

FEATURE ARTICLE

Opening new worlds of possibilities

BETT 2009 – SMART showcases new products and solutions



Expect insights, ideas, innovations and more when you experience all SMART has to offer at BETT 2009, from January 14 to 19 in London. In keeping with SMART's commitment to furthering advancements in ICT, the global leader in interactive whiteboards is pleased to increase its already significant presence at BETT on this, the 25th anniversary of the world's largest education and technology show. SMART will be sharing its newest products and solutions, all aimed at transforming education around the globe.

Please visit stand B50, where SMART will showcase

its easy-to-use education solutions. These include hardware and software products, as well as classroom content and resources that help teachers positively impact student learning experiences and outcomes.

SMART team on site

A number of SMART executives, product managers and education consultants will be at SMART's booth so visitors and guests have the opportunity to meet with them face to face to ask questions and share expertise, see product demonstrations and try new products.

SMART showcase products

For many BETT 2009 attendees, the conference experience will not be complete without seeing a showcase of SMART's newest products and solutions.

Maximize your SMART classroom with the SMART Classroom Suite, the SMART Table, or our wide-screen interactive whiteboards and displays. For details on the products and solutions SMART will present at BETT, see the feature products article on [page 2](#).

SMART will also be in a variety of special-interest zones throughout the show, such as the Learning Elsewhere and Training zones. Make sure you stop by and check them out.

SMART presentations

SMART will showcase subject- and product-specific presentations at its stand and in various special-interest zones throughout the show. Through these presentations, visitors will discover how SMART products and solutions can help maximize student learning outcomes.

Be sure to pick up your complimentary CD that contains all of our SMART math content and resources in one disc. Find out more about SMART Notebook SE (Student Edition) software, and learn how the plug-in-and-go USB bracelet can help your students excel.

Whether you are new to using SMART products or you're a veteran, you'll be sure to find a presentation that addresses your needs. For a complete listing of SMART's presentations at BETT, visit stand B50.

SMART at BETT

SMART's goal is to help educators around the globe open new worlds of possibility with easy-to-use and cost-effective technology products and solutions. Visit stand B50 to discover how SMART can help you reach the next generation of learners. [ic](#)

SMART showcases new products

The latest innovations featured at BETT 2009



Teachers around the globe seek technology solutions that work well together, increase student engagement and improve learning outcomes.

We invite you to find out about the latest SMART innovations at stand B50 at BETT 2009. There, you'll find products that facilitate whole-class learning and others that enhance and augment small-group and individual learning. You'll also find solutions that encourage and facilitate collaboration and teamwork.

Following is a brief description of what you can expect to see at SMART's stand. If you are unable to attend BETT, visit [SMART's website](#) for more information on our products and solutions.

New software and content resources

As an all-encompassing, integrated solution, the [SMART Classroom Suite](#) enables collaborative learning, control and assessment in the classroom. This software package also provides tools necessary for students to guide their own learning, including SMART Notebook software, SMART Sync 2009 (formerly known as SynchronEyes™ classroom management software), SMART Notebook SE (Student Edition) and soon-to-be-released SMART Response 2009 assessment software, based on the Senteo™ interactive response system.

SMART Notebook SE software was created for the way students learn. Suitable for whole-class environments, SMART Notebook SE gives teachers a 21st-century tool that's ideal for guiding students through the processes of inquiry, discovery and sharing. Students can also use the software's scheduling and organizing features to take notes, highlight important

concepts and keep track of homework assignments and due dates.

[Senteo assessment software 2.0](#) integrates seamlessly with SMART Notebook and enables teachers to easily add questions to lesson activities. The software increases one-to-one attention in the classroom by enabling teachers to assess each and every student in the class.

As more districts and schools the world over move to create virtual learning environments or learning platforms, they require appropriate content and resources. The [SMART Learning Marketplace](#) (SLM) integrates seamlessly with almost any learning platform. It maximizes a SMART classroom by providing a reliable source of over one million pieces of Scorm-compliant digital content, including a selection of interactive Flash® objects, audio and video clips, images and other learning objects.

Collaboration stations

The [SMART Table](#) is a ground-breaking interactive learning center designed specifically for K–3 students. The world's first multitouch, multiuser table for K–3 education, the SMART Table encourages students to create, explore and discover together. On the durable, touch-sensitive surface, students can simultaneously interact with digital content and work collaboratively to complete interactive lessons, play educational games and solve problems.

The SMART Mobile Stand for interactive displays is a height-adjustable stand that gives mobility to SMART Board™ interactive displays. With swiveling and locking casters, and space for a computer and audiovisual peripherals, the stand is easily moved so that teachers can reconfigure their classrooms or even create learning areas in nontraditional spaces. Its height quickly adjusts to accommodate use by people of different heights and with this versatility, special-needs students find the stand especially user-friendly.

Interactive whiteboard and accessory solutions

The SMART Board interactive whiteboard has a long history of enhancing and enriching learning in classrooms all over the world. The next-generation [SMART Board 600i interactive whiteboard system](#) features a choice of two new boom-mounted, short-throw projectors: the UF55 and the UF55w for wide-screen interactive whiteboards. The short throw of the projectors reduces shadows on the screen and prevents light from shining in users' eyes. Additionally, the 600i has network

capability, improved lamp life and security, and a wide-screen offering that gives teachers more space to work with. It also features centralized management of all classroom technology, including the projector and peripheral devices, right on the control panel.

With the addition of Touch Recognition, the SMART Board 600 series becomes the first interactive whiteboard to automatically detect and switch between pen, finger and eraser modes – with no need to press buttons or replace the pen in the Pen Tray.

SMART's classroom amplification system, [SMART Audio](#), combines wireless student and teacher microphones, speakers, a receiver and sensors. SMART Audio helps teachers deliver lessons more effectively by amplifying their voices, while enhancing student participation and engagement. We invite you to read a recently published [white paper](#) reporting on reduced teacher stress levels and improved student learning outcomes resulting from the use of classroom amplification systems.

Teachers can use the [SMART Document Camera](#) to display static or moving objects or project videos in real time onto a SMART Board interactive whiteboard. Objects can be placed under the camera lens for examination and discussion. Teachers can then write over the projected image on the SMART Board interactive whiteboard and capture it using SMART Notebook software.

Complete wide-screen offering

Educators around the world say they can't have too much whiteboard space to work on, so SMART brings its latest innovations in wide-screen technology to the [SMART Board 685i3 interactive whiteboard](#). SMART's first integrated system in wide-screen format, the 685i3 expands SMART's wide-screen offering, which already includes the 685 and 690 models, and the SMART Board interactive display frame. In addition to giving teachers and students more interactive whiteboard real estate to work with, the wide-screen format enables them to take advantage of increasingly available wide-screen content. It also provides native-resolution compatibility with the majority of current portable and desktop computers.

These easy-to-use and cost-effective products and solutions are designed to reach the next generation of learners and create extraordinary learning moments in classrooms around the world, and all are being featured at BETT 2009. **ic**

Engaging at-risk students

Singapore's City Harvest Education Centre looks to SMART Board interactive whiteboards to enrich learning



City Harvest Education Centre (CHEC) is a nonprofit private school registered with the Ministry of Education of Singapore. With a primary goal of providing high-quality, affordable education to its 320 students, many of them former dropouts and at-risk youths, CHEC has challenges specific to its population.

"We are always looking for innovative ways to improve on pedagogy and enrich our students' learning experiences," says Kenny Low, principal of CHEC.

Administration considered several alternatives, and after careful deliberation, in 2006 they decided to place SMART Board interactive whiteboards into four classrooms. Low says they were convinced the interactive whiteboards would have a positive impact on their hard-to-reach students and help them as they prepared to take their General Certificate of Education (GCE) O-level examinations as private candidates.

Since the initial introduction of SMART Board interactive whiteboards, physics teacher Suryanto Lim has noticed that his students are more involved during lesson discussions and more eager to participate in class activities.

"One of the biggest challenges for teachers at CHEC was to capture our students' interest and maintain their attention during lessons," says Lim. He explains, "Our students tend to have shorter attention spans and lose focus more easily than other students – particularly when we delve into 'dry' and theoretical subjects, like physics and mathematics."

Victor Koh, a student at the center, agrees with his physics teacher's assessment. Koh says he enjoys lessons much more since CHEC teachers started incorporating SMART Board interactive whiteboards into their instruction and class work.

"The SMART Board makes lessons more interesting and engaging. It has been beneficial to

us, as most people remember things better through interaction, and it also makes lessons more fun for us," explains Koh.

One of the primary reasons for Koh's reaction, believes geography teacher Annie Wong, is that using an interactive whiteboard allows her and her fellow teachers to incorporate multimedia elements to augment lessons and improve student comprehension. Because of this feature, she considers the SMART Board interactive whiteboard an invaluable teaching tool.

SMART Board interactive whiteboards have become indispensable to CHEC teachers because the technology creates a collaborative learning environment, says English and literature teacher Xiao Yee Ng. She routinely uses clips from popular American television series, such as *Prison Break*, and can stop at a particular scene and ask students for comments before writing their observations on the board and saving the notes for future use. Such features give Xiao Yee the ability to deliver dynamic lessons that capture her students' attention.

"Learning has shifted dramatically from a teacher-centric, or instructivist model to a student-centric, or constructivist model in recent years. As it becomes harder to engage students' attention through traditional methods like chalk-and-talk, the SMART Board gives us the means to incorporate movies, video clips, music and webpages into our lessons, which helps stimulate and inculcate students' interest in the subject matter," says Xiao Yee.

CHEC administrators say both teachers and students are delighted with the results of the SMART Board interactive whiteboards – they hope to install one in every classroom in the near future.

"SMART Boards represent a significant investment on the part of CHEC, but we deeply believe that they can really help our students, because the technology helps us develop a creative and progressive learning environment," says Low. [ic](#)

New common file format for interactive whiteboards

SMART supports and actively participates in an effort to develop a common file format for interactive whiteboards in the UK. Becta – the UK government's education technology agency – is leading the initiative, scheduled to be implemented in the latter half of 2009. A common file format will allow teachers and students in the UK to create lessons and other learning resources for use on any brand of interactive whiteboard. With the new standard, teachers and students will be able to access and share resources regardless of the hardware they use. SMART's support of the initiative is consistent with its long-standing goal of making ICT resources more accessible. [ic](#)

SMART launches new community site for UK users



MYSMARTSpaces.co.uk is an online community that brings together the best of SMART on the Web for teachers in the United Kingdom. Expect it to be full of the latest news, best practices and tips. From links to SMART, the SMART Exchange, YouTube and Facebook, [MYSMARTSpaces](#) collects a world of resources, content and comment in one space for UK teachers to share and discuss. The site also includes summary information on SMART products and links for buying them. MySMARTSpaces will develop over the coming months with the addition of new content, features and ideas. [ic](#)

Better teaching, better learning

Using SMART Board interactive whiteboards changes instructional practices and increases student engagement



Researchers at Canada's University of New Brunswick (UNB) have completed work on a year-long, SMART-sponsored study investigating the impact of interactive whiteboard use in a K-5 environment. The study's intent was to document and investigate implementation processes of SMART Board interactive whiteboards. It sought also to examine the effects the technology has on instruction and teacher practices, student engagement and staff support and collaboration.

In their report "Applying SMART Board Technology in Elementary School Classrooms: Investigation of a School-Wide Initiative," Dr. Bill Morrison and Dr. Patricia Kirby from UNB's Health and Education Research group explore four key themes: teacher knowledge of technology and confidence using it, classroom instructional practices, pedagogical benefits and differentiation of instruction.

The report reveals teachers changed their instructional practices due to the ongoing presence of SMART Board interactive whiteboards in their classrooms. These changes included increased use of online resources and other educational technologies, more opportunities for students to demonstrate their learning to their peers, and increases in the use of virtual and interactive methods. Also cited is an increase in the ability of teachers to formulate and present timely responses to student questions and to fill in information gaps. Many teachers recognized

the application of SMART Board interactive whiteboards for individual student education plans for children with specialized instruction needs. Additionally, teachers felt the use of the interactive whiteboards enhanced their professional motivation and innovation.

Participant teachers also noted specific initiative outcomes associated with student learning. They referred to marked increases in the engagement of all students in learning activities, increased engagement in academic learning activities on the part of students with defined learning needs and overall enhanced student knowledge and use of technology.

Some of the study's findings include the following:

- Ninety percent of the teachers agreed that they felt comfortable using the SMART Board interactive whiteboard as an educational tool in their classrooms following the implementation; only ten percent felt comfortable before the implementation took place
- Ninety-five percent of the teachers reported using their SMART Board interactive whiteboards on a daily basis to present instructional content or engage students in learning activities during the year-long study
- The teachers unanimously agreed that SMART Board interactive whiteboards are a benefit in their classrooms, with 85 percent strongly agreeing
- Eighty-one percent of the teachers said that having access to a SMART Board interactive whiteboard enhanced their ability to differentiate instruction

The authors also note that participants recommended that the SMART Board implementation initiative expand to other schools. The teachers asserted that such expansion will contribute to opportunities for increased interschool collaboration and strategy sharing. [Read more about the study.](#) **ic**

Assessment made easy

Senteo question sets now available for UK, Australia and New Zealand



SMART has question sets correlated to curriculum requirements in five countries, now available for the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand, in addition to the United States and Canada. Senteo question sets make it easy for teachers to add interactive assessment to lessons. Each set includes 10 questions that can be combined with lesson activities on the same topic. Senteo makes ongoing assessment simple and engaging. **ic**

The SMART Exchange goes international

The SMART Exchange, SMART's increasingly popular online community for educators, is going international. By early 2009, the [Exchange](#) will be available in German, French, Spanish and UK English, in addition to the current North American English. More educators worldwide will be able to share information and lesson activities, connect with colleagues and collaborate on various topics. Launched in December 2007, membership in the SMART Exchange is totally voluntary and growing every day. It now boasts some 34,000 members. **ic**

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