



*Pan-American  
ePortfolio  
Vancouver 2005*

**The Future of the ePortfolio –  
ePortfolio for the Future**

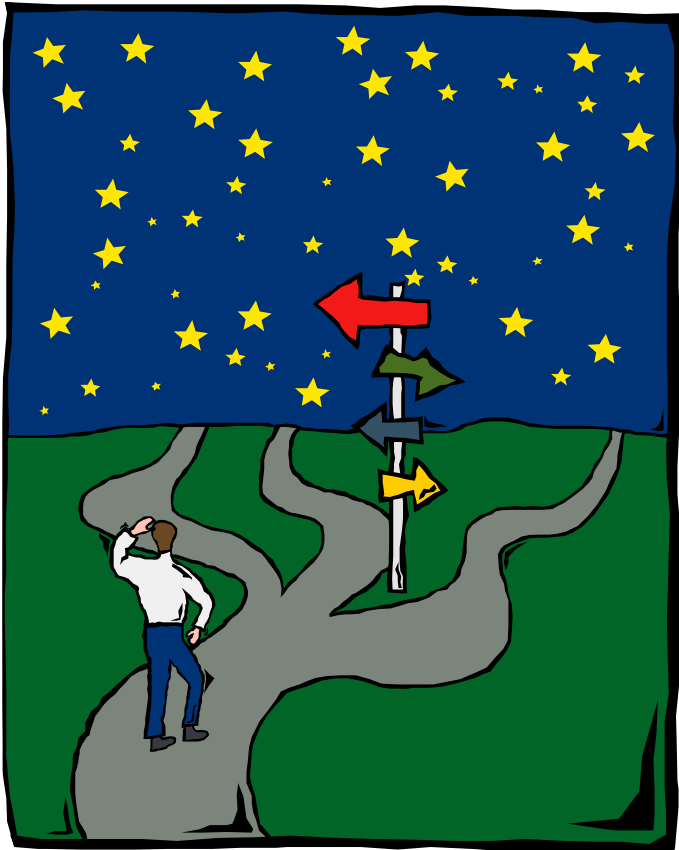
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*FuturEd Inc.*



# Overview



1. Possibilities
2. The promise of the ePortfolio
3. Preferred future for “the ePortfolio”



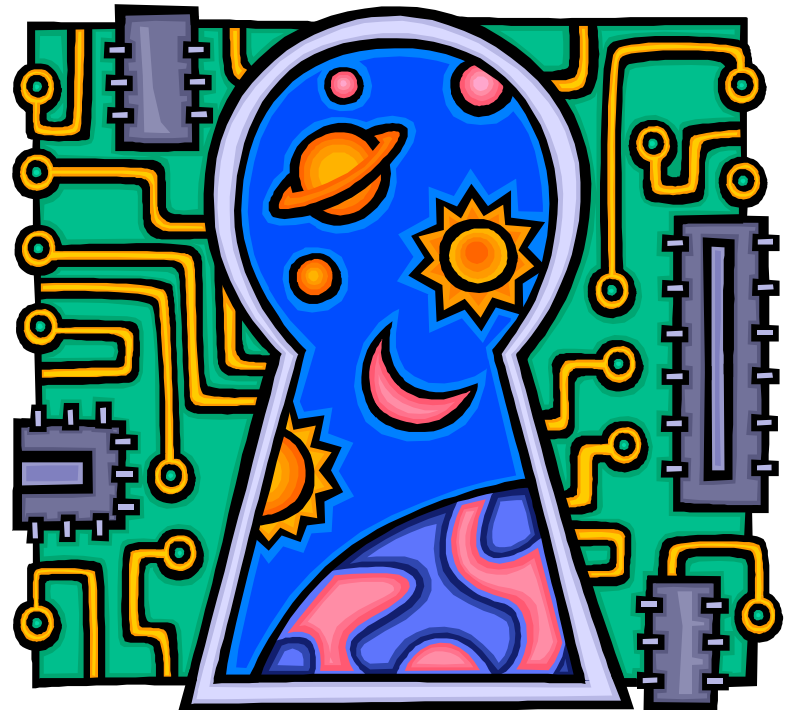
# Possibilities

- **K-12** – demonstration of learning
- **PSE / HE** – assessment of learning
- **Lifelong learning** – continuous “reflective” learning, competency assessment
- **Workplace** – recognition of all training and experience, Human Capital Assets Management
- **eLearning** – LMS and KM, web-based tools and services
- **Economic development** – asset mapping for real or virtual communities
- **Organizational development** – quality assurance, strategic planning



# The Promise of the ePortfolio

**18 Reasons**  
why the ePortfolio  
is the **Single**  
**Greatest**  
**Innovation** in the  
use of technology  
in teaching and  
learning





## Reason #1

**The ePortfolio is eLearning at its finest --**

- **the best, least complicated, most appropriate use of ICT**
- **for learning and learning management**
- **on an individual and a societal basis.**

**The ePortfolio will redefine eLearning**



## Reason #2

- **It is an elegant use of inelegant technologies**
  - using complex technological developments in simple, practical ways.
- **Unlike most eLearning, the ePortfolio tool is typically**
  - user-friendly and appealing,
  - with great and immediate utility.



## Reason #3



- **It is a “learning-leveler”**
  - **accessible to each and every person**
  - **regardless of skill levels and personal assets,**
  - **seldom is there a substantial cost involved.**
- **An ePortfolio can be as ubiquitous and equalizing as the Internet itself.**



## Reason #4

- It focuses on “the positive” – archiving and showcasing what a person knows and can do.
- The outcome of an ePortfolio is “look what I’ve achieved!”
- Rather than being deficit-based, it is asset-based.





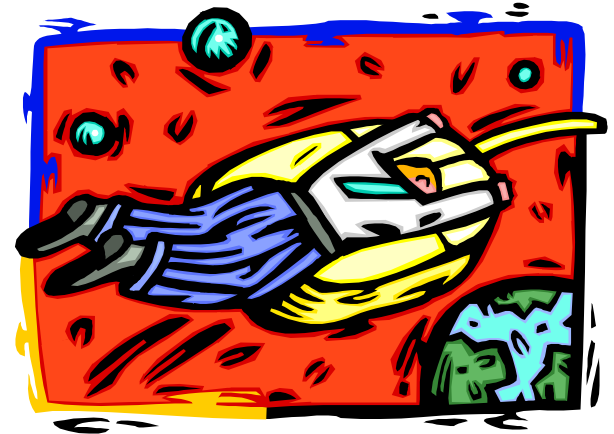
## Reason #5

- **It can become a complete description of a person’s “human capital”**
  - **acquired skills and knowledge,**
  - **including and going far beyond those represented by formal credentials.**
- **An ePortfolio incorporates learning from formal, informal, non-formal, accidental and incidental learning environments.**



## Reason #6

- It is a more accurate description of a person's "human capital."
- Being competency-based, it doesn't assume or imply competence or use proxies for learning.





## Reason #7

- For teaching purposes, it builds on best practices in designing, delivering and assessing skills and knowledge.
- **Authentic assessment is a cornerstone of the ePortfolio.**





## Reason #8

**For learning purposes,**

- **it is appropriate for all levels and types of learners**
- **it builds on best practices in how people learn and**
- **shows positive change in the acquisition of new skills and knowledge.**

**Reflective learning another cornerstone of the ePortfolio process.**



## Reason #9

- **It is equally adoptable in both formal and informal learning situations.**
  - **Teachers and instructors can use it for alternative assessment of learning aimed at accreditation.**
  - **Lifelong learners can use it to understand and record ongoing acquisition of insight and competencies.**



## Reason #10

- It is **endlessly scalable** – from the individual to an entire business or nation.
- This is, in part, because of
  - interoperable technologies and, in part, because of
  - common learning and learning management needs at all levels.



## Reason #11

- **It can be both deeply private and universally accessed.**
  - **While the content of an ePortfolio is the sole property of the person or body creating the ePortfolio, it can be shared by them in many controlled ways or eBroadcast to the world.**
  - **It is a power-shift!**



## Reason #12

- **It is a comfortable means of communication between and among:**
  - **Learners and teachers / mentors / advisors**
  - **Friends and family**
  - **Virtual communities**
- **It is exploratory rather than judgmental.**





## Reason #13

- It enhances creativity and problem-solving.
- There are many ways to explore and present learning (skills, talents, insights).





## Reason #14

- It can be, at one time, **both** a teaching and learning tool
    - with the ePortfolio creator both learning through reflection and
    - teaching through sharing the acquired insight and competencies.
- .....from lifelong learners to lifelong teachers as well (at all levels)**



## Reason #15

**It has limitless utility. For example.....**

- **All ages can use it as a personal knowledge management tool:**
  - recording achievements,
  - targeting new learning requirements,
  - making application for advance standing in formal learning environments and/or for employment
- **Employers can use it to understand and manage an entire workforce of any size**
  - for identifying human resource needs and best utilizing human capital.
- **Communities of place, interest or practice can**
  - **inventory entire human capital resources**
  - **for development and marketing purposes.**



## Reason #16



- **ePortfolio systems increase effectiveness and efficiency in HR and learning management systems.**
  - **An ePortfolio system can do what computers do best – sorting and matching.**
  - **Allows us to make better use of all resources.**



## Reason #17

- **The ePortfolio, as a teaching/learning tools, creates a unique balance between structured and unstructured learning.**
  - **Tools guide but do not limit learners.**
  - **Can show progress / change over long periods of time.**
  - **Becomes a planning tool.**



## Reasons #18

- It is a critical transformation tool for learning systems in the future for the future.





# Preferred Future of the ePortfolio

- 1. Seamless system “for life”**
- 2. Quality for producers and purchasers**
- 3. System of/for producers and consumers**
- 4. Embedded in and linking eLearning and education “reform”**



# Seamless System for Individuals

## One ePortfolio for life requires:

- Collaboration between levels of education
- Collaboration across jurisdictions
- Tools that can grow and change
- Value for producers and consumers

## One ePortfolio for life increases:

- Effective and efficient management of learning **and** human resources
- Value and ROI for all involved





# Assured Quality for Consumers

- Ownership (creation and access)
- Transportability
- Utility (effectiveness and efficiency)
- Flexibility and simplicity
- Storage and updating
- Content and format
- Processes and supports

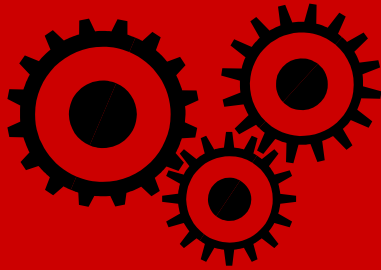
**Value =  
ROI**



# ePortfolio “System”

## “Prosumption” System

- **Creators (producers)**
- **Processors (consumers)**
- **ICT in between**



## ePortfolio Industry

- **Vendors**
- **Facilitators**
  - **Coordination**
  - **Advice**
- **Consultants**
  - **Training**
  - **Research**
  - **Consumer services**



# ePortfolio and Future eLearning

- **Proficiency based education**
- **Seamless “education”**
- **Authentic assessment**
- **Effective learning management**
- **Personalized learning**
- **New learning products and service**
- **Reciprocal teaching**

- **New edu-employment**
- **Age-irrelevant learning**
- **Convergence with media**
- **Recognition of all learning**
- **Asset-building systems**
- **Sustainable learning systems for the KBE**



# How do we get there?

## PanAmerican collaboration for:

- **Efficiency of individual initiatives**
- **Effectiveness (ROI) for users**
- **Connection between global initiatives**
- **Sustainable learning systems in the future for the future**





For more information,  
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