Adapt Learning: Themes and principles

# Document control

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| **Abstract:** | Breaks down the vision statement into various themes and explains these. The themes are then broken down into principles for the various disciplines. | | |
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| **Summary of Changes:** | **Versions** | **Date** | **Description** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0.1 | 11 / 11 / 2013 | Initial draft for review. |
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# Purpose of document

The purpose of this document is to help those involved in the project understand how they can work towards the vision in the disciplines relevant to their work. It is intended for briefing newcomers as well as serving as a checklist for decision-making or reviewing work.

The document breaks down the vision statement into various themes and explains these in further detail. In the following sections, the themes are then broken down into specific principles.

# Vision statement breakdown

Below is the vision statement as agreed as part of the setup of the Adapt Learning open source project. We acknowledge this may not be perfect or as clear as it can be. However, it captures a lot of the intention and ambition and a good amount of time has been spent trying to phrase it. This section aims at summarizing and explaining the various themes and thought processes that are contained within the statement.

## Vision statement

In the table below, the vision statement is broken down into identifiable chunks:

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| **ID** | **Statement** |
| VIS1 | To create, as a community, the leading e-learning authoring tool for producing responsive content (i.e. single version output) that works across multiple types of devices. |
| VIS2 | To develop a freely available authoring tool for organisations that wish to develop their own responsive e-learning content, specifically those in education but also commercial companies and public organisations. |
| VIS3 | To encourage a large, global community of end users and developers and drive for widest possible adoption by releasing the code under the GPL open source license and ensuring a low barrier of adoption for all types of users. |
| VIS4 | To ensure that the tool is intuitive and easy to use for those with limited technical knowledge. |
| VIS5 | To ensure the authoring tool produces content, which can be deployed to a typical environment that end users may have (e.g. Moodle, SCORM-based LMSs etc.) |
| VIS6 | To support the principles of collaborative development and transition to a community led governance structure. |

## Extrapolation of themes

The table below highlights the themes and thoughts, which deserve better explanation.

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| **Related VIS ID** | **Theme** | **Description** |
| VIS1, VIS6 | Development as a community, collaborative development and community-led governance structure | The key elements we wanted to capture here are:  That this project is not the effort of one particular organization or partnership but rather something that’s meant to of benefit for the whole learning and development industry.  That everyone can get involved and their contribution will be recognized. Significant contributions will be rewarded with influence as long as the collaborator is aligned to the vision statement and principles. The principles of a meritocracy apply.  We work collaboratively. The particular aspect to highlight is that we would like this project to be a place where neither hierarchies nor competition or individual business goals play a major role. Our particular aim to let everyone achieve their individual goals and to orchestrate these efforts towards the common vision. |
| VIS1 | Learning and e-Learning in particular | We stay focused on learning and e-learning in particular. This means making the best decisions in terms of creating a tool and framework, which consider the goal of their primary audience to be the production of learning materials.  We endeavor to strike the right balance between flexibility / configurability and ease of use. We will avoid trying to please everybody (in particular those who are using Adapt for anything other than producing learning materials) and watering down the vision in doing so. |
| VIS1, VIS3 | Market leading Authoring tool | We are ambitious and strive for the best possible result. Mediocrity is not an option. We want to produce the best (i.e. market leading tool), no matter whether we are compared to proprietary or other open source tools. We accept that this means working intelligently and hard on an ongoing basis.  To narrow down the statement a little, we are aiming to produce the best server based tool, which produces responsive design e-learning content.  We believe we have a very good chance to achieve this seeing as:   * The marketplace does not have (m)any mature solutions in this space at the time of writing the document * The marketplace is ready for open source models and software business models have been changing significantly * We can scale up the contributor capacity (developers in particular) much beyond the capabilities of a proprietary model.   However, in order to achieve this, we must also consider the following:   * We have to achieve mass adoption (openness, thorough, high quality, marketing, etc) * We have to be led by our end users * We have to satisfy the needs of commercial e-learning producers * We have to enable service based business models * We have to enable scalability of design and development activity on the project   Commercial,  server based,  service provision,  mature open source |
| VIS1 | Responsive content | Rather than native app |
| VIS1 | Single version output, suitable for multi-device delivery |  |
| VIS2 | Freely available |  |
| VIS2, VIS3 | In-house development, breadth of target audience | Multi-organisation |
| VIS3 | Global take-up, multi language |  |
| VIS3 | Mass adoption, GPL |  |
| VIS3, VIS4 | Difference between end users and developers |  |
| VIS3, VIS4 | Low barrier to entry | Success in 5 minutes, well documented, examples |
| VIS4, VIS1 | Intuitive and easy to use for non-technical end users | Market leading |
| VIS5 | Typical environment, mindful of best practice and systems in the marketplace | Pluggable, interoperability |
| VIS3 | Flexible, extensible |  |

# Community and engagement principles

Project administration

Driven by end users

# Design principles

# Architectural principles

# Development principles