

HarvestRoad Announces Global eLearning Initiative

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Perth, Western Australia: eLearning software developer, HarvestRoad Limited (ASX:HRD) today announced that it has teamed with Apple and Etech Group to create a world-first enterprise initiative.

The Global Learning Object Repository Initiative (GLORI) project aims to support a real-time global learning exchange based on eLearning standards and Apple, HarvestRoad and Australian company Etech Group's, Fourpoint Learning Management System interoperating with HarvestRoad's highly scalable learning object repository technology - HarvestRoad Hive®.

Participating eLearning members of GLORI include the University of Lyon 2, France; Edith Cowan University in Western Australia; Gracemount eCampus school cluster and the Edinburgh City Council, Scotland; and the Kingswood Partnership and Bryanston Schools in the UK.

As part of the project, Apple will provide a Test Bed infrastructure for which HarvestRoad will deliver the learning object repository software licenses.

Etech Group will provide all integration and adaptation of the Extranet that will deliver seamless support for the global digital object repository provided by HarvestRoad Hive®.

It is expected that GLORI will deliver the following outcomes:

- Cater to the needs of the 'iPod generation' of students by providing resources and shared knowledge to jointly develop an international understanding of the next generation eLearning delivery model based on reusable learning objects.
- Establish the commercial value and business model for the direct exchange of eLearning practices, techniques and professional development ideas.
- Review copyright and digital rights methodologies for a global eLearning environment.
- Deliver practical case studies based on research and findings that provide a benchmark for commercialisation.

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About Four Point Learning

The FourPoint learning system is a virtual learning environment that delivers online, interactive, selfpaced learning with extensive tracking and validation important for industry and government compliance requirements.

Fourpoint Learning was the first Learning Management System in the world to achieve SCORM conformance for users with both IBM Compatible PCs and Apple Mac PCs. Facilitators can create course components and entire courses containing any type of digital media from Word documents to streamed media and Flash components. They can create discussion groups, assignments, votes and self-correcting tests.

Key differentiators include, ease of use, extensive tracking and reporting, exceptional scalability (from 50 users to several hundred thousand) and the ability to tailor the product to suit specific client requirements.

About HarvestRoad Hive®

HarvestRoad Hive® is a federated digital repository system. Totally independent of, but interoperable with, the systems that create and deliver content such as authoring tools and Learning Management Systems, HarvestRoad Hive® allows the reuse and sharing of learning objects across single, multiple or geographically dispersed locations.

HarvestRoad Hive® can be used to store any type of digital file but it is particularly suited to the requirements of online or flexible learning where content requires being stored, accessed, assembled, disassembled, shared and reused in multiple contexts and environments and scale to millions of users.