



## Camtasia Studio 6

### What is it?

Camtasia captures the action and sound from any part of a Windows desktop and saves it to a file. Camtasia files can then be edited, enhanced, or used as is. Depending on the size of the file, this screen-recording can then be shared on a web site and linked to Blackboard, or distributed via e-mail.

### Why is it important?

Beginning users can immediately produce high-quality movies files in multiple formats with clear audio recording. Camtasia contains a variety of editing tools for fine-tuning Non-technical peop. le to create training videos, demonstrations, presentations and screen-casts.

### Pros...

Screencasting appeals to a broader spectrum of learning styles; auditory and visual learners find this type of learning object particularly useful.

Some complicated concepts and text sections may be more easily explained in video format.

Drawing methods and equations can be worked out and explained in realtime. Narration can be performed at the time of the screen capture. or can be added in later.

### Cons...

While effective tutorials and instructional videos can be created quickly and easily, truly professional results will require planning and storyboarding.

Instructors can get bogged down in post-production; Camtasia has an extensive array of tools to fine-tune your results.

Bandwidth can be an important consideration in the hosting of screencasts. A T+D member can explain the options to you.

### How to Get Started...

- Try using a storyboard. It does not have to be complex, or a script with every word on it. Even the simplest outline can help you keep on track when you are recording.
- Do a quick run-through before recording. You'll find your way around the page more easily, and be less likely to trip over your words.
- Don't aim for perfection. It doesn't have to be flawless to be effective.
- Try doing a narration to a Powerpoint, perhaps one that you delivered in class, or try capturing during class.
- Keep it short. A good tutorial is concise and focused. See if you can break up the material into smaller chunks for other movies so that students don't have to find the parts they are looking for.

### Web sites to visit...

Wentworth Faculty Technology Mentor Webinars Series- Creating Instructional Videos Using Camtasia  
Cindy Stevens, Department of Humanities, Social Science and Management, shares her strategies for creating instructional videos for online and hybrid courses using Camtasia and Jing, two screen capture technologies.

View an archive of the session here:  
<http://wit.acrobat.com/p76974521>

TechSmith Overview of Camtasia Studio 6  
A comprehensive directory of training videos for all aspects of recording and post-production.  
<http://video.techsmith.com/camtasia/6/edu/quickstart/enu/overview/overview.asp>

Camtasia Studio Screen Recording and Presentation  
Tips for adding movies and screencast to your teaching  
<http://www.techsmith.com/camtasia/screencast.asp>

#### What Is Screencasting?

The O'Reilly Digital Media site features news, articles, tutorials, portfolio and weblogs.  
<http://digitalmedia.oreilly.com/pub/a/oreilly/digitalmedia/2005/11/16/what-is-screencasting.html?page=1>