Software Evaluation

The software I choose to evaluate was Macromedia Captivate (formerly RoboDemo) for K-12 Education. It allows users to create interactive training and instruction tutorials, demonstrations, and simulations that include captions, audio, animations, and more. It is perfect for creating menus to complement PowerPoint and HTML files. I feel that this program is very useful for all occupations and throughout all educational levels. I have used the program to add auto run menus to my presentations in the military. I would create important training aids and military briefings and then save them on a CD to distribute to concerned individuals and soldiers. The programs menu allows users to interface with the presentations without having to understand the components of PowerPoint and HTML viewers. All the user has to do is place the auto run CD into their CD-ROM and the material is easy accessible and very user friendly. You can customize menus that are easy to use with no programming or multimedia skills required. The program allows creators to utilize engaging content with interactivity, audio and video. It's simple integration with other Macromedia products and other applications make this program a must have for instructional technologists. When I first used the software it had some bugs and quirks that were easily overcome through practice and reading help tutorials included with the program. However, since it is being rereleased under a new name I think that all the bugs and issues will be resolved before the

new version ships. I would encourage users to explore this software and other educational software packages available through Macromedia. The bugs and quirks included hidden graphics, icons, and templates, but after reviewing the updated version with screen shots it seems that Macromedia has made the main user screen and user menus more accessible and friendly. I have included various screen shots and the basic steps of how the program works and what it is capable of achieving below.

How Captivate Works: Easy as 1, 2, 3



Captivate can automatically generate text captions for you, allowing you effortlessly to generate fully annotated simulations and demos. You can use these simulations as an effective way to show your applications.

Enhance your simulations by easily adding:

- Captions, audio, and images
- Flash animations and video
- Interactions with branching and scoring

Highlights, hyperlinks, rollovers, and more!