

The Challenge

When you're in the business of delivering courseware to learners, implementing any one of the popular Learning Management Systems can get you off zero and delivering courseware quickly. Taking advantage of what's out there is a common practice with many organizations like StrataTech. However, like many edtech startups, StrataTech came up against a couple all too common challenges: Content Interoperability and Vendor Lock-in.

StrataTech is uniquely challenged with their OcuWeld VR offering. Through Meta Quest VR Headsets, OcuWeld lets students take welding lessons in a low-pressure, safe, and fun virtual environment. To begin taking lessons, however; students would need to sign-in to OcuWeld using their Canvas LMS email address and password. Further, all StrataTech's content was authored and delivered in Canvas. How do they get that content out of Canvas and into other LMSs?

The Solution

Through a partnership between IntraEdge and Unicon, a platform to serve content over LTI and handle transactions between OcuWeld and the LMS was implemented. StrataTech is now able to author content in Canvas, sync content to their platform, then deep link back into any LTI-supporting LMS. For OcuWeld, users are able to log in to their LMS, obtain a memorable 6-digit code, input that code in OcuWeld to login, start taking lessons, and send lesson scores back to StrataTech and the LMS.

Learning Impacts & Outcomes

By decoupling OcuWeld from Canvas, developing supporting tools, and abstracting their content, StrataTech is able to offer a much-improved experience to learners and teachers. With their Content Sync tool, StrataTech maintains a smooth curriculum authoring process, while continuing to enhance their platform's tool and content offerings.

- By moving OcuWeld's authentication requirements from Canvas to StrataTech's platform, and simplifying the login process, learners can quickly access their Welding Simulation lessons.
- The OcuWeld Score Card gives students and teachers an easy view of performance across all attempts at an OcuWeld lesson.
- The instructor's view of the Assignments tool offers rapid grading abilities, where they can quickly review, grade, and comment on student submissions, making their way to the LMS gradebook.
- The visual designs of StrataTech's tools supporting content imported from Canvas are much more inviting and colorful than their former Canvas-only implementations.

Simplifying the Ocuweld sign-in experience, maintaining full control of how content is created and brought into the platform, and how it's visually and functionally presented is a big win for learners and instructors of StrataTech content.

Return on Investment

Working hand-in-hand, IntraEdge and Unicon continue to enhance the platform to broaden StrataTech's market reach. With OcuWeld's decoupling and feature rollout late in 2023, learners now enjoy the improved onboarding process.

Page, File Display (PDF, PPT, DOC), Video, Assignments, and Quiz tools, along with Canvas Content Sync rolled out in early 2024, and are currently in select pilot courses to ensure fidelity.

New tools are in active development, like SCORM/CMI5 and EPub players, which will facilitate authoring content in a multitude of tools beyond Canvas.

Empowered by a platform that is equipped with LMS-agnostic content delivery capabilities and bridge the gap between non-browser-based applications and any standards-compliant LMS, StrataTech is now well positioned to flexibly respond to the needs of their growing customer base.