LearnCanada Software & Multimedia Development
Quarterly Progress Report: 0ct – Dec 2000.

During the reporting period two software packages were assessed, Virage VideoLogger and VSoft's VideoClick.

> VideoLogger provides automatic indexing of video content based on words spoken within the video. It can also provide automatic speaker recognition, automatic face recognition, and metatagging support. VideoLogger appears to be valuable to LearnCanada, but is prohibitively expensive, at $130k plus 15% per year for support.

> VideoClick provides the capability of adding text commentary to video residing on a server. This is relevant functionality for LearnCanada, but the overall package was not such that an immediate "buy" decision was warranted.

NRC attempted unsuccessfully to hire 3 support personnel during the reporting period. The sought areas of expertise were broadband network management, video mediated communication, and multimedia management. The jobs were classified by NRC HR and advertised. Twelve candidates passed the screening criteria, but none of the candidates were strong. Hiring boards were formed and interview questions developed. The candidates were notified of their invitation to interview ten days later; only five candidates were still interested at that point. HR indicated that interviews would be at least several weeks later. Based on the quality of the candidates and the attrition rate, the effort was terminated. It was subsequently decided to proceed by contracting rather than hiring. A contract from NRC to an appropriate individual is being written at this time.