

# 8<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION OF NON-COMMERCIAL SOFTWARE SYSTEMS, TOOLS AND PRODUCTS FOR TECHNOLOGY-BASED EDUCATION

**June 25-27, 2012  
Napoli, Italy**

## **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:**

- Software and software/hardware tools and simulators for technology-based labs;
- Software and software/hardware tools and simulators for virtual scientific labs;
- Educational tools based on wireless technology, Internet and Internet2 technology;
- Educational tools for PCs, Tablet PCs, etc.;
- Mobile devices for technology-based education and mobile learning -- PDAs, smart phones, etc.;
- Innovative technology-based courseware;
- Tools for ubiquitous/virtual learning environments;
- Web2.0-based systems, recommender systems, semantic Web-based systems, etc.;
- Programming tools;
- Tools for web-based simulations and modeling;
- Communication tools;
- Tools for streaming multimedia;
- Tools for innovative testing and assessment;
- 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 May 1, 2012**, please inform by email the CATE-2012 Secretariat (Dr. Karen Lee – CATE-2012 Conference Planning Manager; Email: "IASTED" [Calgary@iasted.org](mailto:Calgary@iasted.org) ) about your desire to participate in Software Competition.
2. **By May 8, 2012**, please submit a final manuscript of your accepted CATE-2012 paper.
3. **By May 15, 2012**, please pay full conference registration fee.
4. **By May 20, 2012**, please provide CATE-2012 Secretariat (Dr. Karen Lee - Conference Planning Manager; Email: "IASTED" [Calgary@iasted.org](mailto:Calgary@iasted.org) ) with a 1-page letter (on university letterhead) with the following information:
  - number of accepted CATE-2012 paper,
  - name of a presenter,
  - name of software system to be presented,
  - a short (up to 500 characters) 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 20-25 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 June 1, 2012**, all selected finalists of the International Software Competition (who paid on time conference registration fees) will be notified regarding a final decision of the CATE-2012 International Program Committee.
6. **June 25-27, 2012: Final session of the Software Competition.**

### **Awards and Benefits:**

The winner of this competition will receive:

1. a prestigious **CATE-2012 Best Software System** Award,
2. **CATE-2012 Best Software System** Certificate.

### **General Requirements:**

In general, SW products should be developed recently (during the most recent 1-2 years) and based on modern software, hardware, communication, collaboration technologies.

Software products to be presented 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 or well-known open-source** product (like, WebCT, BlackBoard, MathLab, Sakai, 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.
7. It is expected that each presenter will bring his/her laptop with all required software/hardware set-ups.
8. Internet connection is ordered in conference hall but not guaranteed.
9. IASTED's laptop with **generic software/hardware** (nothing special or unique) set-ups will be available at the conference room.

**General Framework of the Final Session of Software Product Competition**

1. **Up to 15 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 15-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 10 minutes*
4. **Feedback from Users** -- *about 1 minute*
5. **Conclusion/Future Development** -- *about 1 minute*

**List of Evaluation Criteria for a SW Product (to be used by 20-25 international referees):**

| # | 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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