

Maplesoft Releases Maple T.A. Building Block for Blackboard Learning System

New product offers seamless access to the most powerful Web-based automated assessment software through the popular course management system.

WATERLOO, CANADA, Monday, June 14, 2004 – Maplesoft™, the leading provider of high-performance software tools for engineering, science, and mathematics, announced today the release of the Maple T.A.™ Building Block™ for Blackboard Learning System™. The Maple T.A. Building Block is a Blackboard tool that provides integration of the Maple T.A. online testing and assessment system with the Blackboard Learning System.

The Maple T.A. Building Block provides students and instructors access to all testing and assessment functionalities of Maple T.A. while requiring only a single login point to access both systems. Instructors can create Maple T.A. assignments and tests within their Blackboard courses. When students take a Maple T.A. test, the gradebooks of both Maple T.A. and Blackboard are automatically updated. The functionality of the Maple T.A. Building Block enables the instructor to design each part of the course using the most appropriate tool.

With the Maple T.A. Building Block and Maple T.A., Blackboard is now a viable option for technical disciplines. The course management components of Blackboard combined with the testing and assessment capabilities of Maple T.A. provide a fully-featured system for mathematics and other technical courses.

“Our customers told us that they wanted to take advantage of the features of the Blackboard course management system, but were unwilling to give up the superior testing and assessment capabilities of Maple T.A. to properly test the students’ knowledge of technical concepts,” said Louise Krmpotic, Product Manager for Maple T.A. “The Maple T.A. Building Block, Blackboard and Maple T.A. together form the most powerful course management and testing system on the market.”

The Maple T.A. Building Block is available for use with Maple T.A. Release 1.5.2 and Blackboard Learning System (Release 6).

To learn more about Maple T.A. and the Maple T.A. Building Block, please visit www.maplesoft.com/mapleta.

About Maple T.A.

Maple T.A. provides a complete infrastructure for creating, administering and grading free-form, online mathematics exams and assignments. Maple T.A. grades assignments with the Maple engine, the most trusted software for exploring mathematics and developing mathematical applications. Maple T.A. frees schools from the cost, effort and limitations of traditional paper-and-pencil assessment. It allows easy randomization of questions to prevent cheating and encourage repetition of exercises. It also lets instructors to include free-form mathematics questions in assignments, even when there are thousands of students in the class.

News Release

About Maplesoft

Maplesoft is a world leader in mathematical and analytical software. Its suite of products includes Maple 9.5, the standard among interactive mathematical software; MapleNet, a comprehensive mathematical infrastructure for the Web; Maple T.A., a system for automated assessment; and the Maple Professional Toolbox Series for specialized application areas. Maplesoft products embody the most advanced and integrated technology for both numeric and symbolic solution of complex problems. Its standards-compliant algorithms are renowned for their speed, accuracy and reliability. In addition, Maplesoft leads the market with innovations that make the management of technical knowledge – whether in industry or in a classroom – more effective and efficient. Over 5 million users benefit from advanced Maple technology. The Maplesoft industrial customer base includes Boeing, Bosch, Canon, and NASA. Additionally, virtually every major university and research institute in the world, including MIT, Stanford, Oxford and Waterloo, has adopted Maplesoft products to enhance their education and research activities. For more information visit www.maplesoft.com.

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