



Online resources for the McGraw-Hill Learning Network

Development of innovative Web-based learning tools

The McGraw-Hill Learning Network (www.mhln.com) is one of the world's largest portals, targeted at the K-12 segment in the United States. It aims to bring together students, parents, teachers, and administrators under a single umbrella, and offers content and tools to make the Web-based learning experience exciting and truly interactive.

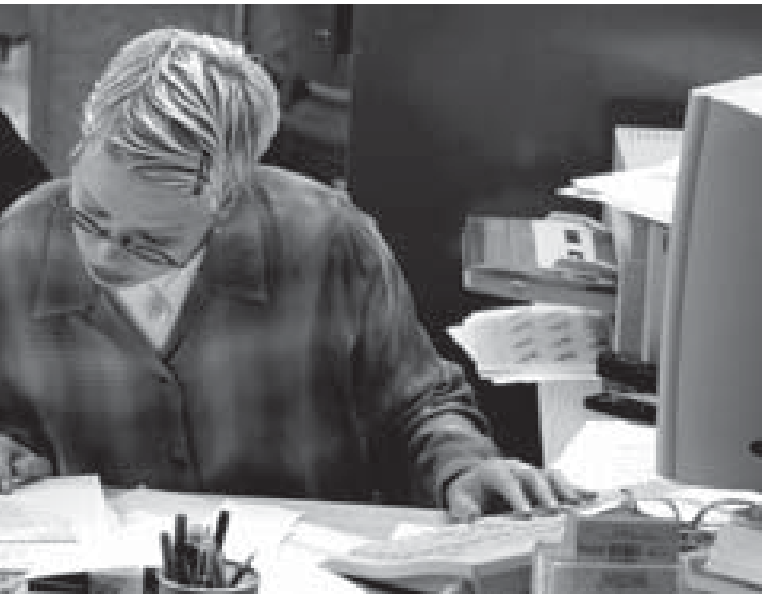
THE NEED FOR E-LEARNING

In May 2000, McGraw-Hill assigned Tata Interactive Systems the complex task of developing tools for its Web-based learning project, which had been flagged off by a different vendor. The initial requirement for development of books was soon expanded to also include infrastructure support.

HOW OUR SOLUTION HELPED

Tata Interactive Systems' team developed a highly interactive, online version of McGraw-Hill's textbooks, in accordance with American school standards, privacy laws, and textual integrity requirements. The site featured:

- Both students' and teachers' versions of the textbooks.
- Movies, Shockwave Flash files, and interactive glossaries to enhance appeal and usability.
- Roster, Calendar, Lesson Planner, and Gradebook to simplify the task of teachers.
- The facility to provide feedback on assignments and send progress reports to students and parents.



The McGraw-Hill Learning Network was internationally acclaimed, and was awarded Best e-Learning Provider, Best B2B Web Site and Best Comprehensive Education Solution at the 17th Codie Awards, held in 2002 by the Software & Information Industry Association.

The quality of the learning program catalyzed an expansion of the scope of the project to include infrastructure design. Its features were:

- Over 2000 users could use the site concurrently.
- File sizes were optimized to restrict download time to 15 seconds per page.
- A file cabinet tool allowed teachers to save and retrieve files, presentations, and assignments.

Tata Interactive Systems' approach to building interactive learning solutions kept the development time and cost low. Third-party information from Cyberscout, an educational research engine, was incorporated within the site for targeted results. A technically flawless and streamlined product was delivered in just three months.

TECHNOLOGY USED

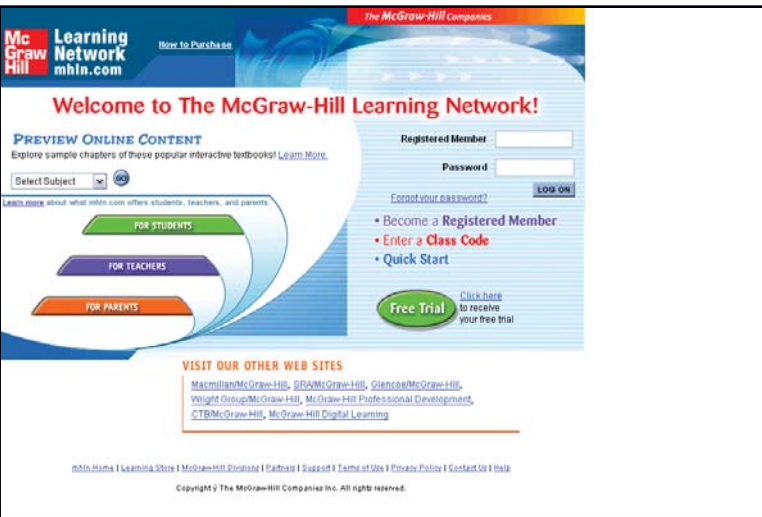
This product was developed using Weblogic, XML, XSL, Perl CGI, Java Mail Servlets, JSP, and EJB.

Learning Portals

PUBLISHERS

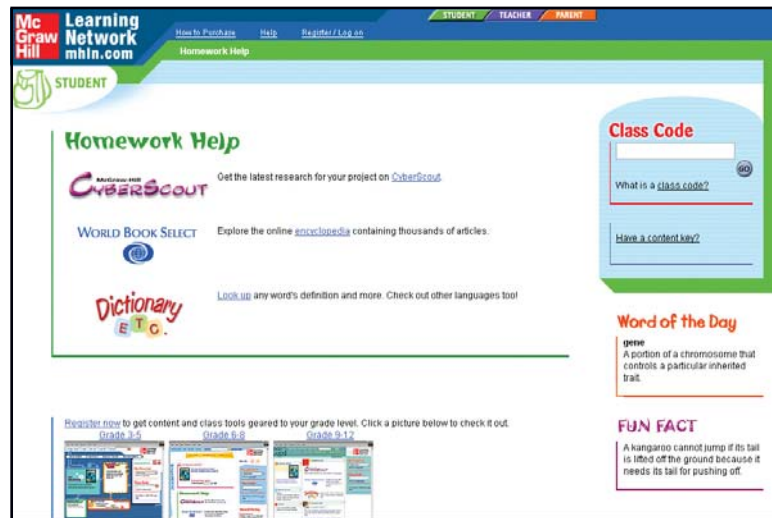
SOME SAMPLE SCREENSHOTS

The screenshots offer a brief glimpse of the McGraw-Hill Learning Network. To experience our products at work, you may view our demos by registering online at www.tatainteractive.com.



The screenshot depicts the list of options available to registered users of the McGraw-Hill Learning Network (www.mhln.com).

Students can avail of features like Homework Help, Cyber Scout, Encyclopedia, and Dictionaries, among others.



Teachers can obtain interactive textbooks, get daily teaching tips, download free materials, and choose from a wealth of resources.

