

Media Content and Delivery
Management at HBS:
Videotools

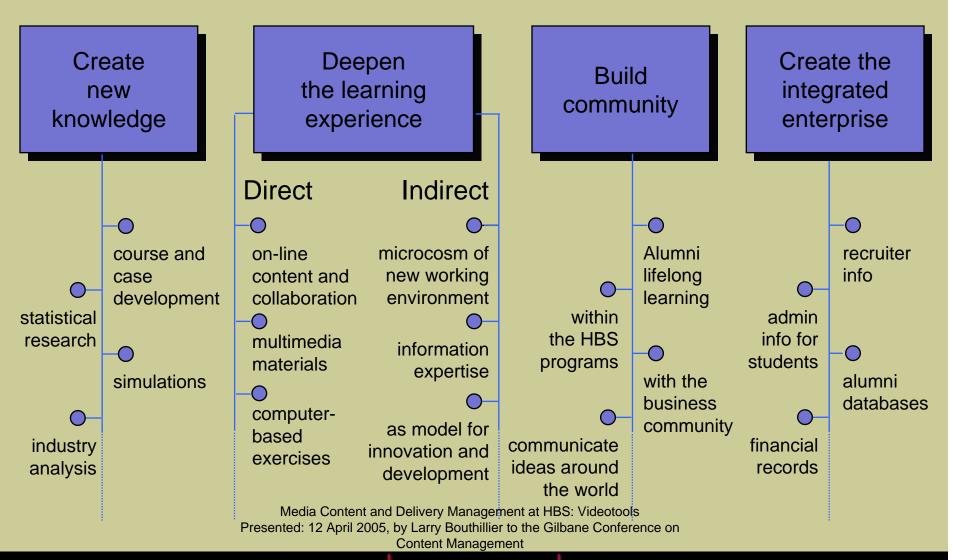
Presentation Overview

- What is HBS and why do we need (media) content management?
- Project Goals and Principles
- "Buy vs. Build" & Vendor Selection
- Technical Architecture
- Governance, Project Team, Project Calendar
- Launch Day!
- Future Plans
- Lessons....

About HBS

- Harvard's graduate business school
- 225 faculty members
- 800 staff
- 1600 full-time MBA students
- 5000 executives in residence each year
- 76,000 alumni
- HBS Publishing, Harvard Business Review, etc
- Increasing attention to external audiences

Mission of Technology at HBS



Why does HBS use video?

- Course materials:
 - Interviews
 - Documentaries
 - Case studies
- Integrated multimedia products
- Building community and maintaining relationships
- Business communications
- Internal (MBA, Executive Education, Lifelong Learning) & External Audience (HBSP)

Welcome, Laurence Bouthillier, you are logged in.

HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL

Speakers and Events

Video Showcase **Events Archive**



Stephen Schwarzman, CEO of The Blackstone Group Charlie Rose Show Interview 55 min Wednesday, March 2, 2005 The Charlie Rose Show More info...



William Sahlman, Faculty, Harvard Business School Charlie Rose Show Interview 29 min Wednesday, December 29, 2004 Charlie Rose Show More info...



Dean Kim Clark, Harvard Business School 60 Minutes Interview 13 min Sunday, October 10, 2004 Interview with Leslie Stahl More info...



She-E-Os and HOTS She-E-Os and HOTS in Concert December 7th, 2004 1 h 9 min Tuesday, December 7, 2004 A Capella Performance More info...



Michael Porter, Faculty, Harvard Business School Charlie Rose Show Interview 55 min Friday, April 30, 2004 The Charlie Rose Show More info...

Let Us Know if you have material that should be featured on this page. It should be a videotaped event related to HBS. Refer to the Guidelines section for more details.

Featured Video



State of the School Address Duration: 1 hour 7 Minutes

Harvard Business School's Dean Kim Clark delivered his annual "State of the School Address" in Spangler Auditorium on March 8, 2005.

HBS Home Alumni Home

MORE VIDEO:

REUNION PRESENTATION

STUDENT PRODUCTIONS

ALUMNI CONFERENCES

VIDEO ARCHIVE

VIDEO TOOLS:

ADVANCED SEARCH

VIDEO LIBRARY

HELPFUL LINKS:

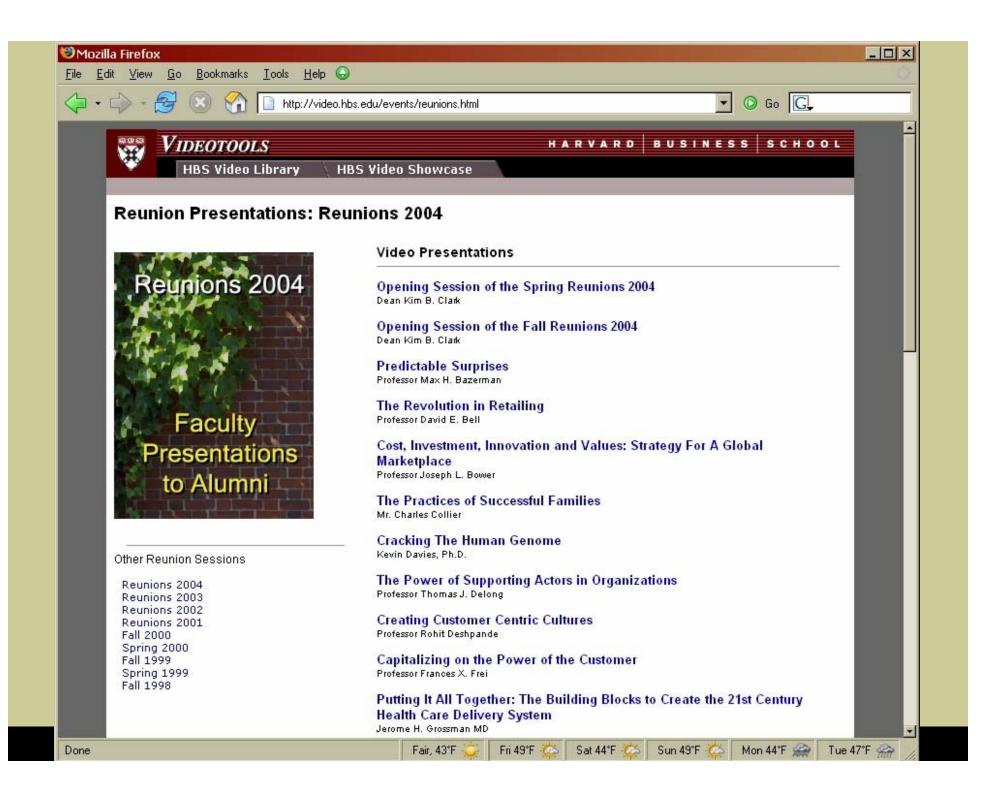
GET REALPLAYER

REALPLAYER HELP

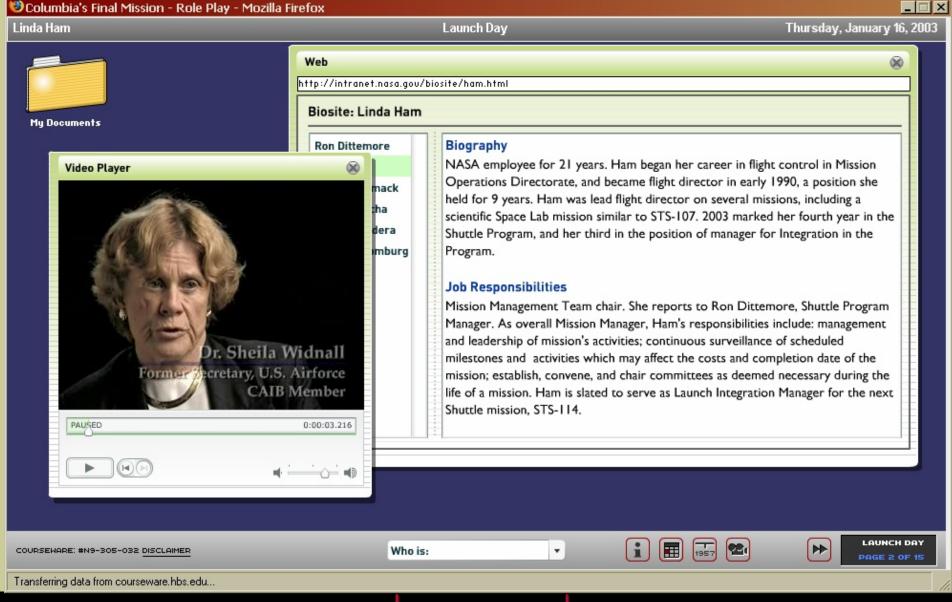
SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Want to find a video? Search our online video database

HBS IT HBS Login



Coumbia Shuttle Mission Simulation



HBS Videotools Project Mantra (?)

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If you have it...
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- ...but you can't find it...
 - ...you don't really have it.
 - » Virage marketing slogan
- Option 1: Librarians catalog everything
- Option 2: Free text search (difficult with opaque video binaries)
- Goal: Combine structured search with free-text and contextual search; allow ad hoc tagging to take place among the network

The "old" Videotools System

Simple Java/Dynamo app

- Written in 1997
- Simple metadata tracking
- Manual ingest of new media a mix of Java, Perl, and .bat files
- Large, content-rich application
- Many manual processes, low data integrity

Videotools Project – Overall goals

- Update Web video management infrastructure to meet explosive growth in quantity of content
- Update video management to increase the usability of current system
 - Content sharing, access control, effective search, efficiency in editing & content publishing, reporting metrics, include video production lifecycle/encoding workflow, archiving
- Look ahead 5 years what's the usage model?
 - Massive increase in production volume, 10x audiences and 10x content, complex multimedia content in multiple formats (MPEG2/4), personal publishing from portable networked devices, CMHE & WGBH ...

Videotools

Manage the production and delivery lifecycle:

- Encoding video
- Content Analysis
- Transcoding to multiple formats (proxies)
- Delivery management (managing access, bitrates and formats)
- Internet, intranet, and broadcast-quality streaming
- For classroom delivery: 101% uptime

Manage knowledge:

- Structured metadata tied to enterprise
- Unstructured metadata extracted from content
- Contextual search
- Content lineage
- Publishing collections of content
- Deep-linking to content
- Shared and individual collections, playlists

Videotools Project Principles

Big problems are hard to solve

- Path-based development breaks large projects into manageable ones, decreases overhead, mitigates risk
- Solve the right amount of your problem (is this complexity necessary?)
- Plan for open interfaces, common technologies between "stovepipes"
 - If you have it... but it's "over there"... just use simple open APIs to get it
 - Craigslist/Google http://paulrademacher.com/housing/

Requirements Gathering

- Most users of video and multimedia content will never see the Videotools application
- Key "aware" users are production staff, faculty and faculty assistants, administrative staff
- Broader population are now occasional users
- Measure of success of final implementation will be frequency of use by general HBS population

"Buy" vs. Build

- Let's be real...
 - ...its really "build" vs. "buy & build"
- Integration effort may equal build effort
- Payoff must come from enabling of future revisions
 - Upgrade path is essential
 - Internal development capacity is essential

Vendor selection

- "What parts of the total solution can we build ourselves?"
- Or..."What parts would we under no circumstances want to build?"
 - Can do: Web UI, metadata management, delivery management, portals
 - Don't want to do: VDF processing, automated ingest, document imaging, compound documents, contextual search

Solution: ClearStory ActiveMedia; Virage ControlCenter; RealNetworks Helix Universal Server

If you're going to buy...

If you have it....

...and it's locked in a proprietary format...

...you don't really have it (for long)

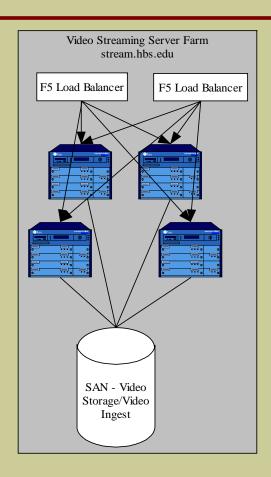
Beware closed solutions and formats

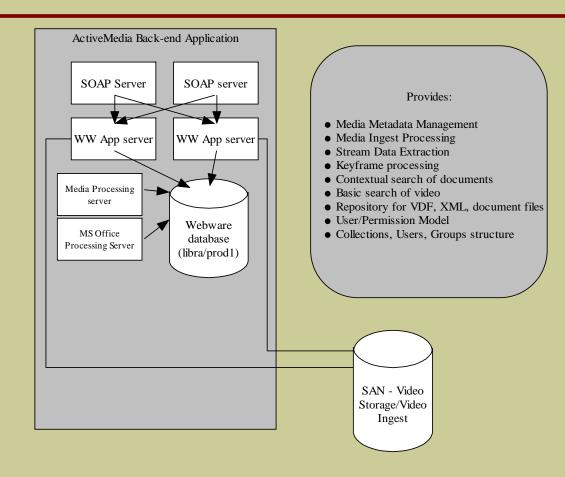
If you're going to buy...

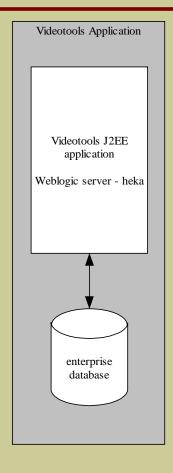
- Open, public standards and protocols; platform and browser neutral
- No proprietary client-server pairings no platform "lock-ins"
- Pluggable components and pieces
- Retain internal development capacity
- Fit with internal capacity

Provides:

- High Capacity Media Streaming
- Content-agnostic MPEG1/2/4, .rm, .qt
- Load-balanced & redundant

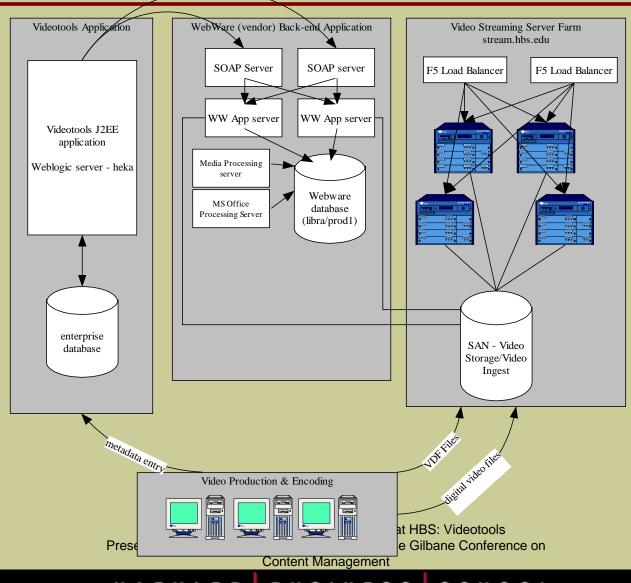






Provides:

- End-user interface
- Authentication
- "Portal" publishing of collections custom portal behaviors
- Search interface
- Delivery management proxy management metafile generation playlist management
- Data entry and display for enterprise linked data
- Usage reporting



Governance

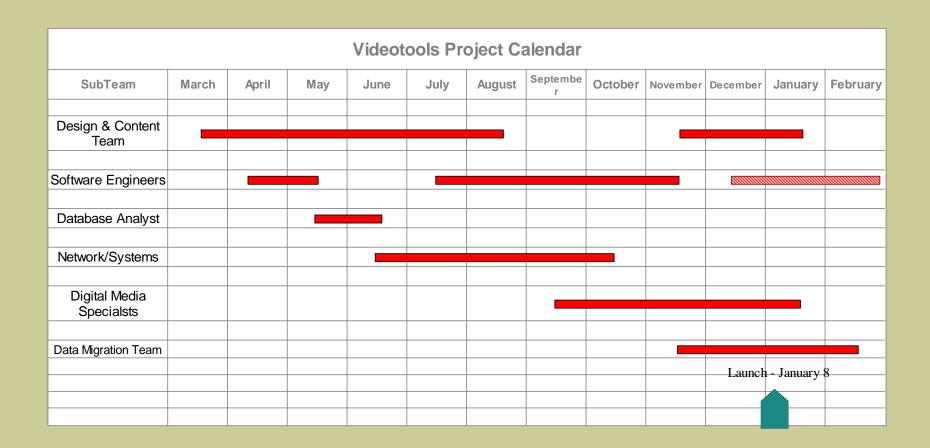
- Decisions about scope; Coordination among depts.
- Videotools Steering Committee
 - Project Lead
 - CIO
 - Director of Software Development
 - Head of Media Services
 - Head of Network Operations
 - Head of Multimedia Development

Implementation Team

Interdisciplinary team: challenge – getting the right amount of attention from every player...

- Digital Video Specialist (encoding, etc) (2)
- Software Engineers (Java, J2EE, SOAP) (2)
- Network and Systems Engineers (1.5)
- Content Manager (1)
- Project Lead (1)
- Vendor Project/Data Consulting (4-weeks)
- Vendor Tech Consulting (on-and-off for months)

Implementation Calendar



Launch

- January 2005 data migration, testing, testing, testing
- Launch one Go-Live moment…to replace:
 - The video servers
 - The video storage
 - The network (switches, backbone, load-balancers)
 - The delivery management app
 - All of the data having been moved and cleaned

Launch

"Oh look...you changed the Web page..."

Future plans

- More searching contextual audio search, compound document search
- Tagged metadata and logged metadata
- Lucene
- HBS Business Taxonomy integration
- Endeca-style search

Lessons

- Did not uncover all best solutions in consult sessions you don't know until you're in it.
- Plan for many early revisions
- Data migration will take 400% of the time you plan 95% will take about what you estimated. The other 5% will take 4x the first part.
- Plan to change your plans an agile approach is essential
- Networking issues with F5s and streaming major hassle, and few people know how to do this correctly

Lessons

- Don't do everything at once
- It's easier to build something totally new than to replace something old
- Integration can take as long as a custom build be sure the future value promised by the vendor is worth it
- OEM product documentation
- Don't go outside your architecture Java shops should stay with Java, etc...

Thank you

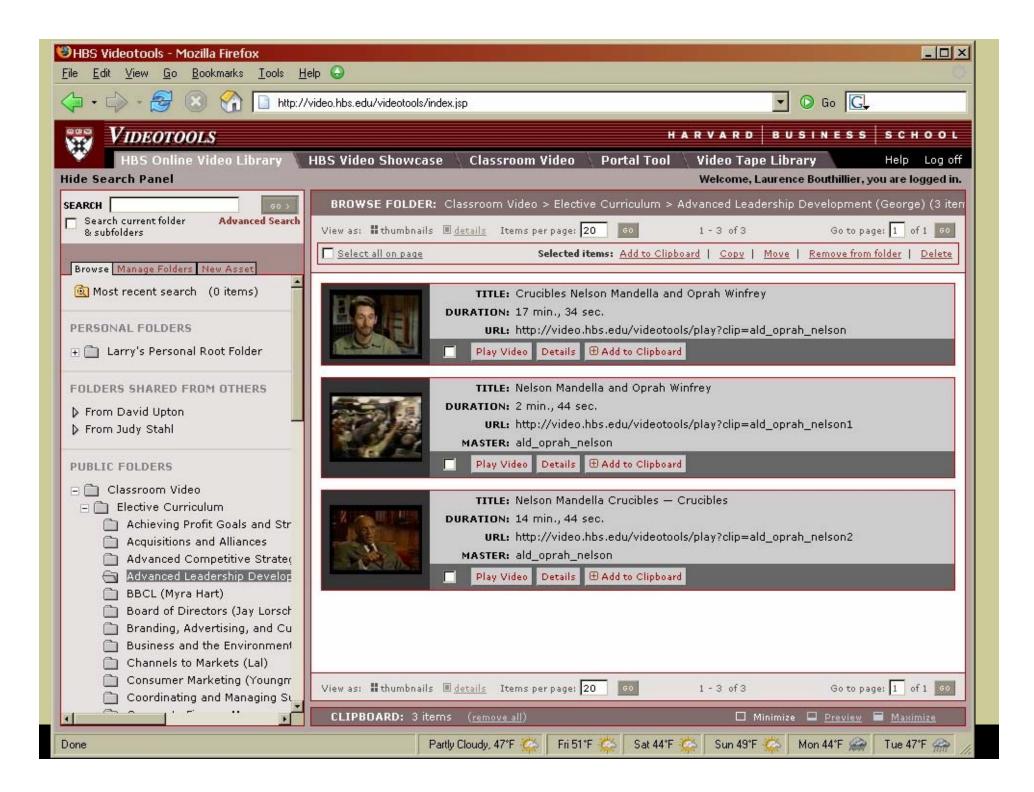
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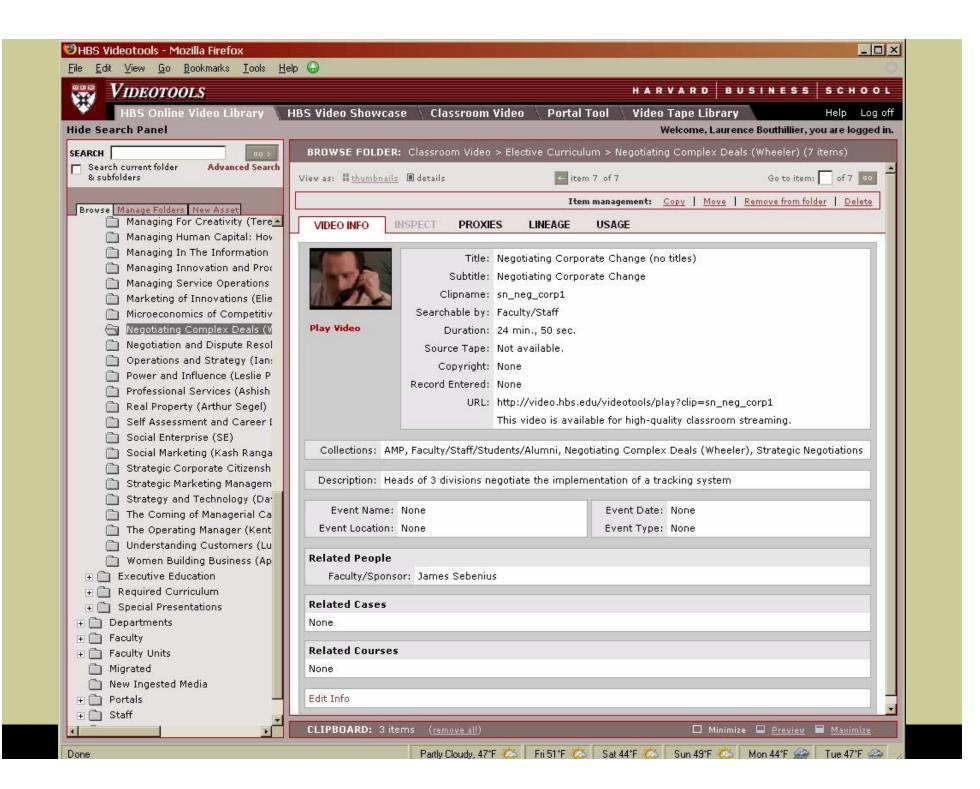
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Sharing Screenshot

