



To Comenius schools

Comp@ct

Service Portal • On-line Help
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Events, Seminars, Conferences

Where to find more information?

<http://www.eduprojects.net/sig2>

How to register your interest ?

If you would like register your interest,
please send a message to
p.reiter@ist.eduhi.at

Emerging Technologies

The SIG2 Special interest group 2 on Emerging technologies is part of a European network active in the field of school education and ICT called **Comp@ct** (www.eduprojects.compact).

Comp@ct is funded by the European Commission within **SOCRATES/COMENIUS 3**. It started in October 2001 and will last until September 2004.

The **main aim** of **SIG 2** is to work on the educational benefits and the development of classroom methodologies in the use of **emerging technologies** such as broadband, streaming technology, audio broadcasting and mobile learning devices.

SIG 2 involves partners from **Austria: Education Highway**
www.eduhi.at

France: Fréquence Sille
www.frequence-sille.org

Scotland: Aberdeen City Council Education Department
www.aberdeen-education.org.uk

What do we mean by “Emerging Technologies”?

Schools should keep abreast of new technologies and how these can change the way that teaching and learning takes place. At the moment most countries in Europe are developing fast access grids which will have the potential to considerably facilitate webbased learning. When such access is widespread schools should be ready to reap the benefits.

Activities:

SIG 2

- provides **information** on emerging technologies and their educational benefits,
- gathers and disseminates **interesting examples of projects** highlighting the pedagogical innovation linked to the use of emerging technologies
- promotes **sharing of experiences** and **networking** of educational institutions active in the thematic area from all over Europe and beyond by means of ICT and **by organizing events**

Target Groups:

The target groups of SIG 2 are teachers from all over Europe, teacher educators and trainers, school administrators, researchers and media companies.

What is Broadband?

Broadband is a new way of connecting to the Internet that will ensure rapid access, faster download times and a better overall performance such as high-resolution, graphics and CD-quality sound.

Broadband connections are sometimes also called “fat pipes” due to the substantial amounts of data they can carry compared to more traditional “narrowband” connections such as a modem which delivers variable service quality with slow download speeds. A broadband connection can be delivered in several different ways: Cable, DSL, fixed wireless and satellite.

What is Streaming technology?

Video streaming means that a sequence of “moving images” is sent in compressed form over the Internet and displayed by the viewer immediately as they arrive. Streaming media is streaming video with sound. With streaming video or streaming media, a Web user does not have to wait to download a large file before seeing the video or hearing the sound. Instead, the media is sent in a continuous stream and is played as it arrives. The user needs a *player*, which is a special program that uncompresses and sends video data to the display and audio data to speakers. A player can be either an integral part of a browser or downloaded from the software maker’s Web site.

For more information please visit the following websites:

Audiovisual services for school education avd.eduhi.at
Edmond www.edmond-nrw.de
Blueprint for interactive classrooms www.avd.kuleuven.ac.be/bic

What is Audio Broadcasting?

The radio is an excellent educational tool for training language and communication skills. It can also enhance active citizenship attitudes. Diffusion, reception, exchange, production and co-production – the technologies available within audiobroadcasting offer new possibilities for pupils to speak, to create, to inform, to share feelings and ideas based on voices and sounds. The online publishing of sounds, webreportages, the exchange of radio files, the composition of broadcasts and programs, the creation of a radio, of a database of sounds or online broadcasting... The FM radio is interesting but restricted to regional coverage. The new broadcasting technology offers new opportunities to reach a wider European public. Hence new possibilities to broadcast and to listen to the voices of Europe.

For more information please visit the following website:

Radio Fréquence Sille www.frequence-sille.org

What are Mobile Learning Devices?

As the concept of Anytime Anywhere learning becomes more widespread, there is a growing interest in mobile learning devices. The trend is towards portable technology such as handheld devices, wireless tablets and devices based on mobile phone technology. Using such equipment, pupils could, for example, access the internet remotely, download e-books onto a web tablet and use their mobile phones for teacher-student communication.

For more information please visit the following websites:

Anytime Anywhere learning www.microsoft.com/uk/aal/Home-School
BECTA Research Area www.becta.org.uk/research/reports/homeschoollinks
Use of Handhelds www.palm.com/education/studies