

JANET Talk trial - RSC Scotland South & West to pilot

The RSC Scotland South & West has been successful in securing an initial 20 trial licences for JANET-talk.

The first to try this new application will be college & HEI network managers who will be best able to monitor any network impact there may be and just how robust the features are. The trial is expected to commence in mid April 2008.

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TRILT—Television and Index for Learning and Teaching

TRILT is an online database of UK broadcasts, covering over 300 channels, including terrestrial, cable and satellite television, all national and many local radio stations.

TRILT facilitates the use of audio-visual material in learning, teaching and research, allowing staff and students to identify television and radio materials relevant to their area of study. In many cases, TRILT indicates sources of post-transmission copies, including the BUFVC's Off-Air Recording Back-up Service and online copies of radio programmes. Transmission details for forthcoming programmes are available at least ten days in advance, allowing users to plan their viewing and recording. TRILT has a personalisation service enabling users to set auto-alerts to email them when programmes relevant to their interests are coming up. In addition, programmes are enhanced with further information, such as improved descriptions, additional keywords, bibliographies and web links. Access to the TRILT service is through Athens Authentication.

<http://www.bufvc.ac.uk/TRILT>

NewsFeed

NewsFeed is a fortnightly service, from the two JISC Regional Support Centres in Scotland, designed to keep the FE & HE community informed about the latest ICT-related news, events, resources and training.

It has been designed to minimise the amount of email traffic you get by collating interesting and relevant information and presenting it concisely with electronic links to the full articles - all this delivered straight to your inbox every other Tuesday afternoon.

To subscribe, email us with the subject Newsfeed
support@rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk

e-Learning Questions? JISC Ask!

Q: How are ePortfolios being used in post 16 education ?

A: There is sometimes an assumption that the term e-Portfolio describes the digitisation of the familiar paper-based portfolios (with perhaps the inclusion of some new media), that have been used to document evidence of achievement and used principally as an assessment tool. An important aspect of lifelong learning is the learners' ability to assemble, demonstrate and reflect on the skills, knowledge and achievement they have built up during their learning experiences. One of the functions of electronic portfolios (e-portfolios) is to support this kind of activity. There is a shift of emphasis therefore, from the notion of an e-Portfolio being owned by an individual institution, to the notion of the e-Portfolio being owned by the learner for their personal development and personal use. This may include activities aligned to specific learning outcomes or courses but could also involve the learners giving access to relevant parts of their e-Portfolio for different purposes e.g. to a prospective employer. The scope therefore of an e-Portfolio is much broader than a record of achievement for a single course and will become a personal record of lifelong learning both formal and informal.

If you would like to send in a question about using technology or e-Learning, we would be happy to help and if we use your question you will receive one of our pen drives with a JISC lanyard - JISC for the asking!

E-mail your questions to: support@rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk



In Contact

RSC's - Stimulating and Supporting Innovation in Learning

RSC Support

With Charles Sweeney, Manager of the RSC since its establishment in 2000, retiring in December 2007, the first few months of 2008 have been a period of transition for the RSC team. Our main focus is to continue to provide practical, comprehensive ICT support to the sector.

In the coming months we hope to visit all the institutions that we support with an RSC Roadshow. One of the main roles of the RSC is to promote awareness and encourage the take-up of JISC services. The aim of the roadshow is to do just this and will give all staff in supported institutions an opportunity to meet with members of the RSC team and to find out more about the range of e-resources and services that are available. I'm delighted to say that we have also just received confirmation from the Scottish Funding Council of continued funding of our eAdvisors for Accessibility and eAssessment until 2010. A wide range of activity is planned that will continue to focus on providing practical solutions and advice.



Fionnuala Carmichael
RSC Manager

Innovative e-Learning with Mobile and Wireless Technologies

The Caledonian Academy of Glasgow Caledonian University is the Scottish venue for this event.



Funded and delivered by JISC and the Higher Education Academy, this event is for the benefit of staff from all post-16 institutions and sectors across the UK. Participants will explore technical, pedagogical and organisational change issues involved in the adoption and implementation of mobile and wireless technologies. Case studies from two local institutions will provide an insight into current Scottish developments in mobile and wireless technologies.



This full day event is free of charge and will be of interest to all staff involved in e-Learning, lecturers and information services staff. Reference will be made to the JISC publication Innovative Practice with e-Learning.

Places are limited to 50 on a first come first served basis so if you are interested in securing a place, please be sure to book early!

Further information and the booking form can be found on the events page of our website: <http://www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/events>

Newsletter of the RSC
Scotland South & West
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RSC Training & Events

April 2008

7th - Using Logfiles for Security

7th - IP Fundamentals

7 & 8th - Implementing Shibboleth at your Organisation

8th - 10th - NETWORK-SHOP 36

29th - JISC InfoNet - Getting your email and information under control

May 2008

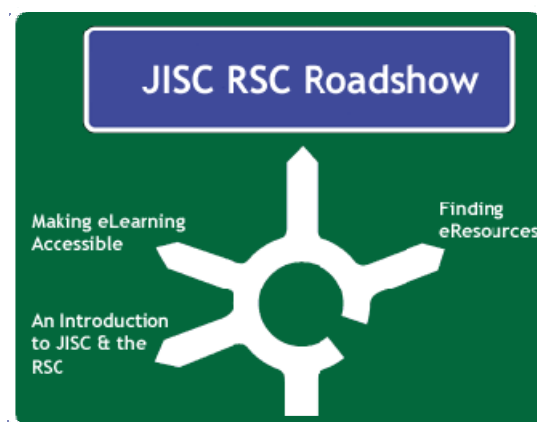
1st Innovative Learning with Mobile & Wireless Technologies

The RSC Roadshow is coming to town

The Team at the RSC are currently planning visits to all their supported institutions.

The Roadshow will provide all staff with an opportunity to meet with members of the RSC team and to find out more about the range of eResources and services that are available through JISC.

Staff will be able to visit the team throughout the day and in addition can attend short "Park and Ride" seminars on a variety of topics. Watch out for information about the RSC Roadshow coming to your town.



Protocol Analyser (open source)



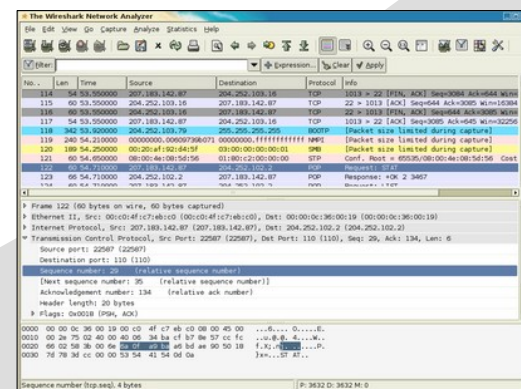
If you have a requirement to investigate and capture packets being transported across your campus network then the latest version of Wireshark could be what you're looking for. Previously known as Ethereal this latest update has many improvements and additional features that are usually only found on expensive commercial products.

Wireshark has been compiled as a Windows application but the available source code will easily compile on OS X, Linux & Solaris etc. Being an open source tool it is continuously being enhanced and developed, because of its ubiquitous nature, there are plenty of excellent books and manuals published as well as support and help which can be readily found from other academic users not to mention commercial consultants.

Some useful features are its real time graphing tool this allows you to see network traffic in real time as it happens giving you a better

feel for how your network is behaving. Filters can be introduced to a graph allowing you to make a real time comparison say between broadcast traffic and TCP traffic which can be used as a network health check.

The features are too extensive to list here but you can find a link to the Wireshark website for a free download in the 'Technical Staff' area of the RSC website. There you will also see links to a library of documentation and animated tutorials demonstrating many of Wireshark's features in real life situations.



<http://www.wireshark.org/>

For further information please contact Mark Clark at the RSC m.clark@rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk



Implementing the eSkills for eLearning course at Ayr College

An interview with SDO Bette Hay

eSkills for eLearning consists of eight half-day (three hour) workshops designed to cover the essential skills and knowledge that are needed by teaching staff to enable them to use technology for teaching & learning.

Ayr College implemented the eSkills Training Transfer Model devised by the team at the RSC, and have successfully rolled out the programme within the college. Initially the programme was delivered by RSC staff. Some of the Staff who attended this prepared to deliver the programme in house by attending a half-day induction workshop held at the RSC offices.

The college was provided with a mentor from the RSC team who acted as the main point of contact for all issues and support relating to the eSkills Training Transfer.

The college have successfully run the course twice to date. The original plan had been to run the eSkills Programme three times over the academic year, but this is now being re-evaluated with the programme likely to be offered twice a year to fall in line with the college's new two semester system.

"I now have greater ability in adapting teaching and learning materials."

They now plan to invite the new Curriculum Leaders who have been in place since the recent restructuring to participate in the course. The eSkills Course is publicised internally in the college via posters in staff areas and in the Flexible Learning Unit & Library. Bette has stressed that support from The Principal and Senior Managers in the college has been integral in getting the programme up and running.

Participants are given the course materials in a ring-bound pack with

electronic materials on CD and also available on the college VLE. The course runs on eight consecutive Fridays and this has meant some juggling of teaching timetables. The programme is delivered entirely by staff from the college.

Bette has pointed out how important it has been to have right people in place to deliver the course. This is a team effort involving the Blended Learning Manager, the Learning Technologist, the Learning Support Team, staff from the computing department with technical staff on hand to ensure the technology was up to the job. The fact that the majority of those involved in the delivery team are widely known throughout the college has been important. Bette was also keen to ensure that part-time staff were given the opportunity to participate on the course.

"I will definitely be using e-learning to deliver a new course I am currently developing."

Staff feedback has been positive and those involved have been focused and motivated. Staff participating in the course whilst undertaking the TQ (FE) have found it useful, as have those involved in the SOA eAssessment Unit. One Curriculum Leader has encouraged other members of the department to participate in the course and they are now adopting technology in their subject area.

"This was an excellent course and I have learned a great deal. The problem now is to put the learning into practice!"

Bette is happy for others who are considering implementing the eSkills Training Transfer Strategy to get in touch with her if they have any questions and be contacted by email.

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Important Information regarding Biz/ed

www.bized.co.uk

Biz/ed is the UK's leading educational website for students and educators in business studies, leisure, economics, accounting, sports & recreation and travel & tourism.

In 2006 the management of the site changed but for the past year users have been able to access Biz/ed seamlessly from both www.bized.ac.uk and www.bized.co.uk.

From November 07 Biz/ed has only been accessible from the new www.bized.co.uk domain and the Biz/ed team have requested that all bookmarks and hyperlinks are updated to reflect the new domain in order not to disrupt users experience through broken links.



www.rsc-sw-scotland.ac.uk/sdo/eskills.htm