

# What's New

## Software



**FrameWorks** is a new software program from Lucid Data. According to the developer, the program is a tool to support teachers in self-assessment and supervisors in providing feedback. The program features self-assessment and coaching forms, pre- and post-assessment comment exchanges, and customizable rubrics. The program requires PDEExpress and MyPDC, both from Lucid Data. Pricing depends on the number of users. Contact Lucid Data for more information.

*Lucid Data*  
1.866.582.4373  
<http://www.lucid-data.com>

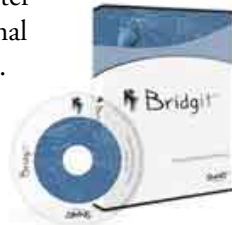
Sanako released new versions of **Lab 100** and **Lab 300**, the company's language teaching software. Lab 100 v3.0 includes options to grade students according to their performance and enter short notes that can be seen in the Grading report, as well as a classroom management function that allows teachers to take roll by having students press their Teacher Call buttons. Lab 300 v5.0 features a pronunciation graph guide, automatic video transfer, and automatic browser control. Pricing and other information is available from the company's Web site.

*Sanako Corporation*  
1.845.277.3320  
<http://www.sanako.com>

SMART Technologies, Inc., released **Bridgit 2.0**, a conferencing software

that allows multiple users to connect and share real-time data. This version has new features including multipoint Webcam support, remote control, simplified user interface, and additional language support.

Users can download a free 30-day evaluation copy of the program from the Web site. Organizations can choose to purchase Bridgit software for \$2,499 or subscribe to the data-conferencing server for \$39.99 per month. Contact the company for pricing details. Current Bridgit customers can receive a free upgrade.



*SMART Technologies, Inc.*  
1.888.42.SMART  
<http://www.smarttech.com>

Agilix Labs launched **Mobilizer for Blackboard**, a system that allows the automatic creation of offline, mobile content collections from existing course materials using the Blackboard Learning System. The system consists of a server-side component deployed as a Blackboard Building Block and a client-side plug-in connector within Agilix GoBinder. Contact the company for pricing and availability.

*Agilix Labs, Inc.*  
1.801.932.1220  
<http://www.agilix.com>

SpectorSoft released a Corporate Network Edition (CNE) of its **Spector Pro** surveillance and monitoring software. According to the company, Spector CNE can be remotely configured and installed from any computer on a network to any computer on a

network. The program captures and allows review of e-mails sent and received, chat conversations and instant messages, files downloaded, Web sites visited, applications launched, and keystrokes typed. E-mail alerts notify the administrator whenever certain words or phrases appear in a monitored computer's e-mail, chat, instant message, or viewed Web site. A 10-user license costs \$495.

*SpectorSoft*  
1.888.598.2788  
<http://www.SpectorCNE.com>

Waves in Motion released **CourseWizard 5.1**, a professional development program that allows administrators to export data in XML format, send automatic reminder e-mails, assign grading categories to an offering, add multiple URLs to an offering, and easily generate PDF reports. A free demo of the program is available at the company's Web site.

*Waves in Motion*  
1.602.956.7080  
<http://www.wmotion.com/coursewizard.htm>

## Hardware

Apple introduced its new **Power Mac G5**. All new models feature dual PowerPC G5 64-bit processors, 8x SuperDrive, up to 500 GB of serial ATA internal storage, and up to 8 GB of DDR SDRAM. There are three models: a Dual 1.8 GHz, a Dual 2 GHz, and a Dual 2.5 GHz. The computers come loaded with Mac OS X v 10.3 "Panther," iLife, and more. Also, accord-



ing to Apple, the new computer is two times quieter than a Power Mac G4 and has a liquid cooling system. Prices start at \$1,999.

*Apple, Inc.*  
1.800.MY.APPLE  
<http://www.apple.com>



Toshiba introduced the **T90 projector series** that consists of three models; the TDP-T90U, the TDP-T91U, and the TDP-TW90U. All the new projectors display 2,000 ANSI lumens, have native XGA 1024 × 768 resolution and a 2000:1 contrast ratio. The TDP-T90U is the base model. The T91U has a detachable document camera, and the TW90U has integrated wireless capabilities. According to the manufacturer, all the projectors come with multimedia capabilities, connectivity options, and convenient setup. The T90U costs \$1,899. T91U and TW90U cost \$2,099.

*Toshiba*  
1.800.316.0920  
<http://www.toshiba.com>

## Resources

WestEd Regional Technology Education Consortium (RTEC) has released a new tool to help districts create a technology plan. The TechPlan Builder was originally designed to help California districts write and update their technology plans but it has been upgraded so that it will work with any district in the United States. The TechPlan Builder leads you through a series of interviews and worksheets and then generates a district technology plan that is ready for approval, use,



and updating. The TechPlan Builder is a free online resource from RTEC.

*WestEd Regional Technology Education Consortium (RTEC)*  
<http://wested.org/techplanbuilder>

The State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA) launched SETDA Connects, a comprehensive online searchable database for the educational community. According to the group, the Web site offers in-depth research; an interactive concept map to provide definitions, examples, and resources for research topics; information on competitive grants; Ed Tech highlights from each of the 50 states, Washington, D.C., the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and American Samoa; contact information for state Ed Tech staff; keyword searches; and other resources. The Web site address is <http://www.setdaconnects.org>.

*SETDA*  
<http://www.setda.org>

Thomson Gale released LitFinder, a database of literature covering all time periods and containing tens of thousands of poems, short stories, essays, speeches, and plays. According to the company, the database includes a subject navigator and basic and advanced search modes that allow users to search by keyword, author, subject, work title, work date, nationality, gender, and more. More information is available at the company's Web site.

*Thomson Gale*  
<http://www.gale.com>

ISTE and the Multi-media Instructional Network Delivery System (MINDS) have made several of NECC 2004's keynote and concurrent sessions available as archived streaming video. The ses-



sions will be available until January 7, 2005. To register for the Webcasts, go to <http://necc2004.minds.tv>.

*MINDS*  
1.877.751.8100  
<http://www.minds.tv>

## Books



Cisco Press released *Computer Networking First-Step*, the first in the company's First-Step Series. The book provides an introduction to core networking concepts and topics, and is geared toward readers with little or no previous networking experience. The list price is \$24.95.

*Cisco Press*  
<http://www.ciscopress.com>

ISTE released *Palm OS Handhelds in the Elementary Classroom: Curriculum and Strategies*, a guide to the effective integration of handhelds into everyday curriculum. The book contains detailed activity guides ranging from small, independent lessons to full-fledged cross-curricular units. A CD-ROM of handheld software aimed at younger students, including a spreadsheet, concept mapper, word processor, and other project-generating multimedia programs, is included. The price is \$39.95 for ISTE members and \$44.45 for nonmembers.



*ISTE*  
1.800.336.5191  
<http://www.iste.org/bookstore>

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