**CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION**

An e-Learning Management System (e-LMS) is a software application for the administration, tracking, reporting, automation and delivery of educational courses. The LMS concept emerged directly from the e-Learning. Although the first LMS appeared in the higher education sector, the majority of the LMSs today focus on the corporate market. Learning Management Systems make up the largest segment of the learning system market. The first introduction of the LMS was in the late 1990s.

Learning management systems were designed to identify training and learning gaps, utilizing analytical data and reporting. LMSs are focused on online learning delivery but support a range of uses, acting as a platform for online content, including courses, both asynchronous based and synchronous based. An LMS may offer classroom management for instructor-led training or a flipped classroom, used in higher education, but not in corporate space. Modern LMSs include intelligent algorithms to make automated recommendations for courses based on a user’s skill profile as well as extract meta-data from learning materials in order to make such recommendations even more accurate.

* 1. **BACKGROUND**

There are several historical phases of distance education that preceded the development of LMS:

**Correspondence teaching:** The first document of correspondence teaching dates back to 1723, through the advertisement of Boston Gazette of Caleb Phillips, professor of Shorthand, offering teaching materials and tutorials.

**Multimedia teaching:** The concept of e-Learning began developing in the early 20th century, marketed by the appearance of audio-video communication systems used for remote teaching. In 1909, E.M. Forster published his story ‘The Machine Stops’ and explained the benefits of using audio communication to deliver lectures to remote audiences. The earliest networked learning system was the Plato Learning Management system developed in the 1970s by Control Data Corporation.

The history of application of computers to education is filled with broadly descriptive terms such as computer-managed instruction (CMI) and integrated learning systems (ILS), computer-based instruction (CBI), computer-assisted instruction (CAI), and computer-assisted learning (CAL). These terms describe drill-and-practice programs, more sophisticated tutorials, and more individualized instruction, respectively.

The first fully-featured Learning Management System (LMS) was called EKKO, developed and released by Norway’s NKI Distance Education Network in 1991. Three years later, New Brunswick’s NB Learning Network presented a similar system designed for DOS-based teaching, and devoted exclusive to business learners.

Most modern LMSs are web-based applications like Google’s Classroom. In these systems learners can see real-time progress of their learning and get learning materials and content directly to their device’s feed and email inbox.

**1.2 OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this system are as follows:-

* To provide education opportunity for every student even if they are not able to physically attend the educational institution.
* To streamline the learning process and make productive use of both learner’s and instructor’s time.
* To make the learning process more engaging and less robotic.
* To reduce infrastructure costs for the institutions providing the educational courses.
* To increase efficiency of both instructors and students.