

THIRTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE PACKAGED SOFTWARE INSTALLED ON PERSONAL COMPUTERS WORLDWIDE IN 2005 WAS ILLEGAL

– Global Software Piracy Study, Business Software Alliance
(www.bsa.org/globalstudy)

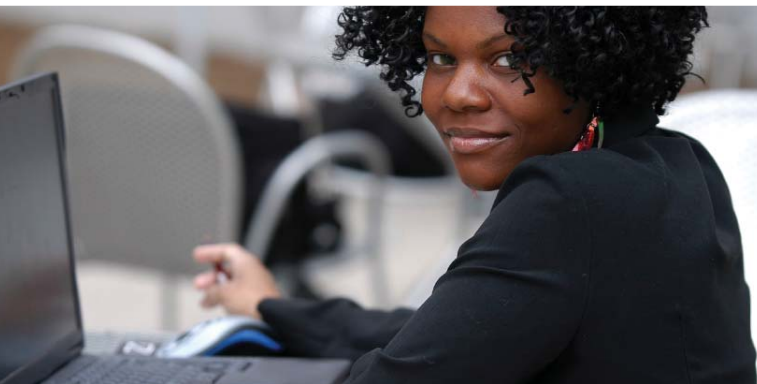
Charting course

The CCNC initiative is open to participation from local tertiary education institutions, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and private-sector training institutions throughout the Commonwealth interested in adopting the certificate in their own offerings.

COL will provide a wide range of CCNC course materials and training resources to participating institutions at no cost through the WikiEducator database (www.WikiEducator.org), also home to materials for a range of COL initiatives – including the Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth (www.col.org/vussc) and FLOSS4Edu (www.WikiEducator.org/FLOSS4Edu). Participating organisations in the CCNC collaboratively develop learning content through the Wiki open database software, an easy-to-use, non-proprietary medium for online group collaboration that requires minimal technical knowledge to modify and maintain. The popular website wikipedia.org is the most widely known Wiki environment.

Approaching horizons

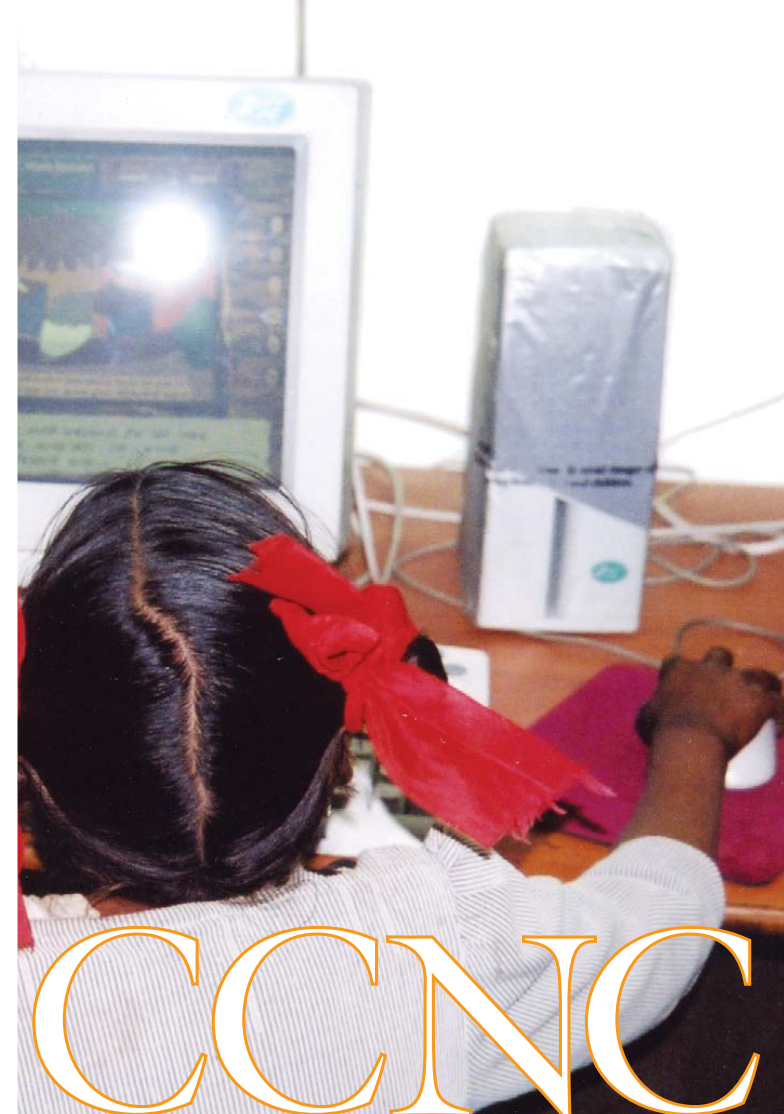
COL and its partners are preparing for a co-ordinated pilot offering of the certificate around the Commonwealth in 2008. CCNC development directions include a planned range of value added services, such as translation of course materials into different languages; and a “train-the-trainers” initiative for rollout to all Commonwealth developing countries.



ICT: All aboard

The pioneering nautical spirit of the small island states that make up half the Commonwealth's membership inspires the CCNC in its mission to equip prospective learners with the ICT skills needed to become full, contributing knowledge society participants.

COL actively seeks partner education institutions to help develop, fund and implement the CCNC across the Commonwealth.



CCNC

Commonwealth Computer Navigator's Certificate

for more information:

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Free computer and software skills training for developing countries

 **COMMONWEALTH of LEARNING**
learning for development

MORE AVAILABLE. *More able.*

ICT: Pushing boundaries

How do you make information and communications technology (ICT) more universally useful as an effective tool for education and development? Having access to a computer and software, is one thing; really knowing how to use a computer and software relevant to your needs, is another. The Commonwealth Computer Navigator's Certificate (CCNC) is a free online programme with a difference. Initiated by the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) in 2006, this development will help bring computer software skills training to everybody. By using free open-source software it eliminates concerns about the illegal use of proprietary software.

The CCNC will provide people in the Commonwealth's developing countries with easier access to ICT skills training that can be freely used, modified and distributed by anyone, anytime and anywhere.

What about existing courses in support of proprietary software tools? The CCNC widens the available learning and training options, offering less advantaged learners more choices by widening access to acquiring ICT skills using free software.

CCNC materials are partially based on content created for the Open International Computer Drivers License (OpenICDL, <http://icdl.tsf.org.za>), an open source, open learning international computing qualification. The CCNC adds value by reconfiguring the OpenICDL course material for distance education and eLearning formats using a share-alike rights license.



FOUNDING CCNC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS INCLUDE

Indira Gandhi National Open University, India; The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand; The Pennsylvania State University World Campus, United States; The University of the West Indies Distance Education Centre; the University of the Western Cape, South Africa; and Wawasan Open University, Malaysia.

New partners are always welcome to join in the development and expansion of this programme.