

Custom Content Builder

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Custom Content Builder is shipped with your chosen Microsoft® learning content in both on-line and document format. The content can be delivered via a self-contained web browser and training materials are published as Microsoft Word files.

Custom Content Builder’s web-based browser, known as the Player, has a zero footprint for end users, if deployed through a web server. This means no installation or configuration of software is required to play back content. This is of particular benefit across a large organisation where an enterprise wide rollout would normally require project level deployment.

Alternative deployment methods include content stored and accessed locally on the end users PC, or network drive / share access via UNC.

The Player uses Microsoft Internet Explorer’s caching. All files are downloaded by the Player

Package in a self-contained web site built using DHTML technology. It is easily deployed and compatible with any web server on which it is to be hosted. The caching management automatically downloads the next five frames of content to ensure smooth, quick and stable delivery of content.

The limitations of user connectivity will be in direct relation to the web server hardware specifications/ configurations and network bandwidth. As with all networks, many factors can interfere with performance, including type of connection, network latency, network saturation and network overhead. However, due to the unique way in which the Player utilises browser caching, even on a variable speed network satisfactory performance has been achieved on playback.

Custom Content Builder produces SCORM compliant content. Editors will require the appropriate Licence in order to edit or create content.

This section of the technical specification outlines the requirements for a multi-user installation of Custom Content Builder’s Editor tool. In a multi-user installation, the content files are installed on a central server for content sharing and a client version of the Editor tool is installed locally on the Editor’s workstation.

Server Requirements for a Multi-User Install	
Hardware	
Processor	4 cores; 2GHz or greater
System memory	4 GB or greater
Physical storage	100 MB for program files
Network connection	100 MB connection capable of communicating via HTTP(S) and TCP/IP Connection utilised for communication between the development server and the database server. Increased bandwidth typically improves performance
Software	
Operating system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Windows 2003 Server 32-bit (SP2) or 64-bit SP2 Microsoft Windows 2008 Server 32-bit or 64-bit (SP2), R2 or R2 SP1
Web server	Microsoft Internet Information Services is required
Software framework	Microsoft .NET Framework 4.0

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Server Requirements for a Multi-User Install, continued	
Database	
Database	Oracle Database v10.2 or v11.2 or Oracle 11gR2 or Microsoft SQL Server 2005 (SP3 or SP4) or SQL Server 2008 (R2, SP2, R2, SP1)
Physical storage	500 MB for initial installation; additional storage possibly required depending on amount of content created

Client Requirements for a Multi-User Install	
Hardware	
Processor	2 cores; 2GHz or greater
System memory	2 GB or greater
Physical storage	1.2 GB (600 MB for program files; 600 MB for locally stored content)
Network connection	Broadband or faster (1.5 MB/s download, 512 kb/s upload) connection capable of communicating via HTTP(S) and TCP/IP
Software	
Operating system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Windows XP Professional 32-bit (SP3) Windows 7 32-bit (RTM or SP1), 64-bit (RTM or SP1)
DPI setting	96 DPI Fonts
Browser	Required: Microsoft Internet Explorer 8.0 or 9.0 Optional: Mozilla Firefox 10.0 or Apple Safari 5.0 or 5.1 Note: Apple Safari is not supported for enhanced object recognition (during recording) and context sensitive in-application support or SmartHelp
Software Framework	Microsoft .NET Framework 4.0
Word processing software	Microsoft Office 2007 (SP2 or SP3) or Microsoft Office 2010 (32 bit or 64 bit) or SP1 for document outputs (includes PDF format)
Other required applications	Microsoft Word 2007 or 2010 (32 bit or 64 bit) is required to publish and/or edit document styles or Player styles Microsoft Save As PDF add-in is required to publish to .pdf using Microsoft Word 2007. Adobe Flash 10 or 11 required for sound playback

This section discusses the system requirements for Custom Content Builder’s published output, that is the content that end users will view and use. Editors can publish content to one or more published output formats. There are two types of published output formats discussed in this technical specification: the Player and LMS output and the HTML web site output.

Server Requirements for Player / LMS and HTML Web Site	
Hardware	
Processor	4 cores; 2 GHz or greater
System memory	2 GB or greater
Physical storage	Between 500 MB and 4 GB of physical storage is adequate for most implementations

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Server Requirements for Player / LMS and HTML Web Site, continued	
Hardware, continued	
Network connection	100 MB/s network connection capable of communicating via HTTP(S) and TCP/IP. Connection utilised for communication between the web server and content consumers
Software	
Operating system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Windows 2003 server 32-bit SP2 or 64-bit SP2 • Microsoft Windows 2008 server 32-bit or 64-bit SP2 • Microsoft Windows 2008 server 64-bit R2 SP1
Web server	Microsoft Internet Information Services is required
LMS package	Compliant with AICC 3.5, SCORM 1.2 or 2004 (4th edition). AICC deployments utilise Java applet for LMS server communication. Sun JRE required on client workstations

End User Requirements for Player / LMS and HTML Web Site	
Browser	Operating System
Microsoft Internet Explorer 8.0 or 9.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Windows XP Professional 32-bit (SP3) • Windows 7 32-bit (RTM or SP1), 64-bit (RTM or SP1)
Mozilla Firefox 10.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Windows XP Professional 32-bit (SP3) • Windows 7 32-bit (RTM or SP1), 64-bit (RTM or SP1) • Macintosh OS X 10.2.x or later • Modern Linux distribution
Apple Safari 5.0 or 5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Windows XP Professional 32-bit (SP3) • Windows 7 32-bit (RTM or SP1), 64-bit (RTM or SP1) • Macintosh OS X 10.2.x or later <p>Note: Apple Safari is not supported for the SmartHelp browser add-in</p>
Other required applications	Adobe Flash 10 or 11 is required for sound playback

Custom Content Builder includes an additional component called the Knowledge Center. This enables the management of content and users, content deployment and access control, as well as usage tracking and reporting of deployed content. This section discusses the requirements for implementing the Knowledge Center.

Server Requirements for Knowledge Center	
Hardware	
Processor	4 cores; 2 GHz or greater
System memory	4 GB or greater
Physical storage	800 MB - 300 MB for initial software installation, between 500 MB and 4 GB of physical storage adequate for most implementations
Network connection	100 MB/s network connection capable of communicating via HTTP(S) and TCP/IP. Connection utilised for communication between the server and the database. Content consumers can use lower bandwidth rates to access content.

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Server Requirements for Knowledge Center, continued	
Software	
Operating system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Windows 2003 Server 32-bit (SP2) or 64-bit SP2 Microsoft Windows 2008 Server 32-bit or 64-bit (SP2), R2 or R2 SP1
Web server	Microsoft Internet Information Services is required
Software framework	Microsoft .NET Framework 4.0
Database	
Database	Oracle Database v10.2, v11.1 or v11.2 or Oracle 11g R2 or Microsoft SQL Server 2005 (SP3 or SP4) or SQL Server 2008 (R2, SP2, R2 SP1)
Physical storage	500 MB for initial installation; additional storage possibly required depending on amount of content created

End User Requirements for Knowledge Center	
Browser	Operating System
Microsoft Internet Explorer 8.0 or 9.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Windows XP Professional 32-bit (SP3) Windows 7 32-bit (RTM or SP1), 64-bit (RTM or SP1)
Mozilla Firefox 10.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Windows XP Professional 32-bit (SP3) Windows 7 32-bit (RTM or SP1), 64-bit (RTM or SP1) Macintosh OS X 10.2.x or later Modern Linux distribution
Apple Safari 5.0 or 5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Windows XP Professional 32-bit (SP3) Windows 7 32-bit (RTM or SP1), 64-bit (RTM or SP1) Macintosh OS X 10.2.x or later <p>Note: Apple Safari is not supported for the SmartHelp browser add-in</p>
Other required applications	Adobe Flash 10 or 11 is required for sound playback

A Managed Solution

Larmer Brown offers a Managed Solution that provides all the benefits you would expect for an inclusive monthly cost. This service can be adapted to suit your business requirements.

The benefits include:

- A hosted learning portal tailored to reflect your corporate branding.
- All Client users are provided with a dedicated account and learning content is tailored for each user.
- Third party Content can be imported into the Custom Content Builder Library.

For further information

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