Authoring Environment Lessons Learned

Purpose of this document: To share the lessons learnt while using the SAP Authoring Environment. We encourage the SAP Community to respond sharing their experiences on the issue, pointing out solutions if any. SAP Product Managers and development team will join the conversation where appropriate.

Audience for this document: Content Developers and instructional designers.

Lesson Learned 1: Just because a course is SCORM compliant does not mean it will track progress in LSO. How the course was built and exported from the original authoring tool is very important.

- Several factors affect the ability for a course to report progress tracking in LSO: SCORM version, cmi element compatibility, multi-SCO vs. single-SCO packaging vs. SCO/Learning Objects imported separately an assembled in AE
- Point to note: SCORM 2004 and AICC compatibility should be supported in Enhancement Pack 2 (July 2007)

- Multi-SCO packaging:

- Single-SCO packaging:

Lesson Learned 2: Successful conversion of a multi-SCO course may require a Learning Net Conversion prior to importing as a Reusable Media Object.

Response: If it's content that was created outside the AE, it will require a conversion. SAP changes the format of the content during the conversion process and creates a .crs file that is required for the content to play in the LSO.
Lesson Learned 3: Courses can *sometimes* be loaded into the Master Repository and attached to WBT Course Types for viewing through the Learning Portal.

Response: Normally, courses can be loaded if they are SCORM conformant. You may run into issues if inconsistent cases or odd characters are used during the content development. You may also need to directly reference elements of the content using the repository explorer to ensure that the elements are called properly. Otherwise, if the content is truly SCORM conformant (has successfully passed the ADL Test Suite) there should be no issues with loading the content. You should request that your provider run this test prior to providing you with the content.

Lesson Learned 4: Don’t forget that pre-existing non-SCORM courses will need to be converted and imported into Authoring Environment!

Response: Non-SCORM courses can’t be converted - there is no imsmanifest.xml file. However, you could restructure them in the Authoring Environment (if the content provider allows this) and this would make them SCORM conformant.

### Workarounds: Other ways to use WBT with LSO

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<th>Option</th>
<th>Methods of recording completion</th>
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| • Web link attached to Course Type accessing web-based content external to LSO | • Manual:  
  - Training Admin follow up with printed “certificate of completion” |
| • Web links on the Learning Page to route employees to WBT hosted outside of LSO | • Automatic:  
  - SOAP-XML interface (XI interface is a recent functionality) to integrate content provider via web services to book, launch, track, or create course |

Lesson Learned 5: Ability to pass back question level information to the LMS.

One of the issues that we are finding with the Test Author is that it is SCORM compliant, rather than SCORM certified. What this means is that not all functionality of a SCORM test is necessarily there. In particular, the ability to pass results of a test back to LSO, on a per question basis,
doesn’t seem to be available when a SCORM test is imported into Test Author.
Response: The ability to pass information to the LMS at a question level will be available as part of SAP Learning Solution Enhancement Pack 2, which makes SAP Learning Solution 600 SCORM 2004 compliant. The training material for this release is under development.

It is also important to note the version of the LMS that is used. SAP Learning Solution 300 is SCORM 1.2 Certified. It was certified in 2005 and is listed in ADL’s web site. However the functionality to send data back to the LMS at a question level is not required by SCORM 1.2 standard.