

Advancing Knowledge: The Role of Digital Learning Resource Marketplaces

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Abstract:

The agenda at the leading edge of eLearning has shifted well beyond the simplistic issues that dominated discussion only a couple of years ago. Organisations and consortia in different industry sectors are focusing on the real challenges of liberating knowledge assets from their previous boundaries caused by application-based 'lock-in'. Social, cultural, economic and political imperatives require that organisation's, and collaborative partnerships derive greater value from their knowledge-based assets.

In the face of these demands, the killer applications become collaboration and the reliable discovery and exploitation of shared knowledge. Government and industry partnerships encourage solution-driven architectures that combine Open Source with commercial applications instead of the less workable 'either/or' ways of thinking. Genuine support for Open Standards is critical and is of higher value than Open Source alone. Innovative implementations are moving towards service oriented approaches and away from monolithic architectures in order to meet the new demands, and the use of structured content and the advantages it provides are becoming a reality for the education sector.

Using current deployment examples from around the globe and in a range of industry sectors, the speaker will discuss the emergence of cross border digital learning resource marketplaces and their role in advancing knowledge.