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EU YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES
TECHNOLOGY WITHOUT "DISABILITIES"
BUILDING OUR TECHNO-FUTURE

About us

"Inspired" by "our" young people and the difficulties they face in their daily life, we decided to create this online magazine so they will be able to use it in order to find some useful information about job and learning opportunities around Europe and technological issues as well. Our team consists of young journalists and entrepreneurs, who are more than willing to share their knowledge and motivate youth to build their career in different sectors.

This is our first magazine, which we are planning to publish once per month. The topics included inside are related to Youth programs, job and learning opportunities, accessibility of technology related with people with disabilities and about the new technologies which can be used either in education or other sectors in business.

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EU Youth Opportunities

Nowadays, because of global crisis, it is really hard to get some work experience and find a job in the field you studied for. In order to solve that problem, young people have lot of opportunities thanks to the internet and the European Union. Some of them are described in this article:



EURES - The European Job Mobility Portal

Provides info tools which aim to give help and support by considering moving to or recruiting from another country. Through EURES you can find a job around EU and also in Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein and Switzerland. You also have access to all the relevant workers mobility information, a job search facility and network of more than 800 EURES advisers who are waiting to help you. You can prepare your CV, get prepared and well informed about the employment situation and living and working conditions in those countries. They also offer you advice on many practical, legal and administrative issues.

Once you find a job, and decide to move to another country, you will be able to gain new professional and personal skills by developing your professional competences, self-confidence and communication ability. You also get new insights and different perspectives by expanding your cultural background and learning or improving a foreign language.

PLOTEUS – Portal on LearningOpportunities Throughout Europe

Just like EURES, this portal also helps you to get some new experience, but with finding opportunity to learn something new. It contains information about national education and training systems, European exchange programs and contacts for further information. It gives you an opportunity to learn or study in another European country.



There are also some other portals that can help you expanding your knowledge and

finding a job. In order to search for more information click on one of the links below:

- https://erasmusplus.org.uk/
- http://www.eurodesk.org.uk/
- https://europass.cedefop.europa.e u/en/home
- http://www.erasmusentrepreneurs.eu/
- https://ec.europa.eu/eures/public/ en/homepage
- http://ec.europa.eu/ploteus/

Technology Without "Disabilities"



...People with disabilities meet barriers of all types. However, technology is helping to lower many of these barriers. By using computing technology for tasks such as reading and writing documents, communicating with others, and searching for information on the Internet, students and employees with disabilities are capable of handling a wider range of activities independently.

Mobility Impairments

Equipment which provides flexibility in the positioning of monitors, keyboards, documentation, and tabletops is useful for many individuals with disabilities. Plugging all computer components into power

outlet strips with accessible on and off switches makes it possible for some individuals to turn equipment on and off independently.

Some technology assists individuals with little or no use of their hands in using a standard keyboard. Individuals who have use of one finger, or have access to a mouth- or head-stick or some other pointing device, can control the computer by pressing keys with the pointing device.

Blindness

Most individuals who are blind use standard keyboards, however, Braille input devices are available. Braille key labels can assist with keyboard use. Speech output systems can be used to read screen text to computer users who are blind. Special software programs (called screen readers) "read" computer screens and speech synthesizers "speak" the text. The availability of earphones for individuals using speech output systems can reduce

the distractions for others nearby.



Hearing or Speech Impairments

Speech and hearing disorders alone do not generally interfere with computer use. However, advanced speech synthesizers are close enough to human quality to act as substitute voices and thus provide a compensatory tool for students who cannot communicate verbally. Students with portable systems can participate in class discussions once adapted computers provide them with intelligible speaking voices. Word processing and educational

software may also help students who are hearing impaired develop writing skills.

Specific Learning Disabilities

Educational software where the computer provides multi-sensory experiences, interaction, positive reinforcement, individualized instruction, and repetition can be useful in skill building. Some students with learning disabilities who have difficulty processing written from information can also benefit completing writing assignments, tutorial lessons, and drill-and-practice work with the aid of computers. For example, a standard word processor can be a valuable tool for individuals with dysgraphia, an inability to produce handwriting reliably.



Building our Techno Future...

...In businesses



Small businesses thrive on being nimble and open to change. This includes the ability to stay connected, work from any location and keep employees productive when on the road. Mobile technology like smartphones, laptops, mobile applications and GPS devices keep colleagues in contact and help business owners stay in touch with customers.

Benefits

Many of the benefits of using mobile technology center around improving communication. Cell phones keep businesses and employees connected with each other and customers both at the office or on vacation. It gives individuals the ability to communicate instantly and respond quickly to business situations.

Laptops have become powerful computing devices that offer access to all of the applications needed to run a business, including accounting software, a Web browser or a database program. Mobile marketing reaches new and existing customers through a direct channel that helps with sending out special offers and tracking responses.

Cell Phones

Cell phones are a must-have business accessory for many good reasons. Cell phones mean that business owners and employees aren't tied to an office. They can stay in touch from anywhere. Smartphones are increasingly powerful devices that are closer to being mini-computers than oldstyle phones. As smartphones become more and more popular, business owners need to consider implementing policies to deal with the use of these phones. This may include a no-talking-while-driving policy or a security policy that requires the use of passwords to protect valuable business

data that may be kept on the devices.



Laptops

Laptops are the flagship devices of mobile business computing. They come in all sizes ranging from inexpensive, lightweight netbooks to desktop replacement computers with large screens and powerful processors. The type of laptop you choose for your business will depend on what sort of computing you need to do, what weight you can tolerate and what your budget is. For simply getting online with a laptop that you can easily haul around, a netbook is a budget-friendly option.

Mobile Marketing

Mobile marketing is a growing area that small businesses are taking advantage of. This includes communicating with customers through text messages, social media sites and mobile applications.

Phones are very personal



accessories. Gaining permission from customers to contact them via their phones can open up a very effective marketing medium. Mobile social networking applications that target a user's location can be a big boost for local businesses when it comes to sending out sales information or coupons, and spreading the word. These types of software typically involve users sharing their visited locations with friends and commenting businesses that they visit. Small businesses looking to expand into mobile marketing can claim a presence on these applications, and provide coupons and special offers to users.

GPS

GPS devices have come down in price in recent years, making them an affordable accessory for any business that requires travel. A GPS is particularly handy for a business that make house calls, an entrepreneur who travels or a sales professional who is often on the road. A GPS can help you locate hard-to-find places

and be on time for appointments. It is a powerful tool in any road warrior's arsenal.

...For education

Education is a very important part of our youths' life, that's why we need to invest a lot on that. If we want to have well educated and critically thinking citizens, we have to give them the right motivation to learn. One good way could be by using technology during teaching and learning process.

Nowadays, there are a lot of technological devices available to teachers that can support them while they are teaching.

Alphabet taught to kids nowadays



Multi-Users Virtual Environment (MUVEs

Multi-Users Virtual Environment (MUVEs), for example, is a very useful tool that can be used during the learning process, as it allows students to cooperate and collaborate in order to complete the task

has been given from their teacher. During this process, students can also learn from their teammates, help them if they face difficulties and work in an interesting and attractive environment. MUVEs designed for the educational community embed tasks or problems within a virtual environment or context. Users can explore the environment and examine digital objects. Typically, there is also a means to communicate with other users and online agents. Users may select an avatar to represent them in the environment, thus providing the opportunity to try out a persona in a nonthreatening environment.

Educational MUVEs are designed to support inquiry-based learning and conceptual understanding. Usually there is no one "right" way to perform the task or solve the problem. Instead, several solutions are justified, although, as in real life, some solutions may be better than others. Importance is placed on the logic of students' reasoning. Unlike MUVEs designed purely for entertainment, students using educational MUVEs often must gather information offline, and usually there is a final product that they must submit, such as a report

or a video diary of their experience.



Interactive tabletops

Interactive tabletops and surfaces are a multi-user interactive table designed to promote student collaboration, engagement and student-led learning. The intuitive touch interface allows up to six users at once to access a wealth of readyto-use educational activities, tools and resources. Small groups can work together to accomplish a single activity or work independently to contribute toward the completion of a group project. Unlike most multi-touch technology tools, have been designed specifically to help teachers quickly, easily and effectively foster collaborative classroom learning

M-learning or mobile learning

M-learning or mobile learning is defined as "learning across multiple contexts, through

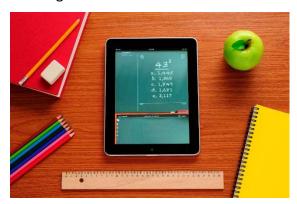
social and content interactions, using personal electronic devices." A form of distance education, m-learners use mobile device educational technology at their time convenience.

M-learning technologies include handheld computers, MP3 players, notebooks, mobile phones and tablets. M-learning focuses on the mobility of the learner, interacting with portable technologies. Using mobile tools for creating learning aids and materials becomes an important part of informal learning.



M-learning is convenient in that it is accessible from virtually anywhere. Sharing is almost instantaneous among everyone using the same content, which leads to the reception of instant feedback and tips. This highly active process has proven to increase exam scores from the fiftieth to the seventieth percentile, and cut the dropout rate in technical fields by 22 percent. M-learning also brings strong

portability by replacing books and notes with small devices, filled with tailored learning contents.



Mobile learning is the delivery of learning, education or learning support on mobile phones, PDAs or tablets. E-Learning has provided the ability for traditional learning to break out of the classroom setting and for students to learn at home. Mobile learning has enhanced upon e-learning by taking it a step further and allowing students to learn virtually anywhere a mobile signal is available.