

# THE HIDDEN eLEARNING COSTS OF USING HTML5 FOR IPAD® AND FLASH FOR PC

There's a one-version solution that's iPad-optimized and PC-ready

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With the iPad becoming increasingly popular in business, many companies need to provide eLearning that plays on both iPads and PCs.

Most solutions – like eLearning created with Articulate® Storyline® – create two separate versions: an Adobe® Flash® version that plays on the PC and an HTML5 version that plays on iPad.

Chameleon-based eLearning from BI WORLDWIDE has a distinct advantage over the two-version solutions. With chameleon, only a single version of the course is created.

This single course senses the platform it is being played on – iPad or PC – and alters itself to play correctly.

Let's look at the costs of both approaches, starting with the common dual-version solution.

## DUAL-VERSION SOLUTIONS:

### Two versions. Hidden costs.

Companies that have tried the dual approach are reporting hidden effort and hidden costs that became apparent only after they've started course-development. Issues they report include:

#### ✓ TWO VERSIONS TO CREATE

Many interaction and interactivity options are different for each version, especially for higher-end interactivity. Only a subset of interactivity works in both versions. Instructional designers are faced with a choice: increase development costs or reduce the course to a mundane page-turner, re-using a few simple interactions over and over again.

#### ✓ TWO VERSIONS TO TEST AND PUBLISH

Even when keeping the course to one version during development, the course now needs to be published in two different formats. As the coursework is tested and errors found, one (or two) sets of changes need to be made – then re-published and re-tested twice – once for each version.

#### ✓ TWO VERSIONS NEED LEGAL/ REGULATORY APPROVAL

Those in the medical industry know how tedious and difficult it is to get courses through medical and legal approvals. Now double the effort – because each version of the course needs approval. And each time there's a significant change or an update, both versions need to be changed, both versions published, both versions tested and then finally – both versions need to be re-submitted for approval.



## ✓ TWO VERSIONS TO LOAD ON THE LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS)

This doubles the course administrators' work. It doesn't seem like a big deal for one course – but even a single course might need to be uploaded several times during the process of QA and rework. Now multiply that for 20 or 30 modules. The workload and the potential for mistakes add up quickly.

## ✓ TWO SETS OF COURSE RESULTS

Because there are two versions of the course being launched from the LMS, management needs to access two reports to see what learners have accomplished inside a “single course.” Or, a custom report needs to be created and maintained for each LMS report the two course versions touch. Custom reports can be pricey. Next, the interactivity and page level tracking may not equate across the two course versions. Finally, one course may not be as effective as the other course version – meaning part of the learning audience may be getting substandard training. In a regulatory or compliance-driven environment, that's a legal risk.

## ✓ CERTIFICATIONS INVOLVING MULTIPLE VERSIONS REQUIRE EXTRA LMS SET-UP

Both versions of the course need to be set up as equivalent in order for the LMS certifications to work properly. And both versions of the course need to be set-up as a pre-requisite if this is required. These equivalencies can be difficult for most LMSs. Add an “either/or” pre-requisite and there's a real mess.

## ✓ TWO VERSIONS MUST BE MAINTAINED AND UPDATED

Need to change copy, graphics and images? Once again, there are two versions to update. The maintenance workload potentially doubles – as do the opportunities for error, rework, testing and re-publishing.

## ✓ TWO VERSIONS NEED TO BE TRANSLATED

This adds potential cost to the actual word-for-word translation because the interactions and templates may be different between the two versions; and then it doubles the work of re-inserting the translated content because it must be done for each version of the course. Again both translated versions need to be published, tested, reworked and then re-published and re-loaded onto the LMS.

## ✓ TWO VERSIONS HAVE NO CAPABILITY FOR RESUMING A COURSE ON A DIFFERENT DEVICE

For two versions, you can't start the course on iPad and finish it on the PC – or vice versa. If you start the course on one device – you have to finish it on that device. With some LMSs, even starting over on the second device could be problematic.



## HERE'S ANOTHER CONSIDERATION.

Authoring tools make no accommodation for the older, underpowered iPad 1 and iPad 3 devices. Nor do they address the “overhead” the LMS adds to the course when launched on an iPad or that the LMS forces the browser into compliance mode. The developer needs to design for the appropriate memory and browser capability through trial and error – and how often do course development timelines have time for trial and error testing?



## WHAT'S THE ANSWER?

ONE COURSE.  
ONE VERSION.  
MULTIPLE DEVICES.



**A solution exists.**  
**It's chameleon eLearning from BI WORLDWIDE.**

BI WORLDWIDE uses our chameleon technology to produce a single version of the course that alters itself to play on both iPads and PCs. With chameleon, a single version of the course is created. This single course senses the platform it is being played on and alters itself to play correctly.

The eLearning is iPad-optimized and PC-ready – all from a single version of the course. Screens look identical. The interactions and text are the same. Videos and audio playback are identical. However, on iPads, mouse interactions automatically become tablet gestures, paging forward becomes swiping and clicking to zoom in becomes pinching.

And although the production technology is proprietary to BI WORLDWIDE, the output is not. Any organization with web development resources can update and maintain the courseware if they wish.

Most importantly, chameleon-created courses from BI WORLDWIDE eliminate the hidden costs inherent in dual-version development. With BI WORLDWIDE, there is:

- ✓ One course to create
- ✓ One course to test and publish
- ✓ One course to load onto the LMS
- ✓ One course with one set of reported results
- ✓ One course to set up as equivalencies or pre-requisites for certifications
- ✓ One course to maintain
- ✓ One course to translate
- ✓ One course for regulatory approvals
- ✓ One course that can bookmark and resume from either platform

To benefit from the one-course advantage using the innovative chameleon solution, visit [BIWORLDWIDE.com/chameleon](http://BIWORLDWIDE.com/chameleon) or email us at [info@BIWORLDWIDE.com](mailto:info@BIWORLDWIDE.com).

