



Advanced Distributed Learning Initiative and IMS Global Learning Consortium Announce Strategic Partnership for Learning Standards Development and Distribution

Leading Learning Standards Organizations Approve Agreement to Mobilize Resources for the Evolution of and Cooperative Distribution of SCORM-related IMS Specifications

Alexandria, VA, and Lake Mary, FL - 7 November 2006 – The Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) Initiative, the developer and implementer of learning technologies across the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), and the IMS Global Learning Consortium (IMS), the leading advocacy group encouraging the growth and impact of learning technology worldwide, announced a strategic partnership for cooperative development.

While ADL and IMS have worked together informally in the past, this is the first formal alignment of the development and release processes of the two organizations. Under the terms of the partnership, ADL and IMS will cooperate to establish new workgroups and developer network resources focused on SCORM-related specifications developed under the auspices of IMS. ADL offers participation of its SCORM community to engage in these IMS workgroups while IMS establishes a process for those organizations wishing to engage in these joint activities. Beginning on January 1, 2007, the partnership will establish one place for the critical mass of interested organizations to come together to evolve SCORM-related IMS work, such as Content Packaging and Simple Sequencing and other areas of mutual interest.

"We believe this agreement will clarify the process to engage for those organizations interested in evolving the SCORM-related IMS work and will foster a higher level of collaboration across the global distributed learning community," comments Paul Jesukiewicz, Deputy Director of the ADL Initiative. "ADL would like to see all the supporters of SCORM worldwide join the new SCORM-related workgroups and developers network in IMS. IMS is making it extremely easy to do so, and it will allow us to work together more effectively than in the past."

In addition, the partnership establishes a process for ADL and IMS to cooperatively approve distribution and derivative works of the IMS SCORM-related work through third-party standards organizations, an area of increasing importance worldwide.

"The member organizations of IMS are united in advancing the impact of learning technology worldwide, but, we have not had processes in place to coordinate the efforts of standards organizations in support of this end," says Rob Abel, Chief Executive Officer of IMS. "We see this partnership as representing an important milestone in supporting the needs of the learning community to accelerate both interoperability and innovation worldwide, and I invite interested organizations to contact me directly to get involved in this important work."

Once received, a list of frequently asked questions and answers will be posted within a few weeks to <http://www.imsglobal.org>

About ADL

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (OUSD P&R) was tasked with leading a collaborative effort to harness the power of information technologies to modernize structured learning. Through the sponsorship of the OUSD P&R, the Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) Initiative was formed as a developer and implementer of learning technologies across the Department of Defense and federal government.

ADL employs a structured, adaptive, collaborative effort between the public and private sectors to develop the standards, tools and learning content for the learning environment of the future. The vision of the ADL Initiative is to provide access to the highest-quality learning and performance aiding that can be tailored to individual needs and delivered cost-effectively, anytime and anywhere.

For More Information Contact: secretariat@adlnet.gov

About IMS Global Learning Consortium

IMS/GLC is the leading advocacy group encouraging the growth and impact of learning technology worldwide. IMS/GLC is a global, nonprofit, member organization that provides leadership in shaping and growing the learning industry through community development of standards, promotion of innovation, and research into best practices. For more information visit www.imsglobal.org.

For More Information Contact: Lisa Mattson lisa@imsglobal.org