4TH INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION OF NON-COMMERCIAL SOFTWARE SYSTEMS, TOOLS AND PRODUCTS FOR TECHNOLOGY-BASED EDUCATION

September 29 - October 1, 2008
Crete, Greece

Chair: Prof. Jean-Pierre Gerval, Ph.D.
Head of the Computer Sciences Department
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Goal:

The goal of this competition is to identify best recently developed non-commercial innovative software systems, tools, and/or products (later - SW products) for the area of Technology-Based Education. Possible examples of SW products **may include but are not limited** to:
- Tools and simulators for technology-based labs;
- Tools and simulators for virtual scientific labs;
- Educational tools based on wireless technology, Internet and Internet2 technology;
- Educational tools for PCs, PDAs, Pocket PCs, Tablet PCs, smart phones, etc.,
- Innovative technology-based courseware;
- Tools for virtual learning environments;
- Programming tools;
- Tools for web-based simulations and modeling;
- Communication tools;
- Tools for streaming multimedia;
- Testing tools;
- Tools for Web-based education;
- Security tools;
- Authoring tools (for development of learning content);
- Learning management system (LMS);

etc.

General Timetable of Activities:

1. **By August 15th, 2008**, please submit a final manuscript of your accepted CATE-2008 paper.

2. **By August 15th, 2008**, please inform by email the CATE-2008 Secretariat (Ailin Zhu – CATE-2008 Conference Manager; Email: "IASTED" Calgary@iasted.org) about your desire to participate in Software Competition.

3. **By August 10th, 2008**, please pay full CATE-2008 registration fee.

4. **By August 15th, 2008**, please provide CATE-2008 Conference Manager (Ailin Zhu – CATE-2008 Conference Manager; Email: "IASTED" Calgary@iasted.org) with a 1-page letter (on university letterhead) with the following information:

- number of accepted CATE-2008 paper,
- name of a presenter,
- name of software system to be presented,
- a short (up to 10 sentences description of a software system – goals, functions, feedback from users)
- a web site (URL) with a DEMO version and GUI in English of the software system,
- guest Login and Password (if necessary).

All these pieces of information will be forwarded to 12-15 international referees for pre-conference evaluation of the software system. Based on results of pre-conference evaluation and feedback from international referees the IPC will select finalists of this competition.

5. **By August 31, 2008**, all selected finalists of this international Software Competition will be notified regarding a final decision of the CATE-2008 IPC.

6. **September 29-30, 2008: a final session of the Software Competition.**

Awards and Benefits:

The winner of this competition will receive:
1. a prestigious **CATE-2008 Best Software Product** Award,
2. **CATE-2008 Best Software System** Certificate.

General Requirements:

In general, SW products should be recently (during the last 2-3 years) developed and based on modern software, hardware, communication, collaboration technologies. They should **clearly demonstrate**:
- relevance to technology-based education;
- innovativeness (in comparison with other similar SW products);
- completeness and readiness for immediate use in technology-based education;
- functionality and quality of final SW product;
- top quality of development (including feedback from end users such as students, faculty, administrators, external evaluators, etc.).

Specific requirements include:

1. A presented SW product should be an **original SW product developed by a team of researchers or a researcher.**
2. A presented SW product should **NOT be a commercial** product (like MathLab, MatLab, WebCT, BlackBoard, Angel, etc.) or be heavily based on commercial product for technology-based education.
3. For this competition only, the basic **Graphic User Interface (GUI) of SW product should be in English language.**
4. **A presenter of SW product should be a member of SW product's development team**.
5. A presenter of SW product should be able to demonstrate main functions and features of SW product **using his/her laptop and wireless Internet** (if necessary) at conference room.
6. A presenter of SW product should be able to **answer in English language all possible questions** from international referees and/or attendees.

General Framework of the Final Session of Software Product Competition

1. **Up to 10 minutes** per SW product's demonstration for a committee of international referees.
2. It is expected that a presenter of SW product **will stay in conference hall for about 1 hour** and answer possible questions from attendees of this Competition.
3. Dress code: **casual.**

A Recommended Structure of 10-minute demonstration:

1. **Introduction** (name, country, university, etc.) – *about 1 minute*
2. **Goal and objectives of SW product** – *about 2 minutes*
3. **Main features and functionality, uniqueness and innovativeness** *-- about 5 minutes*
4. **Feedback from Users** *-- about 1 minute*
5. **Conclusion/Future Development** *-- about 1 minute*

List of Evaluation Criteria for a SW Product:

#	Evaluation Criteria	Paper # (paper's ratings per each evaluation criteria)				
1	**Relevance to Technology-Based Education**					
2	**Results of performed analysis of existing similar SW products (in other words, how unique is developed SW product)**					
3	**Innovativeness SW product**					
4	**Completeness of SW product and its readiness for immediate use in technology-based education**					
5	**Developed features, characteristics, and functionality of SW product**					
6	**Overall quality of SW product (including, feedback from end users – students, faculty, administrators, etc.)**					
7	**Perspectives and future development of SW product**					

Questions ? Problems?

Please contact:

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