USING MICROSOFT PRODUCER FOR IN-CLASS AND DISTANCE LEARNING

William R. Sherrard, Department of Information and Decision Systems, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA 92182, USA, 619 594 4304, william.sherrard@sdsu.edu
Feraidoon (Fred) Raafat, Department of Information and Decision Systems, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA 92182, USA, 619 594 4685, fred.raafat@sdsu.edu

INTRODUCTION

Producer is a PowerPoint add-on from Microsoft for creating dynamic and compelling presentations. Producer is a software package for capturing video, audio and still images from a Web camera, a camcorder or the computer screen. The captured content, along with imported PowerPoint slides, is synchronized with the video narration via Microsoft Producer. After saving the final presentation it can be published to an e-service provider, to a corporate intranet site, on a corporate network, or to the web.

At the SDSU College of Business Administration the Producer presentations are furnished to students as streaming media via a Rohan Account. The Rohan account can be accessed via a link from Blackboard. This puts the traditional Blackboard material for a course on the same website as the on-line Producer presentations. The SDSU experience has resulted in reduced class time for the instructor and an upward movement in the grade curve for students enrolled in the course.

The presentation and workshop outline is as follow:

I.   Historical Perspective
    A.   The pre-electronic era
    B.   Overheads, Movies and Power Point
II   Perspective on On-Line Learning
    A.   Slides and Voice
    B.   Slide Animation with Voice Overlay
    C.   Microsoft Producer: Combining Video and Power Point Technologies
III.   Current on-Line Presentation Techniques using Microsoft Producer
    A.   The Hybrid Classroom
    B.   Translations: Converting Presentations from English to Other Languages
    C.   Using Clip Art and Power Point Animations
    D.   Screen Captures: Illustrating Software Applications
    E.   Explaining Complex Equations: Combining Screen Captures and Animations
    F.   Split Screen/Multi-Tasking Technologies: Learning in Real Time
IV.   Microsoft Producer Presentation for Project Management
    A.   Screen Captures
    B.   Animations
    C.   Real Time Learning using Split-Screen and Multi-Tasking Technologies
V.   Experiences with Microsoft Producer at San Diego State University
    A.   The Hybrid Classroom &Reduction of In-Class Teaching Time
    C.   Effects of Producer on Grading
    D.   Student Comments