Virtual Learning Environment
infiniteSpaces is

• A division of Loyalist College in Belleville, Ontario, Canada

• Loyalist College offers:
  • Post Secondary programs in 65 Programs
  • Continuing Education programs
  • Learning Training and Knowledge Centre offering programs to the local community in business practices, manufacturing and government needs
infiniteSpaces

**CREATES** dynamic learning environments for organizations

**WHO** want to increase their training effectiveness, reach more people and save money

**OUR PRODUCT IS** an interactive 3D Virtual Learning Experience in contextually relevant environments

**THAT PROVIDES** interactive training tailored to your specific instructional needs

**UNLIKE** traditional, passive training programs the Virtual Learning Experience can be utilized for in-class blended experiences, or for on-line distributed training
Background on Virtual Worlds

- Virtual World Technology has been around for approximately 10 years

- MMOG – Massively Multiplayer Online Games started it all – would then span into social media and the business world

- Second Life created a world where people would create their own avatar’s or persona’s and engage with others and experience real life encounters and interactions

- In Second Life and World of War Craft it was found that:
  - The rules of interaction were rewritten
  - People became more social and more connected and more dependant on each other
  - Experiences in the Virtual World are REAL
Background on Virtual Worlds

- Virtual World Differentiators
  - The sense of SELF
  - The death of DISTANCE
  - The power of PRESENCE
  - The sense of SPACE
  - The capability to CO-CREATE
  - The pervasiveness of PRACTICE
  - The enrichment of EXPERIENCE
    Adapted from Leaning in 3D – Kapp/O’Driscoll

- Real life environments are replicated – contextually relevant

- We are observing our own behaviour – we learn from watching ourselves
Loyalist College created a virtual world platform for their Customs Program.

- Critical test skill scores increased by 28% in year 1 and an additional 11% in year 2
- Feedback from students:
  - "as close as it could get to real life"
  - "seeing, hearing, doing, we are actually there"
  - "understand that it is not a game"
  - "more realistic than traditional role plays"
  - "really doing the job"
Loyalist College has now rolled out our 3D Virtual Learning Environment to 5 additional courses at the college and has added a virtual campus with continuous expansion:

- Police - Accident Investigation
- Border Crossing
- Nursing - Interview (role play)
- Nursing - Safety
- Bioscience – Finding Fungi/Eco Walk

Outside projects include:

- Coaches Training Programs
- K-12 Programs – Building a House, Hospital Experience
- University Health Network
- Food Plant Safety
Types of Experiences
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Benefits of Interactive Learning and Experiences

- Cost Effective and Time Saver
  - Travel times do not exist
  - Travel costs are eliminated
  - Can produce experiences that would be costlier to create in the real world
  - Anyone can participate regardless of physical location
  - ROI Improvements

- Can reach more people with virtual learning experiences

- Self-Paced, not one size fits all
Benefits of Interactive Learning and Experiences

• Virtual World Training Modules are designed to look exactly like the real life environment

• 2012 ECAR study (Educause) showed that the 2nd highest need by students was simulations or game-based learning (55%)

• Conviction vs. Awareness –interactive approach to learning vs. a passive approach
Benefits of Interactive Learning and Experiences

• Virtual Learning Experiences can offer
  • Problem solving
  • Critical thinking
  • Collaboration
  • Communication

• Can allow for repeat access to training materials and refreshers for employee’s at anytime

• Iframe application allows for answering of quizzes or tests and activity can be monitored or directed to instructor/trainer
Benefits from Interactive Learning and Experiences

- Easy access
- Clear user interface
- Can be hosted in-house
- Voice enabled
- Can be single or multi user experience
- Runs in standard web browser
- Interface with LMS (coming soon)
Benefits from Interactive Learning and Experiences

• Virtual Learning Environment:
  • Extends the Classroom
  • Enhances the Experience
  • Augments Materials
  • Accelerates Learning

• Avatars are aspirational, cyclically influencing their creators identity

• Reaction from Staff at Loyalist College:
  • I feel like a kid again……
  • Exciting
  • Need to do more
  • Intoxicating
Benefits from Interactive Learning and Experiences

• infiniteSpaces Expertise
  • Infinite Spaces has been developing Virtual World Applications since 2007 and our products have been used in post secondary institutions, high school programs, government applications and the business sector.

• Technologies = Culture
  • Technology is part of the fabric of who we are
  • Today’s social media are not mindless distractions to be ignored
  • Along with Virtual Worlds these are world altering technologies that change the way we learn, communicate and interact
Business Model

Education, Industry, Medical
Business Model

Develop 3D training modules with mass appeal capitalizing on the current strengths of Loyalist College including:

- Full Time Programs
- Continuing Education
- Corporate Training and Development Center
- Ties to the community
infiniteSpaces Support Team

Corporate Business Developer:
• Product Development
• Client Support
• Licensing and Contracts

Development Team:
• Managing Director
• 5 developers (animators, programmers, architect)

Senior Support
• VP Academics
• Director Information Technology
Opportunity

Funding available to research viability for training applications
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