

The e-Learning Project of Distance Learning Television in Thailand

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Abstract: Creating learning opportunity for people of all ages to access alternative sources of knowledge, and developing learning habit together with promoting the use of medias as a source of creative learning to all groups are the attempts to promote human resource developing and lifelong learning society. The e-Learning Distance Learning Television Project is a solution to establish the alternative route and media for all to access online learning material. The project adapts web technology to enhance the broadcast of instruction media to rural areas. The project also provides learning management system for independent use.

Keywords: e-Learning, Distance Learning, Primary, Secondary, Vocational

Introduction

Schools in rural areas are less modernized than urban schools because there is a lack of expert teachers in specific field. To solve this problem, distance learning via satellite was offered to many schools. However, the subjects for distance learning are not varied. Instruction medias such as video, worksheet, etc. are still required to apply for the teaching.

e-Learning distance learning television (eDLTV) was live broadcast from Wangklaikangwol school and was stored in the e-Learning system. The eDLTV can be applied in rural schools as an alternative material for learning. The teachers can apply the eDLTV for a review of teaching and retest for the purpose of learning. By using the eDLTV, distance learning problems can be solved. Consequently, learning opportunities for rural students can be increased.

1. e-Learning Distance Learning Television (eDLTV)

1.1 Project Overview

eDLTV was established under the collaboration of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn: Royal IT Projects and Distance Learning Foundation for the celebrations on the auspicious occasion of his majesty the King's 80th birthday anniversary. Being launched in May 2007, the content of the project was provided for secondary school. The first service on <http://edltv.thai.net> has been started and it received appositve response and support. As for the vocational contents of eDLTV system in 2010, it helped enhance the opportunity of work. The Office of Vocational Education Commission (VEC) has participated in this project and publicized the system via

<http://edltv.vec.go.th>. The operation can not only be worked on website but also applied in offline school server. The operation of eDLTV has expanded through 35 Rajabhat universities and 415 vocational colleges network nationwide. The network is still useful for teaching and learning in potential schools.

According to the 2011 action plan, the eDLTV vocational system will be boosted up to online learning in 415 vocational colleges. The improvement of medium to high quality is acceptable. The final plan is to implement eDLTV system in elementary education. The elementary students have more challenge to develop a suitable system for younger learners. The educational psychologists were also taken into account in system development.

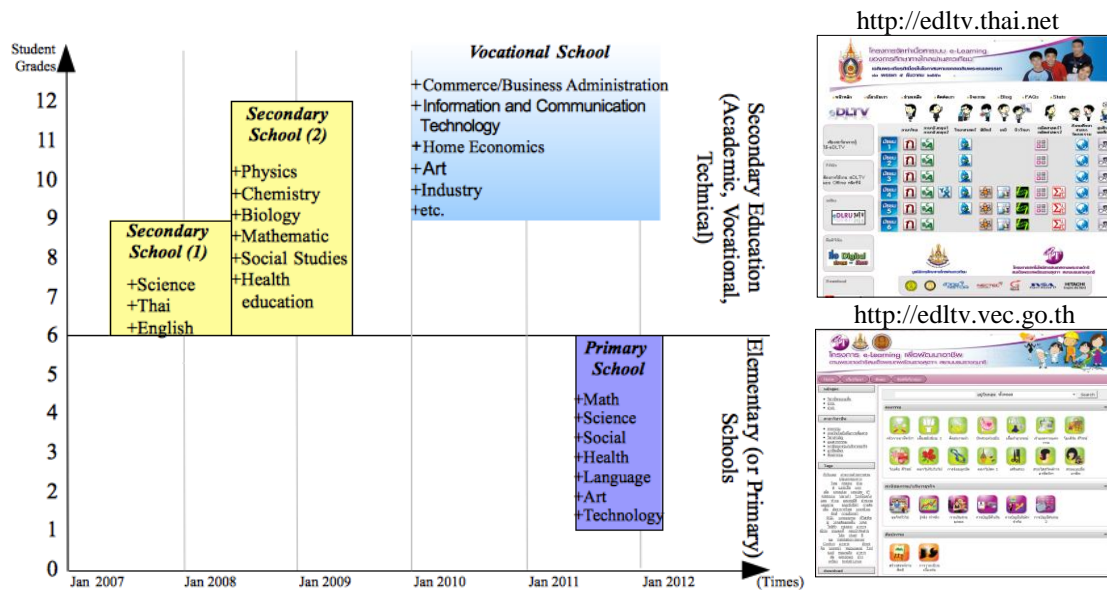


Figure 1. Timeline of content development and eDLTV website

1.2 eDLTV Contents

The eDLTV secondary school systems consist of instruction media being broadcast from distance learning television via satellite. There are 30,302 instruction medias in 6 main subjects including 15,827 videos (4,675 hours), 4,738 slides, 5,727 knowledge sheets, 2,369 worksheet and 1,302 tests. The eDLTV vocational systems consists of 1,365 teaching materials for more than 70 occupations such as chef, beautician, tailor, thai massage therapist, etc.[2]

1.3 Copyright of the License

The public is allowed to use eDLTV system for educational purpose only. It is not allowed for commercial use. Distance Learning Foundation, which owns the copyright of the content available under the creative commons for attribution, is neither used for commercial purposes nor alter content or BY-NC-ND. NECTEC, NSTDA are the copyright owner of a learning management system which was published to use open source[1].

2. eDLTV Overall Result

2.1 The online eDLTV secondary system

The eDLTV secondary system are available on <http://edltv.thai.net>. The figure 2 shows the statistic from January 2009 to June 2011 presented by Truehits[3]. The statistics show the site in the order 410 of 11,622 websites in Thailand, 27 of 1,313 are educational websites, 5 of 67 are e-Learning websites in Thailand.

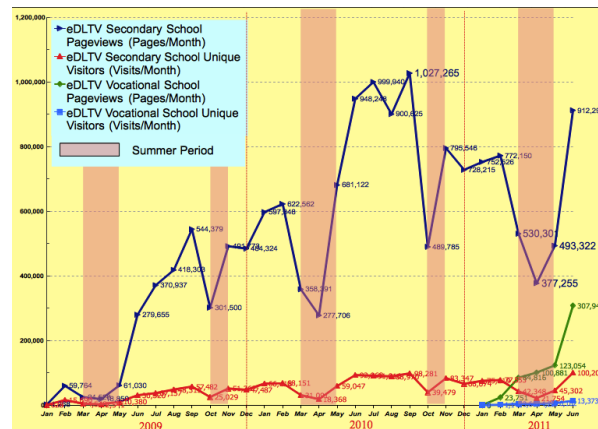


Figure 2. eDLTV Web Statistics

2.2 The offline eDLTV secondary system

In the early stages of implementation, offline eDLTV system are offered in 76 rural schools. As for other schools all over the country, a copy of the offline eDLTV system is available on the network of rajabhat universities nationwide. There are numerous schools implementing more than 1,272 locations[2].

2.3 The online eDLTV vocational system

The eDLTV vocational system is available on <http://edltv.vec.go.th>. The figure 2 shows the statistic from January 2011 to June 2011 presented by Truehits[3]. The statistics show the site in the order 1,280 of 11,622 websites in Thailand, 105 of 1,313 are educational websites, 7 of 67 are e-Learning websites in Thailand. Statistical information from the google statistic gained higher popularity. The vocational system that is the most popular is beautician, chef respectively.

3. Conclusion and Future Work

This project offers a eDLTV system for distance learning as an instruction media for rural schools. Teaching material was collected for the largest student group. The system can be used online and offline depending on the restrictions of the use. In addition, teachers who participated in eDLTV system will gain the skills to create instructional media for their schools.

In the future, we plan to measure the quality of the students. The standard of contents must be also taken into consideration.

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