

THE PODCASTING COOKBOOK – WHAT IT IS AND HOW YOU CAN BE A ROCKSTAR DISC-JOCKEY

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Summary:

Teaching with audio only is not a new idea – we’ve had tape recorders for a long time now. Today’s technology allows massive volumes of audio to be both mobile and organized. By combining the ubiquity of the Apple iPod (and other audio MP3 devices) with the blog movement – we now get a mashed-up, new media of audio blogging more commonly known as Podcasting.

Participants in this session will have a hands-on (and microphone on) experience in creating their first podcast. We’ll cover the following topics in the session:

- Why podcasts in education? Does it really add any value?
- History of podcasting – learning the roots and understanding the core technology and culture
- Listening to Podcasts – where to find podcasts and how to subscribe to them.
- Preparing and planning for your podcasts – timing, topics and structure
- The Podcaster’s toolbox - from a shoestring budget to a private mini-radio station studio. Everything you really need to know about microphones, mixers, headphones, cables, and connectors to get started.
- Audio recording software from free to professional kits – what’s available and what you need to get started.

Our hands-on activity will include (all workstations are Windows PCs):

- Installing and downloading some of the software tools
- Finding content and subscriptions on topics, and listening online
- Audio recording, editing, mixing and cleanup
- Preparing, tagging and labeling content with data and artwork – and testing it
- Putting it online – and spreading the word on your podcast

We’ll end with a discussion and comparison of iPod device alternatives like the Zune, Pocket PCs, Palm, MP3 players and even cell phones.

Of course, audio podcasting is only the first step. This session is followed by an extension to this concept with an afternoon session that adds video and visual content to audio for Video-casting.

Pre-workshop objectives:

Learn how to design, build, publish and manage a series of Podcasts for your educational material.

Pre-workshop benefits:

Participants will at a minimum discover a new source of educational material and a new medium for information in the podcast world. The podcast source of knowledge is an audio update of current topics in almost any category. Tune into a channel of knowledge and receive a series of interactive radio-like broadcasts on that topic. All of this can be done from a PC, but a MP3 player can store it and make the information mobile. We will aim high - and hope that everyone leaves motivated and with the basic skills to go out and create their own educational content and publish it over the airwaves.

This workshop is useful for all educators, instructional designers, media specialist, web masters and librarians interested in developing a series of audio training information and education.

Pre-workshop prerequisites:

No prerequisite skill or any programming experience is required for the workshop. **No iPod** is required for the course, or even to experience your audio-casting results. Participants will work in teams to install some of the tools and record, edit and mix audio, tag it with the proper information, test it, upload and publish a podcast. The number of participants will be limited to 20 (10 teams). (This workshop is recommended prior to the afternoon videocast workshop IF you do not already have these skills.)

Pre-workshop instructor:

Fran Rabuck is a consultant, thought leader and internationally recognized expert in emerging technologies in the wireless, media and collaboration space. He is a frequent speaker/writer, advisor and judge at major technology industry events. Mr. Rabuck has provided strategic consulting and training on a variety of topics for many organizations - large and small. This includes hands-on training on RFID, Wireless, Mobile, Media Publishing and Sensors for Government Agencies, Engineering, Pharmaceutical, Healthcare, Education and other industries worldwide. Currently, Fran is responsible for the emerging technology research in the Real Time Asset Lab for Bentley Systems (<http://www.bentley.com>). He is the co-chair of the Wireless and Sensors Committee for the RFID Business Association (<http://www.rfidba.org>) - an international, vendor neutral, non-profit trade association dedicated to the advancement of knowledge in the Wireless, RFID and Sensor space. He works with FIATECH (<http://www.fiatech.org>) - a consortium whose vision is to create an automated and integrated environment for the life cycle of capital projects - and is the Team co-champion for the Smartchips research projects. Fran works with a variety of start-up companies including his most recent work with the online and mobile group collaboration toolset from Airset (<http://www.Airset.com>). Recently, he earned the latest certification from CompTIA for RFID+, becoming one of the first wave of practitioners to earn this certification.

Fran's experience with training, eLearning, multimedia and interactive computer technologies extends back to the days of crude 4-color CGA screens and the first IBM PCs - to the tools of today, where Broadband, Wireless, On-demand Video, Smartphones, and collaboration technologies are defining the educational environments of tomorrow.

Fran has also worked in various other entrepreneurial roles with multiple start-up companies such as CTO of One-Com, and VP Professional Services of BroadRelay. He is also a member of the eWeek Corporate Partner Advisory Program, Academic Advisory Council at Drexel University, and is a frequent guest lecturer at local Universities. (We welcome Fran back to Slice remembering well his debut with us in Amsterdam and Leiden. He is the man to keep you up-to-date! SSS)