

# pipeline project

Partnerships In Prison Education: Learning In Networked Environments

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[www.pipeline-project.org](http://www.pipeline-project.org)

## BULLETIN

**3<sup>rd</sup> issue – October 2006**



## EC APPROVAL OF FIRST YEAR

Socrates  
Grundtvig



Socrates  
Grundtvig



Socrates  
Grundtvig




The PIPELINE project has just entered its second year. In June a progress report was submitted to the European Council, c/o the Socrates Agency in Brussels. The independent expert assessing the report and the development of the project concludes:


"The project is achieving its aims and is well managed; the pooling of expertise is patent. The original work plan is being developed accordingly to the timing and it is always clear the contribution of the partners to the activities. There are already products which are both interesting and of quality. The webs are outstanding. The dissemination of the project has started from the beginning and it is being soundly managed. We expect that the evaluation process will start as scheduled."

We are happy that the project is so favorably received and take this as an incitement to put our shared efforts into the second year of the project.

Note the expert's opinion of our website as "outstanding" – make sure you regularly get the latest from the project by visiting <http://www.pipeline-project.org>

## Workshop and Conference in 2007

 In Slovenia a workshop for teachers in prison education will be held in February 2007. This workshop will address Pipeline issues such as aspects of e-Learning, collaborative learning and blended learning. Also, teachers will learn how to engage prisoners across countries to contribute to a jointly produced magazine (see the following page!) There will be lectures, demonstrations and plenty of hands-on opportunities. Details to be published on the website.

 In Norway a final conference will be arranged in connection with the finalization of the Pipeline project. The conference will take place in Oslo between Sep 13 – 16 next year. The idea is to disseminate results beyond participating countries, reach policy makers, and develop strategies for sustainability. The conference will be hosted by the County Governor of Hordaland, who is also the legal representative of the project. Details to be published on the website.

## NEW! The PIPELINE Online Magazine

Our Greek partner with a basis in the Avlona juvenile Prison has for some time worked on the concept of an online magazine. The idea is for such a magazine to be jointly produced by learners in prison education together with their teachers and across Europe.

The technical requirements and development are handled by our German partners from the University of Bremen (see separate item below).

We can now for the first time introduce the prototype. This first issue presents the participating prisons and their educational programs. Also, you will be able to experience interactive learning material, see a lot of pictures from the different environments, watch PowerPoint presentations (illustration on the right is from the Avlona PP), read what prisoners have


to say, and listen to sound files of prisoners' music.

This first prototype is put together by teachers and Pipeline participants. However, we aim to produce thematic issues where inmates contribute and function as editors – all within acceptable security levels. See the spot on technical solutions on the next page.

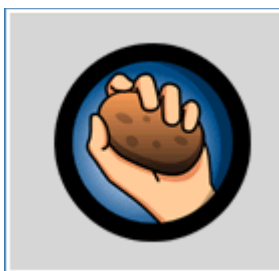


**The complete address to the PIPELINE Online Magazine is:**

[http://gym-par-avlon.att.sch.gr/public\\_html/public\\_html/online\\_mag/index.htm](http://gym-par-avlon.att.sch.gr/public_html/public_html/online_mag/index.htm)

 **Note:** At *HMP Chelmsford*, (UK) learners are working on a journalism/creative writing project. This experience and the fact that many learners are from different nations can be used to develop and translate the online magazine!

## Tech Tip #1: Hot Potatoes



The *Hot Potatoes* suite includes six applications, enabling you to create interactive multiple-choice, short-answer, jumbled-sentence, crossword, matching/ordering and gap-fill exercises for the World Wide Web. Hot Potatoes is free of charge for those working for publicly-funded non-profit-making educational institutions, who make their pages available on the web.

Download Hot Potatoes for Windows from <http://hotpot.uvic.ca/>

## Tech Tip #2: TransExp

The technical group in the Pipeline project has tested software for automatic translation of texts. The results are mixed. But maybe this can work as an opportunity to see if learners can beat the technology! Check out the "Translation Experts" at <http://www.tranexp.com/> and see what works and what does not. In the future, we see a combination of technologies and humans to work on such issues. Any tip on translation software is welcome!



## Technical solutions: Magazine & Platform

Two important documents are currently being produced by the group handling (mostly) technical solutions. Firstly, the Pipeline E-learning Platform (PEP) documents how security issues have developed through designs of learning scenarios (from self-directed to project work), infrastructure (including network topology and security hazards), and security levels (six in all).

The other document addresses pedagogy, organization, and technology that form the basis of the Pipeline Online Magazine reported from on the previous page. This is the technical development that will produce future issues.

This text documents the skills and approaches that add up to the new type of (digital) literacy that is required in order to function in a multimodal and networked society.

Also, there is a diagram showing the workflow from idea generation to the published issue and how the various stages involve learners in the role of contributors as well as editors.

These documents are very much the result of online cooperation using the iVisit video-conferencing system. They will be made available as soon as they are considered ready for publication.

### Interesting statistics!

Sweden has for some time used a Learning Management System in prison education. At the Nordic conference in Iceland, Hans Inge Persson talked about their experiences. So far the solution allows for one to one distance education between learners and teachers from different places. Already we see some fascinating results, which can be statistically summarized as follows.

- The number of available school subjects increased by 77.5%
- 65% of the learners characterized their study opportunities as very good, 23% as OK
- 72% of the inmates have started studying in the evenings at during weekends
- 73% wanted even more opportunities for studies
- 90% thought it was easy to link to the Learning Center managing the system
- 81% had specific goals for their studies
- 59% planned to continue studies after release from prison

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#### **Educational point to ponder:**

Don't think of understanding as a 'mental process' at all – for that is the way of speaking that is confusing you. Rather ask yourself: In what kind of case, under what kind of circumstance do we say: "*Now I can go on*".

Ludwig Wittgenstein (1980)