

Customer: Alternatic

Location: Switzerland

App Name: Picto Write

App Function: Learning to write for special needs children and adults

Industry: Special needs education

Developed on: Mac

Deployed on: Cross Platform

Result: Use in special needs schools

About:

Picto Write is currently in Beta testing and will be launched in September 2013. The first version will be available in French and future versions will be available in more languages

Business Need:

Provide education and functional software applications capable of being tailored to meet a wide range of diverse and unique accessibility needs

Benefits of LiveCode:

LiveCode is the easiest language
Speed of use, adaptability and integration with external devices

Case Study

Learning to write with pictograms – for children and adults with special needs

Introduction

Alternatic is a non-profit organization based in Western Switzerland that brings together practitioners of computers in special education.

Its principle goals are:

Develop practical means of information and communication technology (ICT) to serve all learners in need of specialized education.

Increase collaboration with users and supply a critical reflection on the use of new technologies

Create scalable tools and resources to aid learning and communication

Jean-Marc Burnod, founding member of alternatic and software designer of specialized education tools and apps, selected LiveCode to develop Picto Write and went on to explain:

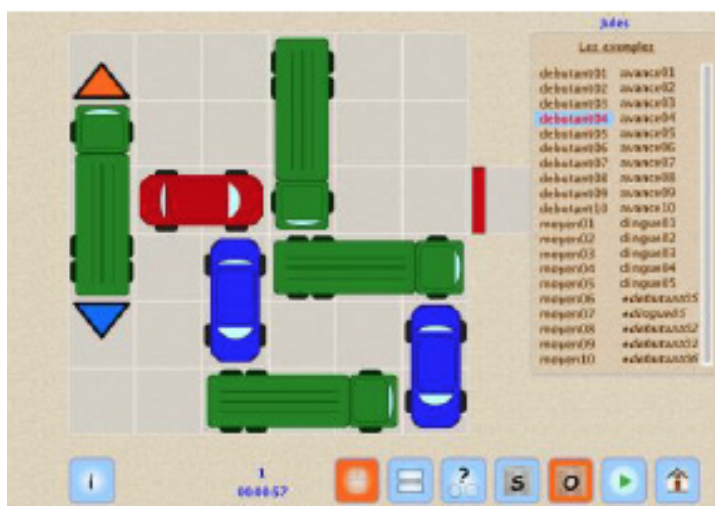
'LiveCode has become our Cross Platform tool of choice, to create applications capable of supporting accessibility.

We use it to develop applications which make reading and writing as accessible as possible to children and adults with a significant range of physical and mental special needs. Achieving these goals is not always easy; however using the speed of iteration within LiveCode makes the software testing engagement with the end users possible.

Important considerations include the end users disability which can include visual impairment, deafness, speech difficulties, physical and mental challenges, therefore the best method of user interface must be tailored to meet a multitude of special needs.

Importantly the applications are scalable and can grow with the end users learning curve, this equips the end user with the ability to use the apps, in spite of their disability, and then learn to make their own content tailored to their own preference.

The results are outstanding and the end user creates their own stories which they can share with friends and family, facilitating enhanced communication at an unprecedented level.



The benefit of using LiveCode is:

A short story from Jean-Marc Burnod to illustrate the point.

John goes to the bakery with his Mom every day. John is a wheelchair user and has only ever been able to get to the shop with his mother's help. He has never been able to speak and his physical disability gives him an unusual appearance.

John recently received a computer. With his computer John can drive his wheelchair and use text-to-speech. So he can now go alone to the shop to buy bread.

The first time the baker was surprised to see John driving all alone. He looked for John's mother, but she wasn't there. Suddenly, he hears "Hi Mr Baguette" with an unknown voice.

The baker had never thought that this boy would be able to communicate and use a computer. The baker doesn't like computers himself, because he only uses his computer to do his boring monthly paperwork. However John's computer had simply transformed his life and given him a level of independence beyond everyone's wildest dreams and now, he often goes to the bakery to get bread and for a quick computer game with Mr Baguette.



About RunRev

Founded in 1997, RunRev is a technology company committed to making scalable software development fun, easy and accessible to everyone. To achieve this RunRev has created LiveCode.



About LiveCode

LiveCode is an award winning, high level, cross platform, integrated development environment. Its compile free work flow and highly efficient single code base enables Apps to be developed on Windows, Mac and Linux and deployed on all popular platforms including Mobile, Desktop, Cloud and Server. LiveCode is used around the world by organizations of all sizes to solve real world business problems.

Today millions of people use Apps built using LiveCode.

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