



## **STAND K46 (Atomwide)**

### **One-stop-shop set to transform technology support for schools and teachers**

#### **VLE Support launches its services at BETT 2007**

10<sup>th</sup> January 2007: A new support service for schools and colleges launches its services today. VLE Support is the only company in the UK to provide an all-in-one package for the installation, configuration, training, maintenance and support of VLEs underpinned by Moodle and LAMS – the open source course management systems that are taking the UK education system by storm.

Outsourcing the management of a VLE or learning platform to VLE Support removes the need for teaching or other staff to spend valuable time maintaining the system and allows all schools to benefit from free VLEs – meaning they can invest their human and fiscal resources with confidence.

Mark Trinick, Managing Director of VLE Support comments: “The DfES is committed to providing all pupils with access to a VLE by 2008, and over the past year alone the growth of free open source software (OSS) like Moodle to deliver it has been astounding - last month Moodle alone reached 7,939,162 users. However the type of VLE teachers use will depend on a school’s needs and ability, and for some schools a lack of in-house technical expertise to host an OSS like Moodle has proved prohibitive in the past. By using an expert outsourced partner like VLE Support to manage all installation, maintenance, training and support, all schools can now confidently enjoy the benefits of OSS VLEs like Moodle, without the expense and headache for teachers and staff involved with maintaining the system.”

VLE Support provides the following VLE services:

- A comprehensive package of training in the use of Moodle for teachers, trainers, administrators and support staff. Training is delivered by the UKs leading experts.
- Installation, configuration and maintenance of Moodle in partnership with Atomwide Ltd, established providers of hardware network solutions.



- Design and develop bespoke content that can be used in Moodle for in-class activities, and is SCORM and IMS compliant. All content is bespoke and designed through consultation with individual teachers to meet their learning objectives.
- Telephone and web based help lines, and face to face on site support.

In addition, VLE Support designs bespoke websites and software solutions, and provides branding, design and art work solutions to seamlessly integrate a brand throughout an establishment's internal and external communications.

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#### **Notes to Editors:**

To meet Mark Trinick and learn more about the launch of VLE Support please visit him on **stand K46** at the BETT Show 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> January 2007, at London Olympia, or call SJ Douglas on mobile: 07909546104

#### **What is a VLE?**

A Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) is a software system designed to facilitate teachers in the management of educational courses for their students, especially by helping teachers and learners with course administration.

**FACT:** *Becta aims to increase the number of schools and colleges making effective use of technology from the current level of 15% to at least 80% by 2011*

**FACT:** *Moodle market share is second only to Blackboard according to Alexa Web Traffic for LMS Suppliers*

**FACT:** *The number of moodle sites is growing by an average 8% each month*

**FACT:** *In a comparison study of Blackboard vs Moodle, carried out by Humboldt State University, Moodle scored consistently higher satisfaction ratings and was voted the preferred platform by students*

**FACT:** *Outsourcing the installation and administration to VLE Support could save schools an average 2 days of valuable qualified teaching time per week, and a minimum £3000 per year in license costs alone*