

The 2nd IMS Korea Annual Seminar, Successfully Hosted

The IMS Korea Standardization Forum held its 2nd annual seminar at Daemyung Vivaldi Park in Hongcheon, Gangwon Province, on Nov 5th and 6th. This seminar, with the theme, “Knowledge Service and Standards for Convergence Learning in the Age of Green Growth”, was successfully hosted by the IMS Korea Standardization Forum (Chairman Dr. Dae-joon Hwang), Korean community of IMS Global Learning Consortium (IMS GLC). It was also strongly promoted by its 10 members, including the Korea Education & Research Information Service (KERIS). More than 150 people from private e-learning businesses, the governments, universities, and research institutes participated in the seminar, which introduced the latest technology and global e-learning trends, and discussed directions for future standardization.

The IMS Korea Standardization Forum is a private consortium in e-learning standardization which has received support from the Korean Agency for Technology and Standards under the Ministry of Knowledge Economy and the Korean Standards Association since 2008. Its goal is to promote standards in private and public e-learning domains. KERIS is in charge of operating its secretariat.

The seminar was comprised of various programs, including an orientation session on IMS, theme presentations and panel discussions related to standards, plus a “Testfest”. It was designed to give participants a greater understanding about e-learning standardization. The presenters as well as the participants were all invited to enjoy these programs.

The orientation session, theme presentations, and panel discussions were conducted on the first day. Before the main event, a two-hour orientation session introduced IMS GLC and the IMS Korea Standardization Forum, specifically IMS GLC’s mission and its vision for diverse standardization practices.

The main event in the afternoon began with a congratulatory speech by Professor Dae-joon Hwang, CEO of IMS Korea, followed by keynote speeches by Rob Abel, CEO of IMS GLC, and Seung-taek Yang, the former Minister of Information and Communication, and theme presentations by Korea’s experts on standards. In a subsequent panel discussion, titled “Knowledge Service and Standards for Convergence Learning”, there was a heated debate between panelists and participants which demonstrated the increased interest and enthusiasm related to standardization.

On the second day, presentations about the achievements of project groups operated by IMS Korea were presented; reviewing major impending issues and application cases to help participants better understand IMS standards. After the presentation of project groups came “Testfest”, which included a demonstration of simple source codes for basic learning tools interoperability (LTI) and Common Cartridge (CC). This presentation discussed the common usage of Question & Test Interoperability (QTI). A demonstration of the integrated conformance testing framework, developed by KERIS, followed. Many participants showed strong interest and expectations for “Testfest”, an event held for the first time this year, and remained for the entire two-day event.

In addition to representatives from e-learning standardization businesses, seminar attendees also included those working in the government, public agencies, universities and students. This expansion of participants is expected to facilitate application and proliferation of standards as well as increase awareness of e-learning standards, particularly of IMS standards.

Finally, we expect that with the successful hosting of this seminar, IMS Korea’s status and importance will be even further emphasized through the application of IMS standards, enacted as Korea’s de-facto standards, and applied to government policies and projects.

※ IMS standards enacted as Korea’s do-facto standards:

- Content Packaging
- Question & Test Interoperability
- Learner Information Package
- e-Portfolio
- General Web Services
- Learning Design
- Vocabulary Definition Exchange
- Reusable Definition of Competency or Educational Objective



About Korea Education & Research Information Service (KERIS)

The KERIS is a national institution which specializes in enhancing the effective use of ICT in education and research. Established in 1999, KERIS supports the establishment and implementation of ICT in education policies while conducting research and analysis and providing quality education and research information services.

According to the ICT in Education Master Plans I~III of Korea, KERIS has undertaken various initiatives to improve teaching and learning in primary and secondary education: 1) National Teaching-Learning Center-EDUNET, 2) Cyber Home Learning System, 3) Digital Library System, 4) Educational Resource Sharing System, 5) National Education Information System for effective online educational administration, 6) National standardization of educational metadata and quality assurance system.

To enhance the quality of academic research in higher education, KERIS has successfully established and maintained the Research Information Service System. Also, KERIS has sought to promote international exchanges and cooperation to narrow the global digital divide in education by supporting developing countries in using ICT in education and organizing international seminars and joint projects. Visit <http://english.keris.or.kr>

About IMS Korea

IMS Korea is an organization in which KERIS and representative businesses leading the e-Learning market have participated and carried out various activities to develop international and national standards as well as group standards. At present, KERIS is in charge of operating the secretariat, and its members include SK C&C, Tekville, DUNet, 4CSoft, Daulsoft, CTUnion, Ubion, Hanyang Cyber University and Seoul Cyber University. IMS Korea has maintained close collaborative relationships with IMS GLC and performed the following activities.

The activities of IMS Korea are:

- Operating IMS Korea projects group in accordance with the projects of IMS GLC
- Developing a business model and creating a new e-learning market
- Fostering Korea's e-learning professionals and providing consulting
- Supporting e-learning standards (IMS or KS) application agencies
- Forming foundation for the future launch of Asia-Pacific IMS (Tentative name)

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