

The Journey Towards Virtualisation: Are We There Yet?



VMware Fusion

Martin Forte
Network Manager
Cardonald College



Virtual Servers

Cardonald College has successfully completed a virtualisation project, migrating all their core services to a compact virtual server environment. So, was it a dream experience or a total nightmare? Why not download the podcast to hear a first hand account from Cardonald College's Network Services Manager, Martin Forte. Listen in as Martin talks candidly to the JISC RSC Scotland South & West about his experiences and thoughts from working in a world of virtual servers. This and other podcasts are available for our RSC website. For subscription details, go to our website and click on the RSS feed. <http://www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/podcast/Podcasts.htm>

Addressing Library 2.0 Challenges

Web 2.0 applications offer opportunities to use library resources in learning, teaching & research in new ways and across traditional boundaries. These include enabling users to integrate digital library resources within Web environments of their choice, to share them and to personalise them.

The JISC and SCONUL Library Management Systems (LMS) Horizon Scan report indicated that it was timely to explore current practice and to review library business requirements in the changing landscape. And indeed the JISC and British Library Google Generation report also supported the fact that libraries needed to be more responsive to user requirements in order to supply added value services. A new JISC briefing paper called: 'Modelling the Library Domain' explores these issues and outlines a framework for developing these services to support learners.

<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/media/documents/publications/modellinglibrarydomain.pdf>



e-Business e-Books

JISC has just launched its first e-book: 'The e-Revolution and Post-Compulsory Education: Using e-business models to deliver quality education'. This e-book offers senior managers in both further and higher education, best-practice guidance for applying e-business approaches to their institutions. Particularly in the current economic climate, IT - especially web technology - is a powerful tool that enables institutions to manage their business in a more innovative, cohesive and strategic way. Applied effectively, in support of clear business processes, it can confer competitive advantage, as well as provide enriched opportunities for collaboration.

From supporting teaching and research to managing strategic partnerships as part of business and community engagement, e-business is bringing new opportunities in efficiency and service improvement. <http://www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/publications/erevolutionebook.aspx>

In ConTact

Newsletter of the RSC
Scotland South & West
April 2009



Fionnuala Carmichael
Manager, RSC Scotland S&W

Spring 2009 has been a busy period for the RSC. In March, the JISC annual conference 'Opening Digital Doors' came to Scotland and attracted over 750 delegates. The next big event is our e-Inclusion Scotland event in May and the summer term promises to be an exciting one with a major event for senior managers at the Glasgow Science Centre.



We've also launched a new case studies initiative, aimed at sharing innovative practice from around our region and a dedicated area of the RSC Scotland South & West website has been set-up to showcase these. One of the case studies outlines the successful implementation of our 'eSkills for eLearning' Course at Ayr College. Our e-Skills course has also become a huge success in England! JISC RSC Eastern rolled it out across their region in 2008 and one of the participating colleges had the course accredited by a national awarding body, which has increased its popularity amongst staff.

REALISING THE BENEFITS: SHARING INNOVATIVE PRACTICE



Showcasing *The Best of the West*, this year our main event is being held in the prestigious Glasgow Science Centre on June 12th. Using local FE case studies that reflect developments around the region, the event will focus on sharing innovative and effective practice and initiatives that have had significant institutional impact in tertiary education in the south and west of Scotland.

A stunning visual panorama featuring *The Best of the West* banners will be on display, highlighting innovation in each of our 20 supported Colleges in the region. Guy Lambert, Managing Director of the new JISC Services Management Company is one of our keynote speakers and there will be a wide range of JISC services on hand to support and advise.

Aimed at principals, senior and middle managers, this event is free with 3 places available per institution. <http://www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/events.htm>

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Contents

eSkills for eLearning
programme update

Realising the
Benefits: sharing
innovative practice

RSCtv

New Build & Campus
Refurbishment

e-Inclusion Scotland '09:
Making Sense of Inclusion
in e-Learning

Bank On Success!
e-Assessment Project Pilot

Training & Events
Spring to Summer Schedule

P... Pick up a Podcast!

Virtualisation:
Are we there yet?

Addressing Library 2.0
Challenges

e-Books for e-Business

P...P...Pick up a Podcast



For the latest and archived audio and video podcasts from you local RSC, have a look on our website.

<http://www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/>



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RSCtv

A series of 20 minute lunch-time webinars which deliver training sessions straight to your desktop. Broadcasts are also recorded and archived on our website. Have a look at our current schedule or view previous broadcasts:

<http://www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/rsctv/RSCtv.htm>



New Build & Campus Refurbishment

The RSC can offer project planning and technical advice to learning providers who are about to embark on extensive or moderate rebuilding projects.

This advice comes from extensive practical experience of re-inventing campus ICT infrastructure during large-scale new build projects. Whether it's WiFi or fibre optic to procurement management.

For new build information and advice, contact Mark Clark 0141 585 0022

For updates on events and booking information for all our training, go to our website - look and book!

www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/events.htm

Making Sense of Inclusion in e-Learning

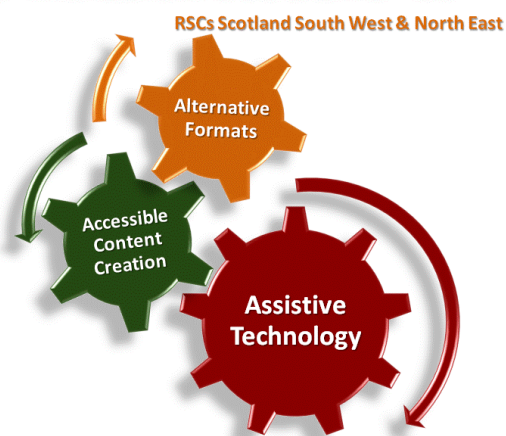
27th May 2009, Glasgow Caledonian University

Hosted by the two Scottish RSCs in collaboration with JISC TechDis, this full day event is for the movers and shakers supporting accessibility and inclusion in Scottish education.

- Come and be inspired at our workshops and presentations by the leading stars in Inclusion! We are absolutely delighted to have attracted the top UK accessibility and inclusion speakers to our Scottish event.
- Come and ask the experts! We have designated a large area called **The Inclusion Zone** where 8 of the leading assistive technology and ergonomic resources suppliers in Scotland!

To find out more information and make a booking, go to: <http://www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/events.htm>

e-Inclusion Scotland '09



Assessment forms a critical part of the learning process and e-Assessments have a number of benefits for both the learner and lecturer. These include the ability to provide immediate feedback to the learner, linking assessments to other online course materials being used, and lecturers spend less time marking assessments.

Bank on Success, a project focusing on e-Assessment, is being piloted by us here at the JISC RSC Scotland south & west during the summer term. Based on a model the RSC team has used before, the aim is to up-skill staff in the art of designing valid and reliable e-Assessments and at the same time build up an assessment bank for the sector to use.

During the pilot phase, supported Colleges and HEIs in the west of Scotland will be offered a free training workshop with the expectation that delegates will

create 2 sets of 10 questions tests to consolidate the new skills developed during training. These will be made available on the RSC website in a format suitable for your VLE.

Dates for training at the RSC are:

- ◆ June 3
- ◆ June 8
- ◆ June 10
- ◆ June 15

Information and application details are available from the RSC Scotland South & West website. <http://www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/events.htm#Jun>

Bank on Success e-Assessment Project

Summer Training Schedule of Workshops and Events

The RSC are continuing to facilitate a number of workshops and events in the run up to summer. Our new summer schedule is now available. Further details about our workshops and events can be found on our website

<http://www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/events.htm>

Our RSCtv lunchtime web broadcast is a popular choice. Further details about our current RSCtv schedule and an archive of previous broadcasts can be found at

<http://www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/rsctv/RSCtv.htm>

	Events & Training Dates 2009	Time & Cost
	April 22nd Smarter Greener Learning Conference Edinburgh Surgeons' Hall	09:00 – 17:00 Free
	April 22nd JISC Legal Webcast Web 2.0 and the Law for FE & HE Tune in to the online webcast	14:00 – 16:00 Free
	April 28th An overview of Web 2.0 technologies Tune in to our online webcast	14:30 – 12:50 Free
	April 28th From good intentions to Good Practice: Making the Disability Equality Duty Meaningful Venue: RSC Scotland S&W	10:30 – 16:00 Free
	May 6th JISC Legal Webcast Digital Copyright with Confidence Tune in to the online webcast	2.30 – 12.50 Free
	May 7th Podcasting for Pedagogic Purposes Venue: Glasgow Caledonian University	09:15 – 15:45 Free
	May 12th Social Network Inclusion Forum Tune in to our online webcast	14:30 – 12:50 Free
	May 26th Senior Management Briefing Tune in to our online webcast	14:30 – 12:50 Free
	May 27th e-Inclusion Scotland '09: Making Sense of Inclusion in e-Learning Venue: Glasgow Caledonian University	09.30 – 16:30 £75
	June 3rd, June 8th, June 10th, June 15th Bank on Success: e-Assessment Project Pick one of the training dates and join in!	9.30 – 16:00 Free
	June 9th Technical Briefing Tune in to our online webcast	14:30 – 12:50 Free
	June 12th Realising The Benefits: Senior Management Event Glasgow Science Centre	09.30 – 16.30 Free
	June 18th CALL Scotland - ICT & Inclusion event Venue: Glasgow Caledonian University	09.00 – 16.00 Free

WORKSHOPS & EVENTS