further considerations post project.

## Conference in Poland

One of the bigger events of the last period was a dissemination conference in the Higher School of Economics in Tarnow, Poland where the LearnIT project, LearnIT system and particular courses were presented. The audience exceeded one hundred people. Their composition was mainly students of MWSE who also belong to our target group, as many of them study and work at the same time.



Conference in Tarnów, where the 'LearnIT' system was presented.

As we received many questions after the presentations, we expect that some of conference participants will participate in testing.

## Next issue

The next issue will be available in July 2010. At this point we have to be ready for testing by users which means that the first version of the LearnIT system will be ready and accessible for the wider public.