



July 2009

Issue 16

Welcome to the July issue of Train-Ease Times. You will find helpful tips and tricks of the industry, current projects, upcoming events in the area and much more!

Press Release

Train-Ease, Inc. and webSolve, LLC Join Forces

Train Ease, Inc. and webSolve, LLC are teaming up once again - only this time on a more permanent basis. Previously joining forces to market a variety of Learning Management Systems and other eLearning offerings, the Columbus, Ohio-based companies have decided to combine eLearning expertise and technologies under one umbrella.

To execute the plan, all services and accounts will be assigned to Train-Ease, Inc. Client support and services will seamlessly transition to the Train-Ease team. Rick Willimott (Train-Ease) and Jim Meaney (webSolve) will both remain actively involved in development, marketing and administration of the eLearning products and systems.

Rick Willimott, Train-Ease's CEO, said, "Jim Meaney and I have developed a very genial and compatible working relationship that has evolved into a number of joint projects. We each bring different skill-sets and approaches that mutually benefit our clients. Our companies focused on different eLearning systems and technologies that enabled us to provide options to our clients to meet their needs and budgets. We just decided to make our joint efforts more formal."

Meaney explained the collaboration as follows, "Rick will continue to develop customized eLearning courseware for companies such as Nationwide Insurance, Wendy's, OhioHealth, State Auto and pursue enterprise-level LMS opportunities, while I focus on franchise systems and small and medium-sized companies. We have found that one-system-does-not fit-all and that learning and webinar systems must be suited to a company's needs. Further, Train-

In This Issue

Press Release

Performing at Your Best

Online & Email Marketing

Safeguard Your Information

Early Bird Registration

Safeguarding Your Critical Information & Equipment



How many times have you traveled for work and been asked to remove your laptop from your carry-on? Have you ever forgotten to retrieve your laptop from the x-ray scanner and walked off with only your luggage? 12,000 laptops are lost or stolen nationally at airports each week. 624,000 laptops go missing at airports each year, primarily because travelers in their rush leave them behind.

Only 33% of laptops left behind at security checkpoints are ever recovered, with only half being reunited to their owners before

Ease's course-development expertise will enable us to serve additional markets."

Train-Ease is known for its robust web-based learning management system touting full learner tracking, reporting and management, online course registration with email confirmation, curriculum management, testing and survey creation tool and many more features. The LMS can also integrate with other enterprise applications such as human resources software systems. With the acquisition of webSolve's technologies and systems, Train-Ease will add two additional Learning Management Systems and the best webinar system available, Adobe Acrobat Connect Pro. "This is an exciting complement to current offerings," Willimott stated.

Train-Ease is committed to providing quality products and services that directly relate to overall business goals and objectives. Rick Willimott, Team Leader, has personally been involved with Training & Development for over 20 years and has kept current with new technologies that deliver learning and performance solutions. Train-Ease maintains CPCC, CPBA and CPVA Certified personnel on staff to help companies perform at their highest level.

From Feeling Stressed to Performing at Your Best



Are coworkers avoiding you and your common outbursts? Have you found yourself being short tempered with customers? Has your lack of sleep or moody demeanor shaped your current performance at work? If you can answer yes to any of these questions, you are in need of some stress relief.

Stress, we have been warned, kills. Recent studies confirm what we have been hearing about for years. Cancer, diabetes, and heart attacks have all been linked to stress. There are simple solutions that you can do to help relieve work stress and reduce its dangerous affects to your health.

Identify the Source:

Be specific about what it is about your job that is causing you stress. Your job is not stressful but aspects of your responsibilities are. Lack of proper software, outdated manuals, inadequate office supplies, and working with Jane are all aspects of your job that could create stress.

Analyze and Plan:

Review the list of items that cause you stress. What can you do to counteract them? Write down one solution to reduce each stressor on your list. If anything is beyond your control (like the company's CEO personally or the weather) mark those with an X.

Review the X's:

Although you cannot change the "X" stressors, try writing down something that could be used to help cope with the problem at hand. Understand that these things are out of your control and that they are "not your job to fix."

Return to the List:

Find three things that could be fixed easily; something that can be done in a day or two, and then could be checked off your list. Make a commitment to yourself and the stressor to fix those three items before the end of the next

their departure. What can you do to ensure your job's lifeline will be returned to you in the event of a mishap?

Write your name and number inside the battery compartment. TSA agents are trained to look in such places for identifying information.

Use a TSA-approved ScanFast or Zip-Thru bag. Laptops can be left inside as it passes through the x-ray machine.

Important data should be backed up before traveling.

Although this data is staggering, let this be a warning to travelers and companies of travelers alike. Mistakes can be made at anytime and absentmindedness happens all too often when rushing to a flight. Precautionary measures to safeguard equipment, critical data, and sensitive information should be a mandated area of training for all employees company wide.

Do you have training for the protection of such devices and information? Contact Rick Willimott rwillimott@train-ease.com or at 614-351-7400 to assess your company's need for such training.

Early Bird Pricing Ends this Month!



week. Once something is completed begin moving down your list to the remaining stressors. Within a month or two most people have been able to address all of their "fixables."

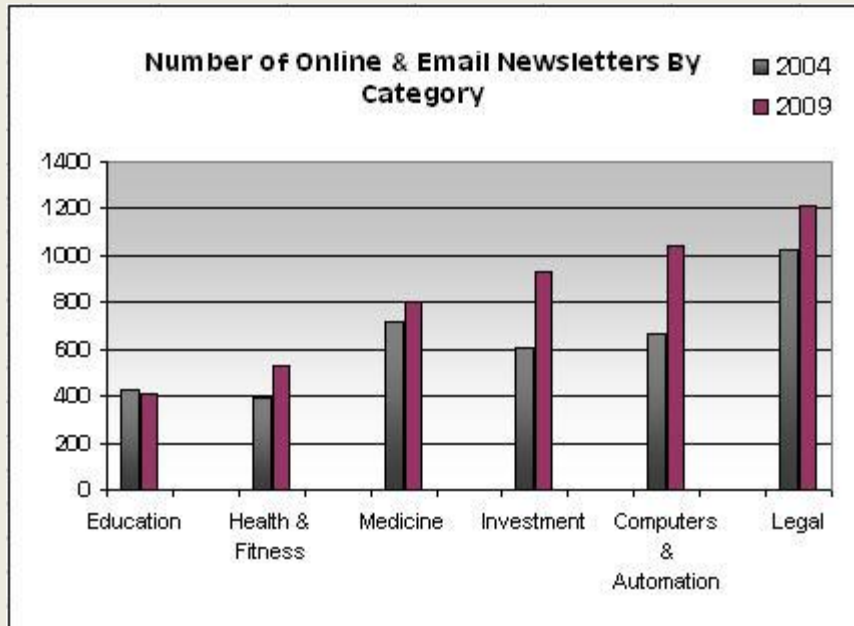
Stress is a common issue at work. It affects performance, your commitment to the job, accident rates, and employee health. All of those in turn impact your bottom line.

To save your employees from a potentially deadly experience, address stress in regular training. Our Executive Coaches and/or Instructional Designers can help you determine your employees' needs and can help goals be set to improve stress levels and levels of job performance. Contact Rick Willimott by **email** or at 614-351-7400 to help your employees perform at their best without feeling stressed.

Source: TrainingTime

Online and Email Newsletters Rise 475%

The day of printed materials may be nearing an end. Be it for the purpose of being viewed as a material conscious and earth friendly employer or because of the current state of our economy, many companies are choosing to deliver marketing materials, business advertisements, and company news electronically, as opposed to in a printed version.



This shift has been seen in every industry but most recently expanded to newsletters. Over the last five years, the number of online and email newsletters has increased from 1,053 to 6,055, an increase of 475%, while print-only newsletters decreased 43% according to **Mediafinder.com**. Have you noticed a change in the way that you receive information. You mailbox at work

Faster, Cheaper, Better: Really Rapid Instructional Design

Wednesday, 9/23/2009
8:00AM - 4:30PM
Chase Card Services

Central Ohio ASTD welcomes The Thiagi Group to present "Really Rapid Instructional Design" for this all day event. In this program will learn about a unique instructional design approach developed and field tested by Thiagi. Learn to use eclectic principles from extreme programming, agile development, improv, chaos and complexity, creative engineering, and self-organizing complex systems.

In this workshop you will:

Apply the CCCC approach to rapidly design your training package with greater motivational and instructional impact.

Use a variety of templates to structure content and design appropriate learning activities.

Incorporate abundantly available content materials in your training packages and programs.

Redefine the role of learners, participants, trainers, and subject-matter experts to require and reward greater participation in the learning process.

Rapidly design training packages by ignoring, combining, re-sequencing, and accelerating the traditional steps the process.

How will this workshop benefit individuals and organizations?

Eliminate or combine ID steps while maintaining effectiveness

Speed up ID phases and production of instructional materials

Identify instructional resources in

has probably been famished as your inbox has been full?

Legal newsletters outnumber any other category of publications in 2009. **The other top categories are: Computers & Automation, Investment, Medicine, Health & Fitness, and Education.** These same categories also topped the list in 2004.

With these dramatic statistics, companies may want to consider a shift into an electronic version of their current newsletter as an opportunity to create something that consumers expect.

Source: MediaFinder.com

Save the Date!



The COASTD Workplace Learning & Performance Conference & Expo will make its annual debut on October 13th, 2009. The event will take place again at COSI and promises to deliver as much fun and excitement as years past. Our very own Rick Willimott is honored to serve as Chairperson and is currently working with a volunteer committee dedicated to ensuring that all expectations are exceeded!!!

Sponsorship opportunities are still available but filling up quickly. Please contact Rick at 614-351-7400 or by rwillimott@train-ease.com for more information. Don't miss out on exciting educational topics, professional networking, and an expo full of fun.

We look forward to seeing you this year at the 2009 COASTD Workplace Learning & Performance Conference & Expo! Don't miss out on exciting educational topics, professional networking, and an expo full of fun.

unexpected places

Reduce development time with coaching and team learning techniques

Reduce interpersonal problems that slow down ID teams

Reduce the training budget and make the most of every training dollar

Deliver quality instruction during tough economic times

Space is limited to the first 75 people that register. If you are interested in "Really Rapid Instructional Design" **REGISTER** today.



We look forward to your comments and suggestions. To submit ideas, questions or topics, please contact Train-Ease at 614-351-7400 or by email.

"Our business in life is not to get ahead of others, but to get ahead of ourselves -- to break our own records, to outstrip our yesterday by our today."

~ Stewart B. Johnson ~