Flash issues that might still exist

The end of Flash has been talked about for years. Most L&D organizations have already taken care of the conversion process within the last 3 years. However, there are some items to watch out for that may still have an impact on your learners after Dec 31st, 2020 when all browsers stop supporting Flash.

eLearning courses exist outside of the L&D organization

To ensure there are no issues on January 1st, 2021 it will be necessary to evaluate content across the entire enterprise, including in several corporate silos. Sales, R&D, and IT organizations are notorious for having their own training content stored on servers not managed by the L&D team.

It's not just eLearning courses

Flash content is not just present in standard eLearning courses; it is likely contained in many other Learning artifacts in your L&D library. Video tutorials, infographics, Job Aids and Reference Guides may well have been designed with some Flash components. It might be worth a quick inventory of all files in your network with a .flv or .swf extension.

Republished courses may not have been thoroughly tested

Most of the top Authoring tools have convenient republishing options to help you convert a Flash course to HTML 5 (remember to select the Responsive Design option!). These HTML 5 courses most likely passed your initial testing protocols on mobile devices, but maybe the tester was not required to complete every screen of every course. In some cases, re-publishing to HTML 5 causes some text and icon screen placement changes that could impact usability. It might make sense to have a learner-centric review of the entire course.

Straight Flash to HTML 5 conversions still leave learning issues

The threat of Flash no longer working forced many companies to adopt an initial 1:1 conversion policy. That is, any existing eLearning course with Flash content would be converted into HTML5. We strongly believe that the Flash issue presents L&D organizations with a great opportunity to do some spring cleaning and modernizing of their eLearning libraries. Some courses may no longer be relevant and should be "retired." Other mega eLearning courses need to be broken down into smaller digestible units. Today's learners will not have the patience to complete eLearning courses over 1 hour on their PC yet alone on their mobile devices.

NEED HELP?

LTS's team has years of experience working on multiple learning and development initiatives. We offer content Assessment and Flash Conversion services, or we can supplement your L&D team to temporarily assist your own Flash conversion projects. To learn more, please contact us today.