



LMS & LCMS

1. Learning management system

A **learning management system** (commonly abbreviated as **LMS**) is a software application for the administration, documentation, tracking, and reporting of training programs, classroom and online events, E-learning programs, and training content. A robust LMS should be able to do the following:

- centralize and automate administration
- use self-service and self-guided services
- assemble and deliver learning content rapidly
- consolidate training initiatives on a scalable web-based platform
- support portability and standards
- personalize content and enable knowledge reuse.

LMS systems range from systems for managing training and educational records, to software for distributing courses over the Internet with features for online collaboration. Corporate training use LMS systems to automate record-keeping and employee registration. Student self-service (e.g., self-registration on instructor-led training), training work flow (e.g., user notification, manager approval, wait-list management), the provision of on-line learning (e.g., Computer-Based Training, read & understand), on-line assessment, management of continuous professional education (CPE), collaborative learning (e.g., application sharing, discussion threads), and training resource management (e.g., instructors, facilities, equipment), are dimensions to Learning Management Systems.

Some LMS systems are Web-based to facilitate access to learning content and administration.

LMS systems are used by regulated industries for compliance training. They are also used by educational institutions to enhance and support classroom teaching and offering courses to a larger population of learners across the globe.

Blossom LMS include "performance management systems", which encompass employee appraisals, competency management, skills-gap analysis, succession planning, and multi-rater assessments (i.e., 360 degree reviews).

LMS systems cater to educational, administrative, and deployment requirements. While an LMS for corporate learning, for example, may share many characteristics with a VLE, or virtual learning environment, used by educational institutions, they each meet unique needs. The virtual learning environment used by universities and colleges allow instructors to manage their courses and exchange information with students for a course that in most cases will last several weeks and will meet several times during those weeks. In the corporate setting a course may be much shorter in length, completed in a single instructor-led event or online session.

2. Learning content management system (LCMS)

A learning content management system (LCMS) is a related technology to the learning management system in that it is focused on the development, management and publishing of the content that will typically be delivered via an LMS. An LCMS is a multi-user environment where developers may create, store, reuse, manage, and deliver digital learning content from a central object repository. The LMS cannot create and manipulate courses; it cannot reuse the content of one course to build another. The LCMS, however, can create, manage and deliver not only training modules but also manage and edit all the individual pieces that make up a catalog of training.

LCMS applications allow users to create, import, manage, search for and reuse small units or "chunks" of digital learning content and assets. These assets may include media files developed in other authoring tools (i.e. Blossom Editor), assessment items, simulations, text, graphics or any other object that makes up the content within the course being created. An LCMS manages the process of creating, editing, storing and delivering E-learning content, ILT materials and other training support deliverables such as job aids

3. Learning Management Systems compared to Learning Content Management Systems

Some systems have tools to deliver and manage instructor-led synchronous and asynchronous online training based on learning object methodology. These systems are called Learning Content Management Systems or LCMSs. LCMSs provide tools for authoring and reusing or re-purposing content (mutated learning objects) MLO as well as virtual spaces for student interaction (such as discussion forums, live chat rooms and live web-conferences).

Despite this distinction, the term LMS is often used to refer to both an LMS and an LCMS, although the LCMS is a further development of the LMS.

In essence, an LMS is software for planning, delivering, and managing learning events within an organization, including online, virtual classroom, and instructor-led courses. For example, an LMS can simplify global certification efforts, enable entities to align learning initiatives with strategic goals, and provide a means of enterprise-level skills management. The focus of an LMS is to manage students, keeping track of their progress and performance across all types of training activities.

Primary business problems an LCMS solves are

- centralized management of an organization's learning content for efficient searching and retrieval.
- productivity gains around rapid and condensed development timelines.
- productivity gains around assembly, maintenance and publishing / branding / delivery of learning content.

Rather than developing entire courses and adapting them to multiple audiences, an LCMS provides the ability for single course instances to be modified and republished for various audiences maintaining versions and history. The objects stored in the centralized repository can be made available to course developers and content experts throughout an organization for potential reuse and re purpose. This eliminates duplicate development efforts and allows for the rapid assembly of customized content.



Blossom LMS has LMS & LCMS in it!

Source:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Learning_management_system