

Comparison of Presentation Recording Systems

Only systems that support automated conversion of narrated PowerPoint presentations to a web format are included.

| | PowerConverter v.4 www.presentationpro.com | Apresso for PPT v. 1.5 www.agilitypresenter.com | MediaSite Live www.sonicfoundry.com | SoftTV Show & Tell v. 3.2 www.softv.net | Impatica for PowerPoint v. 3.0.1 www.impatica.com | Macromedia Breeze www.macromedia.com/breeze |
|-----------------------|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| Ease of Use | Excellent | Good. | Could not evaluate. | Excellent. | Good. | Good. But control panel stays on screen during presentation. |
| Cost | \$319. Volume discounts. | \$149 | \$21-\$25,000 | Standard \$349, Pro \$449 | \$299 | \$10,000 and up. |
| Flexibility | Many options when exporting. Works only within PPT. | Several output options. Works as a plugin to PowerPoint. | Works with any type of presentation. | Plugin to PowerPoint. More options in Pro version | Pretty good. Standalone conversion application. | PowerPoint plugin. Several output options. |
| Platform(s) | Create Windows. Deliver Win/Mac. | Create & deliver Windows only. IE browser. | Create Windows. Deliver Win/Mac. | Create Windows. Deliver Win/Mac. | Create & Deliver Windows and Mac. Viewers: any browser 2.0 + | Create & Deliver Windows and Mac |
| Servers | Any web server | Any web server. Winodws streaming server optimal. | Bundled Win2K server. | Web server, optional RTSP server. | Any web server. | Win2K or 2003 web server |
| User plugin | Flash 5 or MX | Windows Media Player 6.4 + | IE/Netscape w/Windows Media Player | RealOne or Windows Media | Java Virtual Machine in any web browser. | Flash 5 or higher. 6 required for video. |
| Modem delivery | Good. | Audio only option should work over modems. | Audio only option should work over modems. | Fair. | Fair. Large files compared to others. | Good |
| Company | In business 10 years. Several presentation products. | Anystream in business 2 years. | Company just sold all products except MediaSite to Sony. | softTV.net in business 3 years. 10 related products. | In business 6 yrs. Two products. 1500 clients. | Solid company with broad product line. |
| Comments | Robust product, but minor bugs in converting PPT hyperlinks. | A version that includes video is available. | This is a hardware system that plugs into the presenter's computer. | Very buggy output. Really only worked on IE on Windows. | The converted file is a Java applet, | This is a sophisticated system with several components including a Learning Mgmt. System and a live meeting application. |

Prepared by John Jackson, M.Ed. & J. Stephen Huff, M.D., University of Virginia School of Medicine, June 2004. jjackson@virginia.edu, jshuff@virginia.edu
(OVER for more products.)

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| | Articulate Presenter v. 4.0 www.articulateglobal.com | AuthorGEN www.authorgen.com | Boxmind Flashpoint www.boxmind.com/ | Qarbon Viewlet Presenter v. 1.0 www.qarbon.com | Quicktime Pro v. 6 www.apple.com/quicktime. | RoboDemo v. 5 www.macromedia.com | Camtasia Studio www.techsmith.com |
| Ease of Use | Good. | Unable to evaluate. | Simple wizard. | More complex than most. | Good. | Moderate | Good |
| Cost | \$499 | \$149 | £195 | \$99 | \$29 | \$199 | \$299 |
| Flexibility | PowerPoint plugin. Many output options. | PowerPoint plugin. | Standalone Windows application. Converts PPT only. | PowerPoint plugin. Several template options. | Standalone application. Can convert 200+ media types. | Standalone application. Can convert / capture many types of presentations. Very flexible. | Will convert any software presentation. |
| Platform(s) | Create Windows. Deliver Win/Mac | Create Windows. Deliver Windows IE 5.5 + only. | Create Windows. Deliver Win/Mac. | Create Windows. Deliver Win/Mac. | Create Mac. Deliver Win/Mac. | Create Windows. Deliver Win/Mac. | Create Windows. Deliver Win/Mac |
| Servers | Any web server. | Not specified. | Any web server | Any web server. | Any web server. | Any web server. | Any web server. |
| User plugins | Flash 5 or higher. | Windows Media 6 default. RealOne optional. | Flash | Flash | Quicktime 3 or higher | Flash | Windows Media, Flash, or Quicktime |
| Modem delivery | Good. | Did not evaluate. | Unable to evaluate. | No audio demos on company site, but audio supported. | Very good. | Good. | PPT converts to very large AVI files. |
| Company | In business 3 years. 2 products. | Sikhya Solutions in business 1 year. 2 products. | New company with 2 products. | In business 7 years. Several related product lines. | Well established. Many related products. | Well established. Broad product line. | In business 17 years. Good product lines. |
| Comments | Supports embedded MC questions. Optional learning management system available. | Exports Flash, but only listed for Pocket PC use. AuthorGEN studio adds more features at \$1995. | Very little information on company web site. | Trial version available on web site. | PPT for Macintosh will export as a QT mov, though files are large. QT Pro can be used to compress to a streaming format. | RoboDemo imports and converts PPT as one of many features. Presentations can be enriched many ways. | Similar to RoboDemo. Not ideal for PPT, but very versatile. |