

# **Preliminary Media Analysis Step by Step Guide**





#### **ADVISOR Enterprise User's Guide**

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#### **Foreword**

ADVISOR Enterprise is a Training Management System that drives training efficiency by (a) aligning current and future training activities to operational requirements to identify gaps, duplications and training with minimal value; (b) forecasting and comparing the costs of viable delivery options; (c) uncovering cost drivers; and (d) improving resource allocation. ADVISOR is built around the ADDIE model with the added flexibility of starting the analysis at any level. ADVISOR is made up of the following modules that can be used separately or in any combination.

#### Needs Assessment

Assess: To find out "the cause of the problem and potential solutions". Provides a step by step approach for understanding a problem before selecting the solution – in other words, before assuming that training is needed. Needs Assessment provides an audit trail and serves as the foundation for decisions by zeroing in on the source of the problem, identifying solutions that can produce the desired level of productivity, and highlighting actions that will generate the greatest impact. [Scope and Needs Assessment].

# Training Analysis

Analysis: To find out "who needs to be trained, on what and why". Provides a step by step approach for conducting Training Needs Analysis (TNA) or Training Systems Requirements Analysis (TSRA) to identify training needed by each job, position and employee to perform duties to the desired standard under the prescribed conditions. Four approaches may be used to conduct training analysis, namely Mission, System, Competency or Job. [Mission Analysis, Competency Analysis, System Analysis, Job Task Analysis, Knowledge/Skill Gap Analysis and Training Requirements Analysis].

# Training Design

Design: To find out "what is the most effective and economical way to deliver training". Provides a step by step approach for conducting Training Media Analysis (TMA) or Option Analysis to identify the most cost effective strategy for the delivery of training and generates Training Plans. The analysis takes into account limitations, instructional design requirements, upfront and recurring costs over training program life as well as risks associated with the introduction of new technology. [Media Analysis, Cost Analysis and Training Plans].

#### Fidelity Analysis

Develop: To find out the "fidelity requirements of training devices". Provides a step by step approach for assessing the functional requirements of trainers and simulators based on training needs and performance objectives. It identifies visual, tactile, olfactory, affective and auditory sensory cues needed to practice tasks, within realistic environments, under preset conditions to attain the desired level of competency. In addition, ADVISOR takes into account elements within the virtual world and how users interact with each.

#### Resource Management

Implementation: To find out "how much money and resources are needed". Compiles and analyzes missions/goals, competencies, systems, jobs, tasks, training requirements, courses, activities, costs, personnel and resources to generate concise, up to date and actionable reports. The reports provide insight on planned training activities for any time period; training requirements for each job/employee; budget, personnel and resource requirements, training impact as well as how to drive training effectiveness and efficiency by leveraging technology, improving resource allocation and identifying gaps, duplications and unwarranted training. [Forecast and Optimize Training Budgets, Personnel and Resources].

#### Project Management

Implementation: To find out "how training should be implemented". Provides a step by step approach for planning a project and tracking progress in real time. This includes the setup of phases and tasks, dependencies and constraints, timelines as well as the assignment of personnel and resources needed to complete. Moreover, ADVISOR tracks progress by comparing hours worked and money spent on each task to project plan, to anticipate delays, facilitate the implementation of corrective measures, and keep projects on-time and within budget. [Develop Project Plans and Track Progress].





#### Performance Analysis

Evaluation: To find out "how training impacts performance and organizational goals". Provides a step by step approach for improving performance by zeroing in on the source of the problem and identifying solutions that can produce the desired level of productivity. Moreover, ADVISOR highlights actions that will generate the greatest impact by assessing the feasibility of implementing plausible solutions as well as forecasting the costs, benefits and Return on Investment (ROI) of each intervention. [Performance Gap Analysis, Root Cause Analysis and Cost Benefit Analysis].

#### Training Life Cycle Management

Manage: To "continually uncover venues to drive training effectiveness & efficiency". Maintains training effectiveness and efficiency over time by continually assessing the impact of changes to missions, jobs, tasks, systems, policies, technologies, throughput, and so forth on training content and activities; as well as budget, personnel and resource requirements. This is attained through a digital-twin model that continually aligns training activities to operational requirements to identify gaps, duplications and training with minimal value. Results (personnel/resource requirements for any time period; cost drivers; bottlenecks and deficiencies) are quickly and concisely communicated through dashboards. Actions that drive training effectiveness and efficiency are also highlighted.





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**Chapter 1: Setup Courses** 

#### 1.1 Introduction

Two approaches can be utilized to perform a Media Analysis within ADVISOR: Preliminary Course Analysis or Detailed Course Analysis.

Preliminary Course Analysis uses the Data Collection Wizard to quickly assess the feasibility and potential savings that may result from using alternate delivery options. This approach is highly effective in analyzing courses with a single learning objective/outcome. Key data is collected under the Data Collection Wizard and submitted for analysis. Preliminary Course Analysis is simple to use, assesses the viability of alternate delivery options within few minutes, and the analysis can be easily refined under the Course Analysis folder. In other words, Preliminary Course Analysis is best suited for quick analysis of courses with limited details and single learning outcome.

Comparatively, Detailed Course Analysis provides a more comprehensive analysis of course content to assess the feasibility of using alternate blends of delivery options. This approach is better suited for courses with multiple learning objectives/outcomes. To facilitate the forecasting of development, hardware, administrative, management, travel, instructors, facilities, transmission, maintenance and support costs; Templates can be created and made available to all analysts. In addition to speeding the analysis process, Templates preserve consistency, as well as facilitate carrying out multiple "what if scenarios". Detailed Course Analysis is carried out under Course Analysis folder.

The current guide presents a step by step process for conducting Preliminary Course Analysis to identify the most cost effective delivery option. For details on all media analysis covered by ADVISOR Enterprise, please refer to the Training Design User Guide. Separate Step-by-Step Guide is available for conducting Detailed Course Analysis, and therefore will not be covered in this Step by Step Guide. For info on basic functionality and how to configure ADVISOR in line with needs, please refer to the Configure ADVISOR Step by Step or User Guide. Remember that context sensitive help for each screen is also available by clicking on [Help].





1.2 Setup New Course

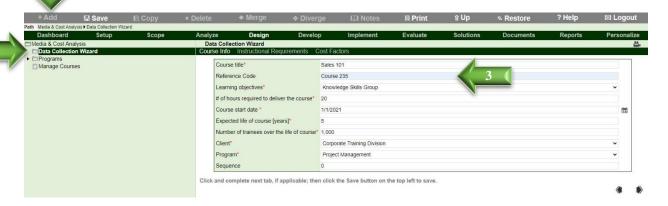
To evaluate the effectiveness and costs of alternate options for the delivery of training and recommend the most cost effective delivery option that meets organizational, learning and learners' needs, begin by setting-up the Course under the Data Collection Wizard. To setup a new course:

#### **Input General Course Information**

Step 1: Click on the Data Collection Wizard folder.

Step 2: Click [Add].

Step 3: Input the course title, the primary learning outcome/objective of the course, start date, expected life of course, and other required information.



#### Notes:

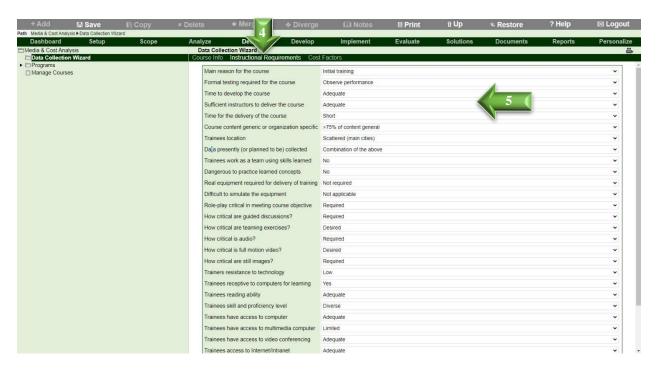
- ➤ If the Course has multiple learning outcomes, then you may either select the most dominant category or divide the Course into several Groups and analyze each Group separately under the Course Analysis Folder (refer to Media Analysis Step-by-Step Guide for details).
- All fields with an asterisk (\*) should be completed. But of course, the more data you provide the better the results.
- Context sensitive help for each screen is also available by clicking on [Help].





#### **Define Instructional Requirements**

- Step 4: Click on the [Instructional Requirements] tab.
- Step 5: Input requested information, including the main reason for the course, whether formal testing is required, availability of time to develop the course, instructors' availability and other required information. Detailed description of each field is provided in Section A.2 and can also be viewed by clicking on [Help].



#### Note:

> You are not required to answer all fields, however, the more data you provide the better the results.





#### **Identify Cost Factors**

- Step 6: Click the [Cost Factors] tab.
- Step 7: Input requested information, including the % of course that changes each year, annual salary of individuals taking course, average number of trainees and instructors per class, % of trainees and instructors that travel to course and other required information. Detailed description of each field is provided in Section A.3 and can also be viewed by clicking on [Help].
- Step 8: Click [Save] to save the data and create the Course under the Course Analysis folder.



#### Notes:

- > You are not required to respond to all questions, however, the more data you provide the better the results.
- You may also share course data with colleagues (i.e., Users assigned to the same Client) by clicking on the [Sharing] tab, placing checkmarks next to their names and clicking [Save].
- ➤ To view and/or modify the preliminary analysis, click on ► next to Course Analysis folder. A list of available courses including those generated by the Data Collection Wizard is presented. For details, please refer to the Media Analysis Step-by-Step Guide.



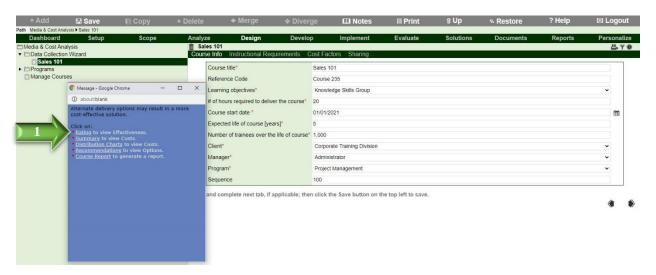


**Chapter 2: Review Analysis and Results** 

A blue pop up box with five options/hyperlinks appears after you save the Data Collection Wizard. To view the results of the analysis:

#### 2.1 Review Instructional Design Rating

**Step 1**: To find out which delivery options are viable, and how well they meet organization, learning and learners' needs, click on the [Rating] Hyperlink.



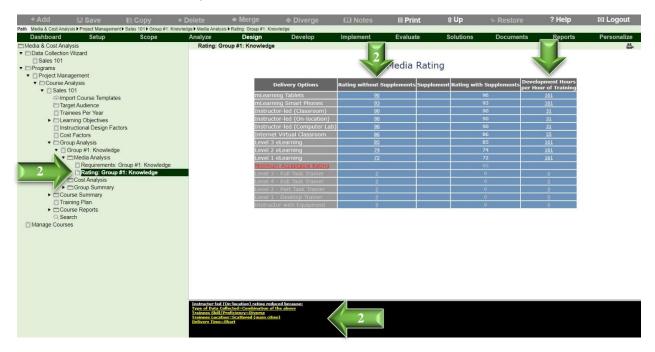
ADVISOR automatically rates all supported delivery options (Configure ADVISOR Step by Step Guide, Section 2.4) – i.e., media's ability to meet organizational, learning and learners' needs – based on data provided under the [Instructional Requirements] tab. A 100% rating indicates that the delivery option meets all stated requirements. A 0% rating indicates that the delivery option did not meet a critical requirement and should not be considered any further.





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**Step 2**: To find why a delivery option is not recommended or why its rating has been reduced, click on the rating next to the delivery option. The reasons are presented in the window at the bottom of the screen – based on provided information.



#### Notes:

- > Based on industry averages, the number of hours needed to develop one hour of training is also presented next to each media.
- To modify the Minimum Acceptable Rating, click on the Acceptable Rating node, click the unlock icon to edit the Acceptable Rating field and lock and lock fave.





2.2 Review Costs

**Step 1**: To view a summary of the costs of viable delivery options, click on the [Summary] Hyperlink.



ADVISOR forecasts the costs of viable delivery options based on data provided under the [Course Info] and [Cost Factors] tabs. This includes total Development, Hardware, Administrative, Trainees, Instructors, Facilities, and Maintenance Costs. Furthermore, you can view direct (budget related) costs, indirect (productivity related) costs, savings that may result from utilizing alternate delivery options, start-up and recurring costs, as well as personnel and resources required to design, develop, deliver, administer and maintain this Course.

Step 2: To view [Direct/Indirect] costs, potential [Savings], [Up-Front] and [Recurring] costs, as well as [Resources] and [Personnel] required click on the corresponding tabs.



#### Note:

To find out how each item (Development Costs, for example) is computed, click on the corresponding (Development) node. You may also edit any field and click [Save] to re-compute.



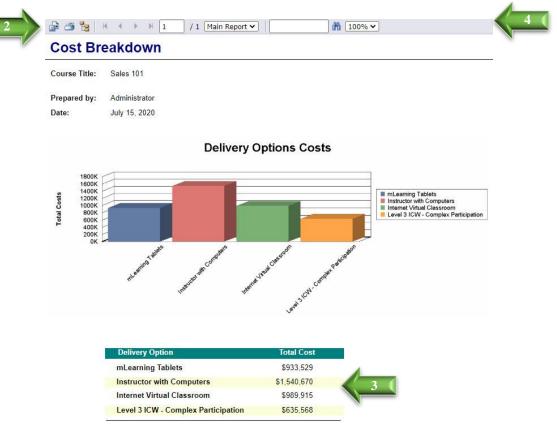


#### 2.3 Review Cost Distribution Charts

**Step 1**: To view a graphical representation of the costs of viable delivery options over the life of the course, click the [**Distribution Charts**] Hyperlink.



- **Step 2**: To export the reports to MS Word or pdf, or print click on the corresponding icon.
- **Step 3**: To view a detailed cost breakdown of a delivery option, click on its title.

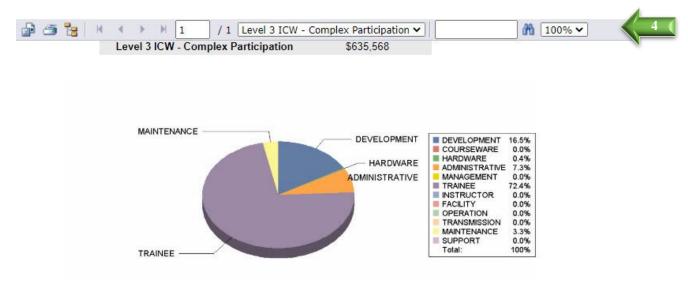






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Step 4: To return to ADVISOR, close the Report Window.



#### Note:

- For Graphical representations of direct (budget related) costs as well as indirect (productivity related) costs are available under the Direct/Indirect Charts node.
- For Graphical representations of disbursements of costs over time including breakeven point and potential savings that may result from using a new delivery option in comparison with the current delivery option is presented under the Break Even Point Charts node.





2.4 Review Recommendations

Step 1: To view ADVISOR's recommended delivery option, click on the [Recommendations] Hyperlink.



**Step 2**: Delivery Options are presented from most to least favorable. In addition to presenting cost effectiveness and effectiveness rating, up-front and recurring costs are also presented, along with potential savings, and personnel and resource requirements.

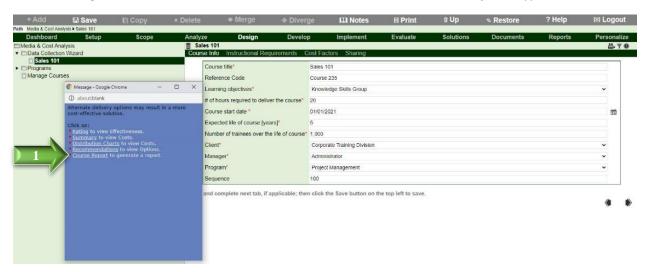




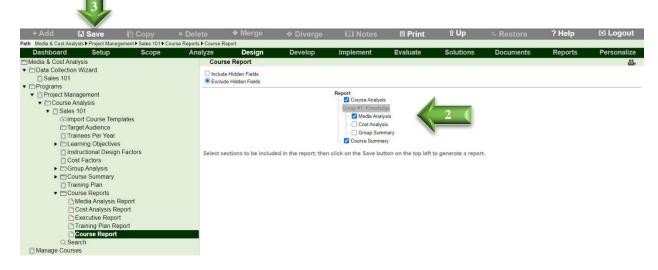


## **Chapter 3: Generate Course Report**

**Step 1**: To generate a comprehensive report of all course attributes including reasoning behind media rating, cost breakdown and recommendations, click on the [**Course Report**] Hyperlink.



- Step 2: Select items to be included in the Course Report by placing checkmarks next to the desired items.
- **Step 3:** Click [Save] to generate.







Notes:

> Since the report is in html format, you can quickly advance to any section by clicking on the corresponding title in the Table of Contents. You may print or save the report using the corresponding functions in your Browser. To return to ADVISOR, close the Report window.





Course Report

Sales 101

ourse Manager: Administrato
Adm

Table of Contents

Course Analysis
Course Analysis
General
Archave
View
Deleve
Deleve
Trainees Per Year
Carry Van
Sales 101
Instructional Design Factors
Content
Audience
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Hardware
Application
Cost Factors
Trainees
Trainees Per Year

Learning Objectives
Sales 101
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Remember that context sensitive help is also available for each screen by clicking on [Help] and video clips on how to perform specific functions by clicking on the video icon.

Enjoy!



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# **Annex A: Description of Key Data Items**

For your reference, a brief description of data required for preliminary media analysis – requested under the (course title) node under the Data Collection Wizard folder – is presented below.

### A.1 Course Info Tab

Course Title	Maximum 200 characters.
Learning objectives	What is the learning outcome/objective of this course? If more than one, what is the most dominant category?
# of hours required to deliver the course	Estimate the number of hours required to deliver the course in an instructor-led format.
Course start date [dd/mm/yyyy]	Indicate the expected delivery date of the course. If the course exists, then use today's date as a reference point.
Expected life of course [years]	Over how many years can the course be delivered before it becomes obsolete, irrelevant or requires major changes? If the course exists, estimate the remaining life, using today's date as a reference point.
Number of trainees over the life of the course	Estimate the number of learners over the life of the course. If the course exists, estimate the number of learners using today's date as a reference point.
Client	Specify the Client for this course.
Manager	Individual responsible for the course including media analysis and cost analysis. Data may be shared with colleagues.
Sequence	Indicate the order in which the courses should be presented. Number will be assigned in increments of 100, if none is provided.





A.2 Instructional Requirements Tab

Main reason for the	What is the main reason for the course?
course	<ul> <li>Certification; if employees (inspectors, for example) have to be certified each year.</li> <li>Initial training; if the course deals with new product, program or policy (for example).</li> <li>Recurring/Refresher; if employees are required to take the course each year (Hazardous Materials Handling, for example).</li> <li>Upgrade knowledge; if course advances trainees' existing knowledge (new features of Word 2019 for Word 2017 users, for example);</li> <li>Orientation; if it provides organizational overview for new employees, for example.</li> <li>Impact: While Electronic Performance Support Systems (EPSS) provide effective means for upgrading the knowledge of employees, they are not suited for initial training, for example.</li> </ul>
Formal testing required for the course	Is formal testing required for this course? If yes, what type of test is required:  Performance based; requires instructor or SME to observe the performance of trainees (driving test, for example).  Skill/Knowledge based; requires trainee to answer questions (multiple choice, solve problems, essay, etc.) that can be evaluated by instructor or SME at a later date.  Oral presentation; if trainees are required to make a presentation and/or answer questions in real-time posed by a panel, for example.  Essay writing; if trainees are required to write open-ended questions test.  On the job; if trainees are evaluated by the supervisor on the job.  Group projects; if trainees' evaluation is based on a group project  Impact: Self-study media such as Print and CBT are not adequate for performance-based evaluation; while some skill/knowledge based tests can be effectively carried out through computer based testing.
Time to develop the course	<ul> <li>Is there a deadline for course development or updating – i.e., is time available to develop the course material?</li> <li>Critically short; if the course material is required within a three months period, for example, and the consequences of missing the deadline are high.</li> <li>Short; if the course material is required within a six months period, for example, and the consequences of missing the deadline are moderate.</li> <li>Adequate; if the development/revision time is flexible or the consequences of missing the deadline are not critical.</li> <li>Impact: Options that require lengthy development effort such as Multimedia CBT or WBT may not be practical if the development time is critically short and the consequences of missing the deadline are high.</li> </ul>



Sufficient instructors Are there sufficient qualified instructors/subject matter experts to deliver the to deliver the course course in an instructor-led mode? Critically short; if the number of instructors/subject matter experts is very limited. In other words, few individuals have the necessary expertise; or too many resources (guest speakers, for example) are required to conduct "live training". ☐ Short; if the number of instructors/subject matter experts for the course is limited, but manageable. ☐ Adequate; if the number of instructors/subject matter experts for the course is adequate. In other words, adequate resources are available. Impact: Classroom delivery may not be appropriate for training a large number of individuals scattered over a large geographic area in a short period of time, if few individuals are qualified to deliver the training. Time for the delivery Does the course have to be delivered within a specific time period? of the course ☐ Critically short; if the course has to be delivered as quickly as possible and the consequences of delays are high. Training sales force on a new product, or customer service staff on a new reservation system, for example. ☐ Short; if the course has to be delivered in a short, but manageable, time frame; and the consequences of missing the deadline are moderate. ☐ Flexible; if the delivery schedule is flexible. Although there may be benefits for acquiring the knowledge sooner than later, the consequences of the delay are minimal. Impact: Classroom delivery may not be appropriate for training a large number of individuals scattered over a large geographic area in a short period of time, especially if few individuals are qualified to deliver the training. Course content Is the course content generic or specific to the organization? generic or Impact: Off-the-shelf computer based training or web based training courses, organization specific for example, will not be available for topics specific to the organization. Trainees location Are trainees local or spread over a large geographic area? ☐ Widely scattered; if the course is offered to individuals all over the world or in remote areas. ☐ Scattered; if the majority of trainees are located in main cities within the same country. ☐ Local; if the majority of trainees work within the same city/region. Impact: Asynchronous delivery options, such as Video Conferencing are not practical if trainees are located in the same city/region. Data presently (or Is the collection of data required? If yes, which data should be collected? planned to be) Impact: A Learning Management System, for example, may provide an effective collected and economical option for collecting and compiling scores, surveys and comments.





Do trainees (on the job) work as a team when using skills learned in the course? Trainees work as a team using skills Impact: Delivery options, such as Classroom, that can simulate the working learned environment may be better suited for courses that require trainees to work as a team. Dangerous to Is it dangerous for trainees to practice learned concepts – how to regulate a practice learned high voltage panel, for example? concepts Impact: Delivery options, such as CBT, that can simulate dangerous activities may be better suited for the delivery of training. Real equipment Is equipment (excluding computers and simulators) required for the delivery of required for the training? In other words, does the course deal with the operation, maintenance delivery of training or support of equipment – such as removing, installing or troubleshooting an engine, flying an airplane. If the answer is yes, than is this equipment required for the delivery of training? Impact: Complexity of equipment may impact plausible delivery option. Difficult to simulate Can the functionality of the equipment be simulated? the real equipment ☐ Very difficult; if simulator/trainer is required. Flying an airplane or operating a crane, for example. ☐ Difficult; if it involves a complex process, such as diagnosing problems and repairing equipment. Moderate; if it involves the simulation of a software program, for example. ■ Easy; if it involves the simulation of paper forms, for example. Impact: Complexity of simulation may impact plausible delivery option. CBT or WBT, for example, are not suited for developing psychomotor skills on complex equipment. Role play critical in Would trainees' benefit from role-playing and problem solving - i.e., meeting course experience various outcomes? How important is it towards achieving the objectives learning objectives? Required; if the course deals with attitude change and trainees value the opinion and experience of colleagues. Desired; if colleagues' opinion and experience add value to the course, but not critical. □ Not required; if colleagues' opinion and experience has minimal impact on the course. Impact: Synchronous delivery methods, such as Classroom, that allow the exchange and sharing of views are better suited for courses that deal with behavioral or attitude change.





How critical are guided discussions?	Would trainees' benefit from guided discussions, i.e., expressing opinions, sharing experiences and knowledge? How important is it towards achieving the learning objectives?
	<ul> <li>Required; if course deals with attitude change; and trainees value the opinion and experience of colleagues.</li> <li>Desired; if colleagues' opinion and experience add value to the course, but not critical.</li> <li>Not required; if colleagues' opinion and experience has minimal impact on the course.</li> </ul>
	<u>Impact</u> : Synchronous delivery methods, such as Classroom, that allow the exchange and sharing of views are better suited for courses that deal with behavioral or attitude change.
How critical are teaming exercises?	Would trainees' benefit from teaming exercises – i.e., work as a group to apply specific knowledge? How important is it towards achieving the learning objectives?
	<ul> <li>Required; if trainees work as a team when using learned skills.</li> <li>Desired; if trainees do not work as a team; however, colleagues' opinion and experience add value to course.</li> <li>Not required; if colleagues' opinion and experience has minimal impact on the course.</li> </ul>
	<u>Impact</u> : Synchronous delivery methods, such as Classroom, that can simulate the working environment may be better suited for skills that are utilized in a team setting.
How critical is audio?	Would audio greatly enhance the learning experience, if the course is delivered in a self-study mode?
	<ul> <li>Required; if course deals with language, music or radio communications, for example.</li> <li>Desired; if audio adds value to the learning experience.</li> <li>Not required, if audio has minimal impact on the learning experience.</li> </ul>
	<u>Impact</u> : Delivery options such as Multimedia CBT that allow the integration of audio in the training material, are better suited for courses that deal with language, music or radio communications.
How critical is full motion video?	Would full motion video greatly enhance the learning experience, if the course is delivered in a self-study mode?
	<ul> <li>Required, if full motion video is required to transfer the knowledge, demonstrate a surgical procedure, for example.</li> <li>Desired; if video adds value to the learning experience.</li> <li>Not required, if video has minimal impact on the learning experience.</li> </ul>
	<u>Impact</u> : Delivery options such as Multimedia CBT that allow the integration of video in the training material, are better suited for courses that require realistic representation of events.





How critical are still Would still images greatly enhance the learning experience, if the course is images? delivered in a self-study mode? Required, if pictures or still images are critical for transferring the knowledge, computer program controls, for example. ☐ Desired; if still images add value to the learning experience. ☐ Not required, if still images have minimal impact on the learning experience. Impact: Delivery options that allow the integration of images in the training material are better suited for courses that require realistic representation of tools and equipment. Trainers resistance to Are instructors resistant to the use of technology for the delivery of training? technology ☐ High; if instructors are threatened by technology or believe that training can only occur in a classroom setting. ☐ Moderate; if instructors are not comfortable with technology. ☐ Low; if instructors are comfortable with technology or highly motivated to explore new options. <u>Impact</u>: The effectiveness of synchronous delivery options, such as Internet Virtual Classroom, may be compromised if trainers are resistant to technology. Trainees receptive to Are trainees receptive to the use of computers for the delivery of training? computers for ☐ Yes; if trainees are using computers on-the-job or at home; and are learning confident in their ability to learn on their own. <u>Impact</u>: The effectiveness of delivery options that utilize computers, such as CBT and WBT, may be compromised if trainees are resistant to technology. Trainees reading Is trainees' reading ability adequate? ability Impact: Delivery methods such as Print, CBT and WBT, are not recommended for trainees with limited reading ability. Trainees skill and How would you classify trainees' prior knowledge or skill of course content? proficiency level ☐ Very diverse; if trainees have diverse educational background, knowledge or experience in this field. ☐ Diverse; if trainees have similar educational background but diverse knowledge or experience in this field. ☐ Uniform; if trainees have similar educational background, as well as knowledge and experience in this field. Impact: Delivery options that allow trainees to advance at their own pace, such as CBT and WBT, are better suited for trainees with diverse knowledge and skill.





Trainees have access How would you rate trainees' access to computers? to computers Adequate; if trainees have a computer at their desk or home. ☐ Limited; if trainees have to share the computer with others, at the learning center, for example. ■ No access; if trainees have no or minimal access to a computer. Impact: Methods that require computers for the delivery of training, such as EPSS, CBT and WBT, are not feasible if trainees have no access to a computer. Trainees have access How would you rate trainees' access to multimedia computers? to multimedia Adequate; if trainees have a multimedia computer at their desk or home. computers ☐ Limited; if trainees have to share the multimedia computer with others, at the learning center for example. No access; if trainees have no or minimal access to a multimedia computer. Impact: Methods that require multimedia computers for the delivery of training, such as Multimedia CBT and WBT, are not feasible if trainees have no access to a multimedia computer. Trainees have access How would you rate trainees' access to video conferencing equipment? to video conferencing Adequate; if video conferencing facilities are readily available to trainees within the organization or through external suppliers. ☐ Limited; if trainees have to travel to gain access to the video conference facilities or availability is limited. ☐ No access; if trainees have no or minimal access to the video conference facility. Impact: Methods that require video conference facility for the delivery of training are not feasible if trainees have no access to the equipment. Trainees have access How would you rate trainees' access to the Internet and/or Intranet? to Internet/Intranet Adequate; if trainees have a computer at their desk or home with access to the Internet and/or Intranet. ☐ Limited; if trainees have to share the computer connected to the Internet/ Intranet with others, at the learning center for example. □ No access; if trainees have no or minimal access to Internet or Intranet. Impact: Methods that require the Internet or Intranet for the delivery of training, such as WBT and Internet Virtual Classroom, are not feasible if trainees have no access to the Internet or Intranet. Minimum acceptable What is the Internet or Intranet connection speed that is available to trainees? internet connection Impact: Delivery methods that require high bandwidth, such as Multimedia speed WBT, are not practical if trainees have a slow dial-up connection.





Application of What is involved in the application of learned concepts/skills? learned skills ☐ Complex - decision making; if the course deals with problem solving and making decisions – how to repair a computer, for example. ☐ Cumbersome – computations; if the course deals with computations and/ or report generation – preparing budgets or maintenance procedures for example. ☐ Critical; if correct application of knowledge is critical – i.e., errors have high consequences. ☐ Used infrequently; if the information in the course is used occasionally how to file travel expense, for example. ☐ Used frequently; if the course deals with functions performed on daily basis or changing behavior/attitude. Impact: Electronic Performance Support Tools may be better suited for complex or critical tasks, for example.



# **4.3 Cost Factors Tab**

% of course that changes each year	Estimate the percentage of the course content that may change each year. The estimate should be based on the initial development effort [10% each year, for example]. Although a course may have a life span of three years, for example, 15% of the content may change each year.
Annual salary of individuals taking the course	Input the average annual salary of trainees [\$40,000, for example]. Data on average annual salary of trainees may be obtained from personnel or payroll department. Trainees' salaries are used to compute gained productivity if training can be completed in a shorter period of time.
Organization fringe benefits factor [%]	Input the organization's fringe benefits factor. This covers all expenses including employees' benefits such as medical and dental coverage; organization's contribution to pension and other funds; as well as general operational expenses such as rent, electricity, phone, security, etc. Fringe benefits factor generally varies between 25% to 75% of employees' salary. Data on the fringe benefits factor may be obtained from personnel or payroll department. Fringe Benefits Factor is used to compute the loaded costs.
Average number of trainees per class	Estimate the average number of trainees per class, if course is delivered in a synchronous mode.
Average number of instructors per class	Estimate the average number of instructors/facilitators per class, if course is delivered in a synchronous mode.
% of trainees that travel to course	Estimate the percentage of trainees that would have to travel to and from the course site, if course is delivered in an instructor-led format.
% of instructors that travel to course	Estimate the percentage of instructors/facilitators that would have to travel to and from the course site, if course is delivered in an instructor-led format.
Average per diem cost per individual [per day]	This includes reimbursable daily expenses for lodging, meals and tips. Data on average per diem costs may be obtained from payroll or accounting department.
Average travel cost per individual	This includes round-trip air, bus or train fare, local automobile mileage, taxi or local public transportation costs. You may average these costs for participants in the course. However, the method used to compute the average should be documented. Data on average travel costs may be obtained from payroll or accounting department.
Average instructor annual salary	Input the average annual salary of instructors/facilitators, if course is delivered in a synchronous mode. Data on annual salary of instructors may be obtained from personnel or payroll department.
Average consulting fees per class	Input the average consulting fees per class, if external subject matter experts, instructors or facilitators deliver course in a synchronous mode.
If course exists, present delivery method	Select method currently used to deliver the training, if applicable.



Indicate the effort required to develop the course, or convert to another delivery option, if it exists, as follows: ☐ Low – a course that deals with a simple subject. The course content can be adequately presented in text, graphics and simple animation, if developed in an asynchronous mode. That is, it does not require complex animation, simulation, audio or video. Effort required to ☐ Medium – a course that deals with a moderately complex subject. The develop course course content requires text, graphics, animation, simple simulations, and some audio but minimal video, if developed in an asynchronous mode. ☐ High – a course that deals with abstract/complex subject that is difficult to comprehend. The course content requires text, graphics, complex animations and simulations as well as audio and video if developed in an asynchronous mode. Average cost of room Estimate facilities costs per class (hotel or conference center room rental, for rental per class example), if course is delivered in an instructor-led format. Estimate the number of days per class required to administer the course, if # of administrative delivered in an asynchronous mode. This may include registering trainees, required [per class] booking a room, arranging for equipment, etc. Note that this refers to working days and not calendar days. Cost of Cost of special equipment (computers or trainers, for example) required for training. If remodeling the classroom is required, then the costs should also computer/hardware required by course be included.

