BACKGROUND
In 1983 Howard Gardner proposed a theory of multiple intelligences, assuming that people have several kinds of "intelligences":

I define an intelligence as a biological potential
To process specific forms of information in
certain kinds of ways. Human being have evolved
diverse information-processing capabilities -
I term these "intelligences" - that allow them to
solve problems or to fashion products.

It is possible to map the broad range of abilities that
humans possess by grouping their capabilities into eight
comprehensive "intelligences".

- Verbal-linguistic intelligence. Well-developed verbal
  skills and sensitivity to the sounds, meanings and
  rhythms of words.

- Logical-mathematical intelligence. Ability to think
  conceptually and abstractly, and capacity to discern
  logical or numerical patterns.

- Visual-spatial intelligence. The ability to perceive the
  visual-spatial world accurately and to perform
  transformations on those perceptions.

- Bodily-kinesthetic intelligence. Expertise in using
  one's whole body to express ideas and feelings and
  facility in using one's hands to produce or transform
  things.

- Musical intelligence. The capacity to perceive,
  discriminate, transform and express musical forms.

- Interpersonal intelligence. The ability to perceive and
  make distinctions in the moods, intentions,
  motivations and feelings of other people.

- Intrapersonal intelligence. Self-knowledge and the
  ability to act adaptively on the basis of that
  knowledge.

- Naturalist intelligence. Expertise in the recognition
  and classification of the numerous species of an
  individual's.

RATIONALE
E-learning has changed the way people learn dramatically (this concerns both vocational and educational training), however it seems that content developers and software vendors continue to ignore arising problems - a considerable higher drop-out rate, lower effectiveness and satisfaction in case of e-learning programs compared to traditional ones. The literature review and needs analysis indicated that this might result from the lack of user-centric, personalized approach.

The project main goal is overcome these problems, which are seen by many researchers as major e-learning weaknesses.

This objective can be accomplished due to a shift from technology to learner oriented solutions and the focus on human potential and abilities. This shift requires psychological approach, where Multiple Intelligences theory (MI) developed by Howard Gardner can be a good start point, since this theory has been used successfully in traditional education.

It takes advantage of human potential and abilities and therefore it could increase dramatically the effectiveness of e-learning. Up to now no working solutions are developed in this area nor are implementations of testing attempts - this is crucial for the innovativeness of this project.

INVITATION
Within the scope of the project we will carry out a research (October - December 2005). We would like to invite volunteers from various European countries to participate in an e-learning course on project management. The course will be based on the guidelines issued by the International Project Management Association.

Successful candidates will be given an opportunity to collaborate in an international environment and will have a chance to obtain a university certificate. Throughout the course we will analyze the behaviour and learning preferences of the participants. This data will enable us to work out a model for more effective and user-oriented e-learning programs. To receive up-to-date information on this opportunity please subscribe the newsletter available at our website.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES
The project includes a research phase focused on analysing individual MI profile in the context of learning and job preferences. Research results will be used to develop a model for the application of MI theory in e-learning and other application areas. Therefore the project objectives are as follows:

- Development of a model for efficient MI theory application in e-learning. The emphasis will be put on developing such a model that could be cost-effectively implemented on the basis of existing solutions. This model will be put into practice within the course of the project for evaluation purposes.

- Development of online self-assessment tools for MI profile. Knowing own potential and abilities would help people to identify optimally suited jobs. On the other hand this tool, accompanied by a guidebook could help e.g. HR managers to determine optimal career path and further training decisions in case of employees.

- Development of a model for MI application into Internet search engines. Implementation of this model could increase the accuracy of search engines, especially in case of browsing online libraries for educational materials.

THE TEAM
Throughout the high school years, students are growing increasingly determined to explore their uniqueness and assert an independent pathway into adult life. School is supposed to be full of hope, and it’s a place where you go to find out how magical your mind is and how terrific it will be when you develop your mind to its full potential.

Joseph Dimartino, Brown University

Adopting the theory of multiple intelligence within e-learning can be a challenge for some of those intelligences (e.g. spatial, bodily-kinaesthetic), but should be quite useful for some others.

Random Walk in E-Learning

Individuals learn best in many different ways, sometimes using a variety of learning styles, but teachers and trainers may not always present information & learning experiences in the ways that best suit you.

Support 4 Learning

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