A podcast & slides on DRM and copyright issues
University of Southampton, ECS, INFO2009 Academic Year 10-11

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EdShare URI: http://www.edshare.soton.ac.uk/6383/

Abstract

This resource seeks to educate about copyright and digital rights management (DRM) for the INFO2009 module. This describes the reasoning behind choosing the subject as well as explaining the way we went about creating it. Producing it in the form of a slide show presentation and accompanying podcast in order to engage the user. This hopefully promotes and publicises the resource set as an informative and useful teaching asset.

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Introduction

Our resource is a teaching aid for the subject of INFO2009. It looks at the professional and legal issue of copyright and DRM. It has been presented in the format of a slide show presentation and a podcast. The slide show is a professional and simplistic overview of the topic containing key information about the topic chosen. The podcast is an informal discussion that expands the content and subject further.

Background

We chose the topic of copyright and DRM because it was a subject that interested us, all being consumers of mass multimedia, and it is something that has been an interesting source of debate over the past year with both the arrival of new legislation, and the prosecution of the owners of 'The Pirate Bay' torrent site.

We chose a slide show and accompanying podcast as our medium of communicating this subject to our audience, because it is a familiar method of presenting a new topic. However even the most exciting and well designed presentation is still lacking when it comes to the issue of engaging an audience. Therefore we decided to produce an accompanying podcast, giving both a more approachable dimension to our resource, as well as containing more information than could be conveyed from the slides alone.

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Method

In researching our chosen topic, we turned to the Internet; accessing everything from blogs and websites, to peer-reviewed academic papers, government legislation sources and conference articles. Having collected together a wealth or resources from which to educate our audience, it was time to create a informative resource. Using google docs cloud computing centre and acrobat.com, we were able to simultaneously work on presenting our gathered information in a well structured and professional slide show.

Once we were happy with the content and design, the podcast was recorded.

We recorded a podcast, discussing our slides and the topic in general. Each person explained the slides they had researched, sometimes with others adding input to their area. The podcast is an informal discussion on the subject of copyright and DRM, it looks at a number of issues raised by the subject and our slides and tries to answer some of the important questions about the future of DRM technology and whether or not piracy can be stopped.

Discussion

Ask any lecturer and most will tell you that they choose to give their lectures with the help of a presentation. Students are familiar with this and they can be an excellent method for conveying a lot of information over a short period of time in nice bite-sized chunks. Available for download for nearly every module taught, they can also be used as a valuable place for revision, giving a good overview of the key areas in a nice presentable fashion.

Although a lot of this may seem a much overused medium, it can still be shown that this remains one of the most popular choices by both business professional and academic teaching staff. However many students will argue that the value of the presentation comes not only from its content, but also from the manner in which it is presented. Moreover, the added information given by the lecturer is a key ingredient in what makes them attend lectures. In order to provide this with our resource, we recorded a podcast that fully captures the whole education experience in a self contained 12 minute breakdown. Useful as a resource by itself it is the combination of the two resources that really gives a well rounded view of the topic and helps make the subject more memorable to the audience long after they have seen it.

Conclusion

This resource is the ideal choice for anyone wishing to educate themselves or other people about the subject of copyright and Digital Rights Management. It successfully conveys key information in a user friendly and enjoyable experience making the topic memorable for all. The resource can be found at www.edshare.soton.ac.uk/6383/ - We hope you enjoy this teaching asset and learn from it.

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