Kevin Wolf

From:	info@podi.com
Sent:	Thursday, April 25, 2019 1:57 PM
Subject:	PODI News - Clients Driving New Education Management Features

Dear Kevin,

Clients Driving New Education Management Features

Our clients are a clever bunch. They are always looking for new ways to improve the member experience and make their own jobs a little easier. And those are initiatives that PODI supports whole-heartedly!

When thinking back four years ago to the launch of the PODI Education Module, we knew it would not be a one-and-done project. We worked with clients to build a framework wherein members (and non-members) could easily access online courses, tests, transcripts, and certificates. It was a simple interface with just the features our clients wanted at the time. But the possibilities for new and innovative features and functions were nearly endless. And our clients rose to the occasion by presenting us with all sorts of ideas and scenarios.

As a result, the robust base of the PODI Education Module has been enhanced over the years to provide some of the following optional features:

- Coupon codes for discounted course purchases
- Credit-based purchasing of courses
- Advanced user oversight for company managers to view their employees and their education history
- Group purchasing of courses
- Integration with in-person test taking centers
- Additional reporting tools

As with all our services, the PODI Education Module was completely client-driven and we're very proud of that. These enhancements are just another example of that collaborative work.

If you've got ideas of ways to make your members' lives a little easier (or maybe even your own workload a little lighter) let us know. We would be happy to help you come up with some implementation strategies.

Miami-Dade County Schools Using PODI Registration Software

Earlier this year we got a call from the Professional Development team at the Miami-Dade County Public School System. As members of our client organization, Learning Forward, Miami-Dade staff members had experience using the PODI software that processes Learning Forward meeting registrations. The Miami-Dade team asked us to provide a similar service for their upcoming Spring Meeting. The meeting features thousands of continuing education sessions offered over five days in three locations to more than 19,000 potential registrants. The REAL challenge, however, was that the planned registration window was just weeks away!

A deal was struck quickly and the Miami-Dade County and PODI teams got right to work. The Learning Forward registration process was adapted to the Miami-Dade requirements in record time and the Miami-Dade Professional Development team masterfully crafted and finalized the intricate schedule — complete with topical categories, session names, presenters, room numbers, and session seat limits.

Bottom line, both teams rallied to put all the pieces in place and registration is now underway for *Summer Heat 2.0* — Miami-Dade County's Professional Learning offering. More than 3,000 teachers registered for 4,000 sessions in just the first six days!

Browser Wars circa 1997

This year we are celebrating PODI's upcoming 25th anniversary. Each monthly newsletter includes a brief reflection of our history to remind us how much has changed in the online community.

> *July 1997:* "Leaders in the 1997 Web browser competition are Netscape and Microsoft. The former has a 59% marketshare with versions 3.0-5.0. Microsoft has 28% of the market with Internet Explorer, version 3.
>
> *Most used platforms:* 50% of site visitors are using Windows 95 while 25% are on the Windows 3.1 platform. 8% are Mac users."

Fast foward to 2019, Netscape is gone and Microsoft marketshare has fallen below 10%. The 2019 browser market leaders are Chrome (71%), Firefox (10%), Internet Explorer/Edge (9.6%), Safari (5%), and Opera (2%).

It makes you wonder what the next 22 years will bring. Year 2041 — oh my!

Other News and Notes

The **Institute of International Container Lessors** has significantly upped the functionality of their website. Not only does the site sport a new design and content management system, but the certification process for candidates has been enhanced to include exam scheduling and integration with PearsonVUE.

The **Association of Insurance Compliance Professionals** launched a new blog to provide more speedy communication with its members. Eventually this blog will be a replacement for its costly journal, thus saving the association money while improving interaction amongst the membership. The blog will also be a revenue generator for AICP as it will be selling ad space throughout the blog.

The **National Association of Chemical Distributors**, a leader in health, safety, security, and environmental performance, recently launched an online version of its annual Membership and Safety Questionnaire. The online version allows members to log in, agree to the Guiding Principles document, take the multi-step survey, and even save responses for later completion.

The **American Council of Engineering Companies** has a new design for its website. This new design uses the most recent responsive, mobile-first front-end web development framework.

The **National Business Group on Health** launched its 2019 Workforce Strategy conference site . The 500+ attendees, experts, and experienced practitioners in employee health and well-being, will gather to learn, engage, and be inspired in the movement to optimize the employee experience.

Thank you for your time.