# Tracking Learning Experiences Using the Experience API

Lim Kin Chew School of Science & Technology ELFA 2015, 17 – 19 June 2015

### Agenda

- 1. Short History of Technology-Based Training (TBT)
- Shortcomings of present LMS-centric & content-centric elearning
- 3. Many different ways of learning (informal learning, social media, collaboration, smartphones, etc), so how to capture learning?
- 4. What led to the development of the xAPI?
- 5. What is the xAPI?
- 6. Why is there the need to know the xAPI?
- 7. Early adopters of the xAPI
- 8. Demonstration walkthrough of LMS to LRS communication
- 9. Video demonstration of an LRS System
- 10. xAPI prototypes
- 11. Summary

## 1. Short History of Technology-Based Training (TBT)



Instructor-led Training - ILT



Mainframe-Based CBT 19603 – 1970s



Satellite-based Distance Learning 1980s - 1990s



PC-Based CD-ROM CBT 1980s - 1990s

LMS Beginnings AICC Standards –
1988 onwards.
1997 – Formation of e-Learning consortia like IMS Global and the US DoD's ADL.



IMS Common Cartridge
Learning Tool
Interoperability
IMS Content Package
IMS QTI
IEEE Metadata Spec
SCORM 1.2 Version 1.0
SCORM 2004 1st Edition
SCORM 2004 2nd Edition
SCORM 2004 3rd Edition
SCORM 2004 4th Edition

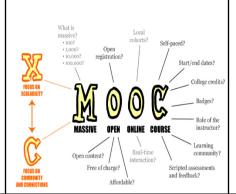


1<sup>st</sup> Generation WBT, Virtual Classroom, Elearning – 1998 – now.

Integrated Blended Learning - Web, Video, Audio, Simulations, ILT, & more ... 2002 ...



Mobile Learning





## 2. Shortcomings of the present LMS-centric & content-centric e-learning - 1

LMS-centric & content-centric e-learning	Implication				
MCQs -> single-answer assessments.	Don't reflect real-world situations				
Learning	Very linear				
Content materials on the LMS	Predominantly text-based				
Teacher = knowledge dispenser	Doesn't encourage self-directed & independent learning				
Contents from other devices, e.g smartphones, tablets	Can't consolidate with those on the LMS				

## Shortcomings of the present LMS-centric & content-centric e-learning - 2

LMS-centric & content-centric e-learning	Implication			
LMS must connect to the Internet all the time in order for learning interactions to take place.	Smartphones, tablets are not always connected to the Internet.			
Difficult to ascertain how much learning the participant has done if he or she uses multiple devices to access information.	Learning assessment becomes unreliable.			

#### Main Problem with LMS Model

Very little online learning happens on the LMS! LMS is used only as a <u>repository</u> of learning materials. Nowadays, many people learn many things using at least some of the following applications. But LMS cannot handle such learning.









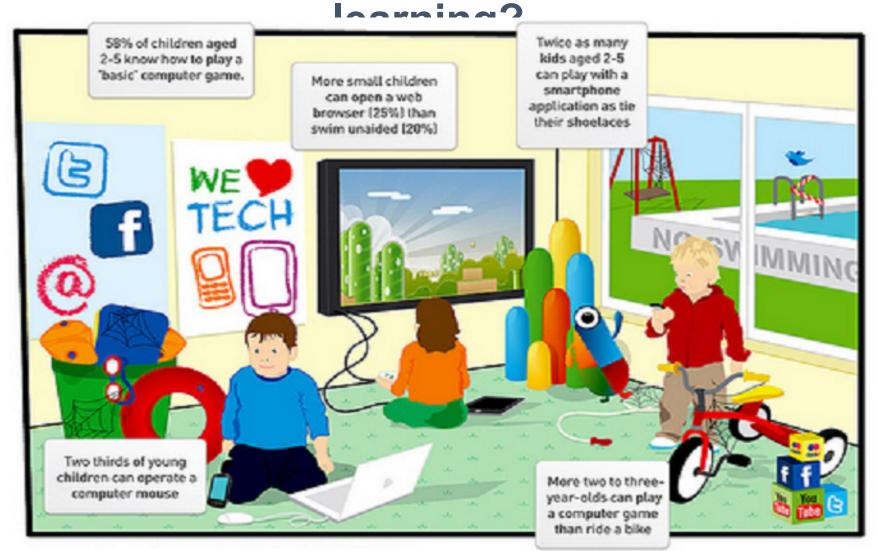








3. Many different ways of learning (informal learning, social media, collaboration, smartphones, etc), so how to capture



Reference: http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2376056,00.asp

#### What about mobile apps and augmented reality?...









#### I want to track data in a simulation...



## Learning is social. How do I integrate all of this social media?



#### I want to train multiple users in a virtual world...







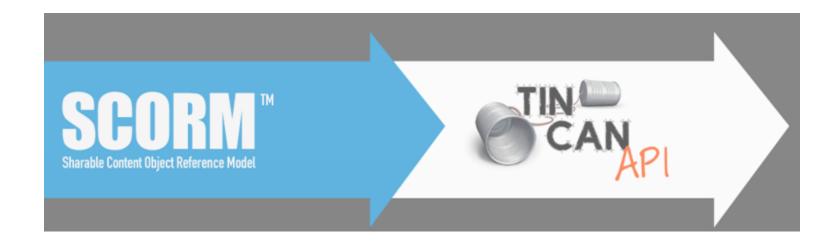


## 4. What led to the development of the xAPI?

- SCORM was first released in 2000 but it is now 15 years old!
- People communicating and collaborating with mobile devices.
- Mobile devices expensive to maintain 24/7 Internet connectivity.
- People are also learning differently.:
  - Texting
  - Desktop access LMS to do quizzes
  - Use iPAD to view webinars
  - Android phone to check interactive study guides
- Rustici contracted to work on a new proposal for the new generation of e-learning specification.
  - Extensive consultation with the e-learning community of practitioners, Rustici developed the Tin Can API in 2013.
  - The ADL renamed it xAPI, for Experience API.

#### 5. What is the xAPI?

- Stands for Experience Application Programming Interface (shortened to xAPI).
- It is also referred to as the Tin Can API.
- It is a set of open specifications to track learning experiences.
- Version 1.0.0 of this spefication was released in April 2013.
- It is now at Version 1.0.1 as at 2 October 2013.
- It is still evolving.
- It is commonly said to be the next generation after SCORM.

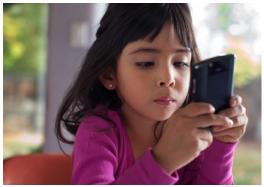


## 6. Why is there the need to know the xAPI?

- Taking e-learning <u>outside</u> of the web browser
- ii. Handle e-learning in <u>native mobile</u> <u>applications</u>
- iii. More control over learning content
- iv. Better security
- v. <u>Platform transition</u>; e.g. start e-learning on a mobile device, finish it on a computer
- vi. Able to <u>track</u>
  - i. games and simulations
  - ii. real-world performance
  - iii. team-based e-learning
  - iv. learning plans and goals

#### Learning happens anywhere











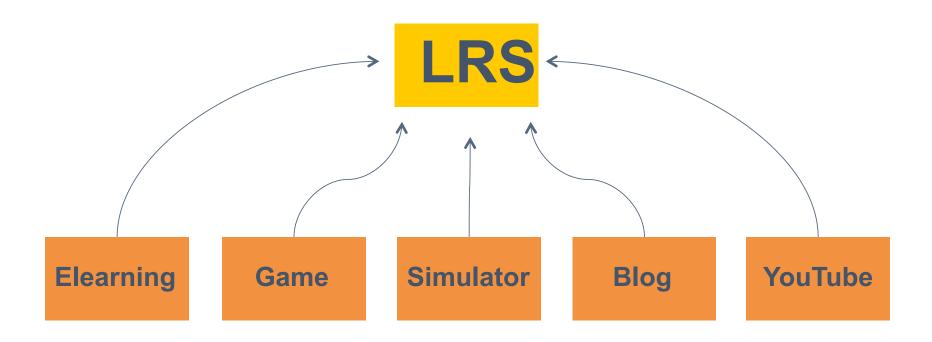


#### **Learning Experiences that Matter**



#### **How Tin Can API works**

LRS – Learning Record Store



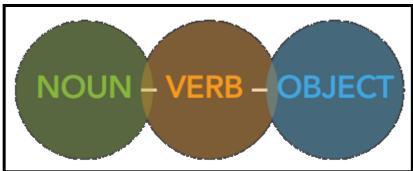
#### Tin Can Statements - 1













**MOBILE APP** 





#### Tin Can Statements - 2

#### Tin Can in Education:

- 1. "Jenny uploaded 'Guide to Bb Collaborate' to YouTube".
- 2. "Jenny watched 'Statistics for Beginners' on Khan Academy".
- 3. "Jenny subscribed to 'ECR podcast' on iTunesU".
- 4. "Jenny **posted** 'English Competency Assessment' on Jenny's Blog".
- 5. "Jenny **attended** 2014 Faculty Learning Day". Registrant's pass records attendance.
- 6. "Jenny uploaded a photo to the field work database"
- 7. "Jenny **borrowed** Capstone Project Guidelines from the Tay Eng Soon Library"
- 8. "Jenny completed Topic One in Gerontology App"

### 7. Early Adopters of the xAPI - 1

Check out the latest at: <a href="http://tincanapi.com/adopters/">http://tincanapi.com/adopters/</a>
116 companies and organizations have adopted the xAPI (March 2015).

List includes companies dealing with LMSs, authoring tools, etc.







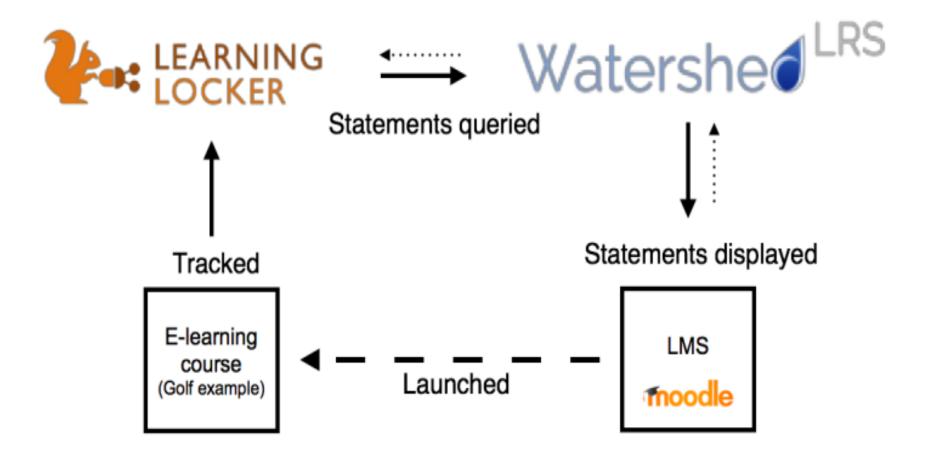




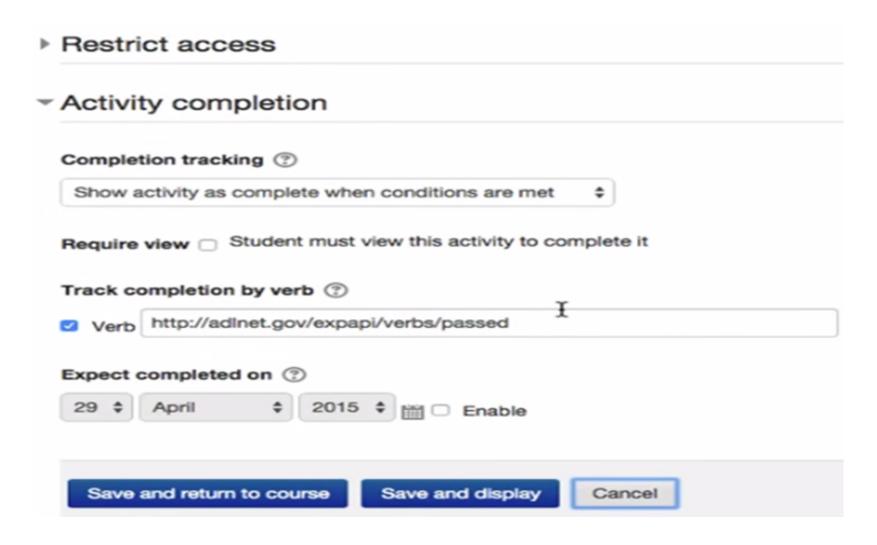


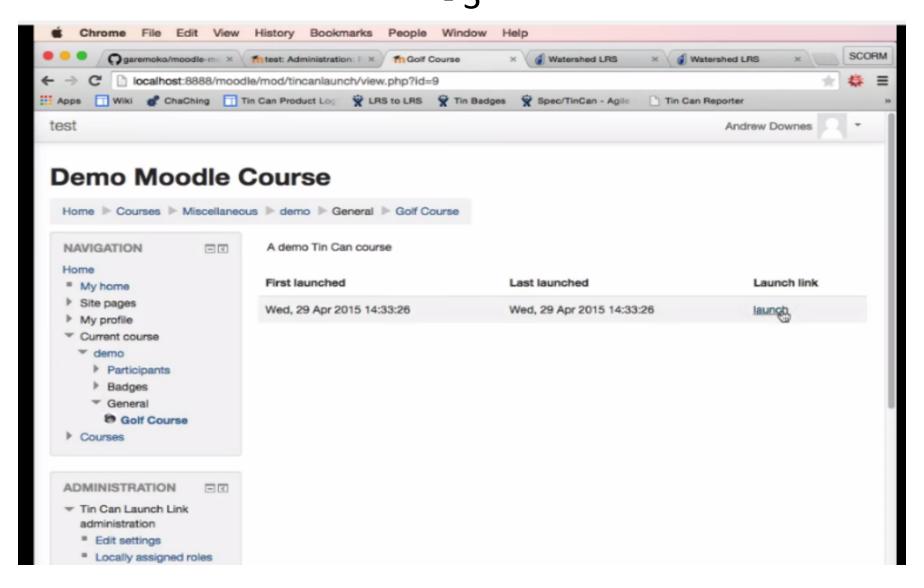






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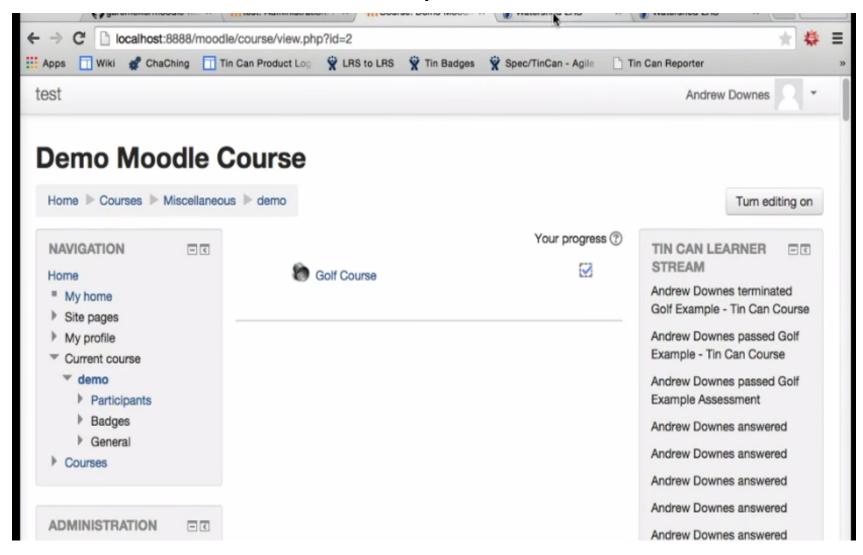


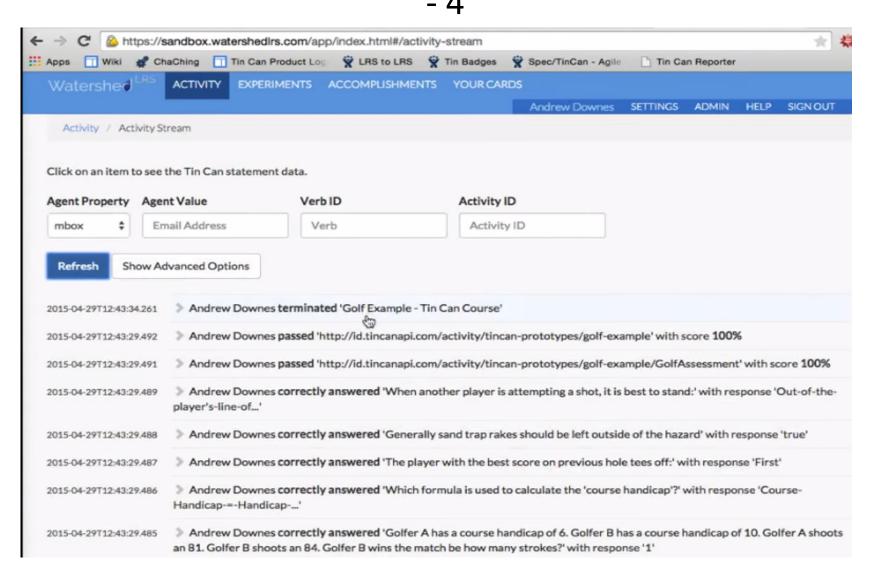


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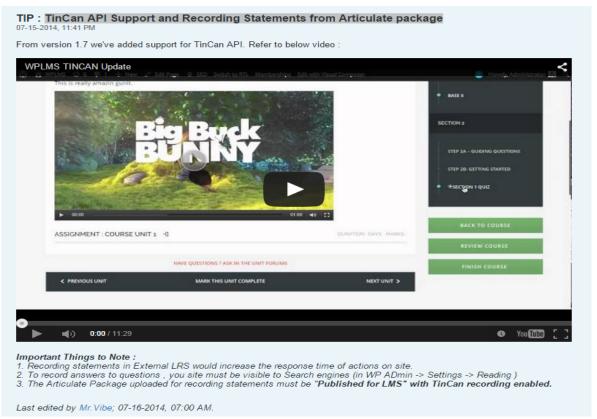




### 9. Video demonstration of an LRS (Learning Record Store) system

TinCan API Support and Recording Statements from Articulate package URL:

http://vibethemes.com/forums/forum/wordpress-html-css/wordpress-themes/wplms/tips-tricks-docs/21719-tip-tincan-api-support-and-recording-statements-from-articulate-package



#### 10. xAPI Prototypes

- From the ADL:
  - https://lrs.adlnet.gov/prototypes
- From Rustici:
  - http://tincanapi.com/download-prototypes
- From Learning Locker:
  - http://learninglocker.net/
- From IxHive:
  - https://github.com/Brightcookie/IxHive
- From Tinman:
  - https://github.com/claresco/Tinman

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- It is still evolving.
- It is commonly said to be the next generation after SCORM.
- Used to track learning in many different situations and using many different devices

#### **End of Presentation**

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