

10 Essential Questions about SCORM

Find out the ten essential pieces of information you should know about SCORM in this easy to read FAQ article...

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10 Essential Questions about SCORM

1 What is SCORM?

SCORM which stands for **Sharable Content Object Reference Model** is a collection of standards and specifications for technology-based learning deployed over the internet.

2 What is the current version of SCORM?

The current version of SCORM is SCORM 2004 4th Edition.

3 Who created SCORM?

SCORM is a suite of technical standards developed by the Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL). The White House Office of Technology, the Department of Defense and the Department of Labor launched the ADL Initiative in the United States to standardize and modernize training, education management and delivery. Industry and education partners, as well as various entities in other countries, also joined the effort.

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Why SCORM?

Accessibility: The ability to locate and access instructional components from multiple locations and deliver them to other locations.

For example, a content author can search the ADL Registry and identify relevant content that has already been developed by another organization and deploy that content on any LMS that is conformant to the same version of SCORM to learners anywhere in the world.

Interoperability: The ability to take instructional components developed in one system and use them in another system.

For example, content packaged for delivery in one SCORM-conformant LMS could be loaded into another LMS that is conformant to the same version of SCORM for delivery to learners.

Durability: The ability to withstand technology evolution and/or changes without costly redesign, reconfiguration, or recoding.

For example, upgrading to a new computer operating system should have no impact on the delivery of content to learners.

Reusability: The flexibility to incorporate instructional components in multiple applications and contexts.

For example, e-learning content designed for one organization can be redeployed, rearranged, repurposed, or rewritten by other organizations that have similar learning needs

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What is SCORM-compliant learning content?

SCORM-compliant learning content is:

- Delivered through a web browser
- Described by metadata
- Organized as a collection or sequence
- Packaged with a manifest file in such a way that it can be imported by a compliant learning management system or into a repository used by such a system

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What is SCORM-compliant learning management system?

A SCORM-compliant learning management system is a system that:

- Can accept any SCORM compliant content and make it available to users of the LMS
- Delivers the content to a learner by providing a runtime environment within which it launches the content. The runtime environment must meet certain technical requirements defined by the SCORM specifications and conformance requirements document

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What is the SCORM Test Suite?

The SCORM Test Suite verifies conformance for LMSes, content packages, and Sharable Content Objects (SCOs). It produces a detailed log of each test outcome.

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Who should use the SCORM Test Suite?

The SCORM Test Suite is available to anyone. Vendors should use it to self-test their products; developers should use it to test their content; program managers should use it to test content and products during the acquisition processes or for product acceptance.

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How do I access the SCORM Test Suite?

To access the latest version of the SCORM Test Suite (SCORM 2004 4th Edition), go to:

<http://www.adlnet.gov/Technologies/scorm/SCORMSDocuments/2004%204th%20Edition/Test%20Suite.aspx>

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Are SCORM-conformant products available now?

Numerous SCORM-conformant products, including both systems and content, are widely available. Check it out at:

<http://www.adlnet.gov/Technologies/scorm/Custom%20Pages/Certified%20Products.aspx>