

## Best of Elearning! Accepting Nominations

Elearning! Magazine's

# 2007 [Best of]

Nominations are open for the annual "Best of *Elearning!* Awards," now in their third year. Three categories have been added.

Readers and professionals in the learning, CRM, sales and service fields can nominate providers of software, solutions, technology and content for the awards.

"Unlike other awards programs, *Elearning!* magazine leaves nominations and selections of these awards to the experts who invest and deploy these products: our readers," says Catherine Upton, *Elearning!* magazine's publisher.

More than 500 products received nominations last year.

Online ballots can be submitted until Dec. 1. Use the Website [http://elearning.b2bmediaco.com/2007\\_ballot.html](http://elearning.b2bmediaco.com/2007_ballot.html).

## New Accreditation Program To Improve Worker Quality

In response to calls from government and industry for a national system to better protect the public from under-qualified or unqualified workers, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) will launch an accreditation program for the organizations that issue demand-based education and training certificates to U.S. workers.

ANSI will partner with educators, industry and government experts to develop the standards of quality and procedural requirements upon which the new accreditation program will be based.

"The quality of certificate programs in the United States varies widely," says Lane Hallenbeck, ANSI vice president of accreditation services. "It is becoming increasingly difficult for consumers, employers, government agencies and others who rely upon a skilled workforce to identify which certificates are legitimate."

There is no nationwide regulation or monitoring consistently applied to all bodies that offer certificates — nor is there a nationally recognized set of criteria to qualify for any specific credential. The number of certificates that can be obtained via the Internet with virtually no requirement for training, experience or other qualifications is also growing rapidly.

ANSI has formed an advisory panel to assist in designing the accreditation system. Interested parties from the education and credentialing communities, consumer organizations, industry and government are invited to join the panel. For additional information, contact Dr. Roy Swift at [rswift@ansi.org](mailto:rswift@ansi.org) or (202) 331-3617.

## Market Share Leader in Global, Large-Scale LMS's

According to a recently published Bersin & Associates study, "Learning Management Systems 2008: Facts, Practical Analysis, Trends, and Vendor Profiles," Saba is "the vendor with the most experience in global, large-scale (LMS) implementations."

According to the Bersin & Associates LMS study, "ability to scale" refers to a vendor's ability to handle large, global client solutions with more than 10,000 learners spread over multiple countries and continents. With global sales and service operations in North America, Europe, the Middle East, Latin America and Asia Pacific, Saba was also recognized in the report as having the largest average implementation size of any LMS vendor.

"Saba was the LMS market pioneer," says Josh Bersin, president of Bersin & Associates. "It virtually created and defined the market for enterprise-wide LMS's. This most recent data demonstrates the company's continued success."

Additionally, the LMS study noted that Saba now has a competitive, on-demand solution for the mid-market that is affordable and easy to deploy. According to the study, the mid-market is made up of organizations with fewer than 10,000 learners and often fewer than 5,000.



## Expertus Named Leader In Training Outsourcing

Expertus, a provider of strategic training outsourcing services, has been named one of TrainingOutsourcing.com's top training outsourcing companies for 2007. The annual Top 20 list recognizes leading training outsourcing companies for their high quality of services, comprehensive capabilities, demonstrated expertise and experience in managing major BPO engagements, and significant impact on the industry.

This is the second time Expertus has been recognized by TrainingOutsourcing.com. In 2006, Expertus appeared on its list of emerging outsourcing leaders.

"Expertus has been on our radar for several years," says Doug Harward, founder and CEO of TrainingOutsourcing.com. "This year, Expertus has seen significant growth and has impressed us with its ability to handle highly complex engagements and add significant value that goes beyond clients' expectations. Expertus deserves to be in the upper echelon of training outsourcing."

For details on TrainingOutsourcing.com's Top 20 list, go to [http://trainingoutsourcing.com/to\\_news.asp?id=5842](http://trainingoutsourcing.com/to_news.asp?id=5842). For more information on Expertus, go to [www.expertus.com](http://www.expertus.com) or contact Mike Murrell at (919) 386-0135 or [michaelm@expertus.com](mailto:michaelm@expertus.com).



## Online Professional Learning Center Is Up

VCampus Corp. and the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) have launched IMA's Professional Learning Center (PLC). The IMA PLC, available at [www.imanet.org/PLC](http://www.imanet.org/PLC), brings together a variety of online certification-preparation options for professionals studying for the Certified Management Accountant (CMA) exam, as well as continuing education self-study resources for professionals looking to expand their skills and career.

The CMA designation, held by nearly 20,000 professionals worldwide, provides an objective measure of the accounting, financial, information management and strategic-planning skills. Developed as part of the VCampus Select Partner Program, the IMA PLC will offer a comprehensive suite of CMA certification-prep tools in one convenient online portal. The new and improved tools include the CMA Online Assessment, the CMA Learning System Version 2.0, and the new CMA Online Intensive Review course. The CMA Learning System Version 2.0 program is also offered as instructor-led courses through a network of more than 40 international IMA-approved providers, including 25 U.S. colleges and universities.

The CMA Learning System Version 2.0 was launched in June, and the CMA Online Assessment and the CMA Online Intensive Review was launched in July.



## Nomix Digital Partners With Learn.Com

Nomix Digital, a provider of training and consultancy services in South Africa, has partnered with Learn.com to resell the LearnCenter platform to the South African market.

Built on Learn.com's award-winning Learning Management System (LMS) technology, the LearnCenter platform has grown into a complete Talent Management Suite (TMS). The LearnCenter platform manages the entire pre-hire to retire lifecycle by creating a cost-effective, high-quality training, development and measurement environment designed to empower users with visibility into and control of their career planning while providing management with real-time business intelligence.

For more information, visit the Websites [www.nomix-digital.co.za](http://www.nomix-digital.co.za) or [www.learn.com](http://www.learn.com) or phone Learn.com at (954) 233-4000.

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## Homeland Security Gets New Software System

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) United States Fire Administration (USFA) is now running Plateau Systems' talent management software to support its National Fire Academy (NFA) training efforts for fire and emergency responders. Powered by Plateau's learning management system (LMS), the NFA's Web-based online training system, NFAOnline, ([www.nfaonline.dhs.gov](http://www.nfaonline.dhs.gov)) maximizes the training and education experience for external users while extending collaboration and information-sharing throughout the fire and emergency services community.

Through its courses and programs, the NFA works to enhance the ability of fire and emergency services and allied professionals to deal more effectively with fire and all hazard emergencies.

Plateau Learning's closed-loop process enables the NFA to fill performance and development gaps with targeted learning activities, and provides centralized training delivery and tracking for an increasing number of online courses, including "Incident Management ICS 100 and ICS 200," "Emergency Response to Terrorism" and "EMS Operations at Multi-Casualty Incidents." With Plateau, NFA can extend its distance learning initiatives beyond the walls of the NFA campus and expand its curriculum to include

digital information and materials, thereby increasing training opportunities for users.

NFAOnline provides an easy-to-use, one-stop Website where fire and emergency services personnel and the general public can access free training and education programs to complete at their own pace.

"As a blended learning tool," says Paul Sparta, Plateau chairman and CEO, "NFAOnline effectively complements and augments the Academy's popular resident course line-up and expands its independent study Web-based distance learning courses. By supporting the Academy's traditional resident and distance learning training courses, Plateau is extending NFA's training programs and improving the delivery of state and local fire and emergency services across the nation." 



## People on the Move



### BROADCAST PIX ADDS TWO

Video industry veterans Arco Groenberg and Allan Leon have been added to the Broadcast Pix sales team.

Groenberg, based in San Francisco, Calif., is now senior sales manager for the Western Region and Allan Leon is now the company's Southeastern Region sales manager, based in Chapel Hill, N.C. Groenberg's territory is composed of 13 Western states plus three Western Canadian provinces. Prior to joining Broadcast Pix, he was a sales manager at Avid Technology.

Leon has 30 years experience in the professional video business, serving in a variety of sales and engineering roles. Most recently, he was at

Creative Media Products, a manufacturer's rep firm based in Chapel Hill. Broadcast Pix integrates switcher and computer technology to provide live television production systems. It is based in Burlington, Mass., with offices in California and Europe.

### CONVIO GETS NEW

**DIRECTOR** Ted Smith, Ph.D., has been named director of client education for Convio, Inc. He has extensive knowledge and experience in developing curriculums and designing education and training programs that help ensure successful software deployment as well as providing ongoing results from technology and services. In addition, Smith is very familiar

with Convio's software, having been a client and end-user since helping start the Hill Country Ride for AIDS in 2000.

As director, Smith will lead the team responsible for the development and delivery of a rich portfolio of classroom, online and customized training programs.

Most recently, he was a principal of a successful consulting practice in business and technical communication services for a diverse portfolio of clients ranging from associations and non-profits to government entities and *Fortune* 500 companies.

### VICE CHAIR RETIRES

The Thomson Corporation's vice chairman, Brian H. Hall, has retired. He joined Thomson in 1995 as president and CEO of Thomson Legal Publishing, where he led the acquisition and integration of West Publishing, which formed the foundation of the Thomson Legal & Regulatory group. Over the course of his

career, Hall was responsible for the strong growth of Thomson's legal and regulatory businesses, with 2006 revenues exceeding \$3.6 billion. In his role as vice chairman, Hall played a leading role in systematizing the company's growth strategy and investment decisions.

### NAMED TO BOARD

Edmund "Ted" F. Kelly has been elected to the Board of Directors of EMC Corp. He is the chairman, president and CEO of Liberty Mutual Group, a Boston-based diversified global insurer and the nation's sixth-largest property and casualty insurer with more than \$88 billion in consolidated assets. An active *Fortune* 500 CEO, Kelly has wealth of complex management, worldwide operational and financial expertise. Kelly, 62, was elected chairman of Liberty Mutual in April of 2000. He joined Liberty Mutual in 1992 as president and COO, and was elected CEO in 1998.