

## **Assessment Tomorrow Seminar on e-Assessment for Skills Development**

Using the technology to measure, assess and develop skills to bridge the skills gap

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### **About Assessment Tomorrow**

The take up of e-Assessment is increasing world-wide and is defined as the use of technology to measure skills, knowledge and understanding. Within Education (from the school room to the post graduate seminar), Trainers, Government Agencies and test providers are actively engaged in developing technology based assessment solutions that enable them to provide reliable, flexible assessment for learners, students and employees.

Assessment Tomorrow ( [www.assessmenttomorrow.com](http://www.assessmenttomorrow.com) ) is one of the leading

- international organisers of conferences and seminars,
- providers of consultancy services in the field of e-Assessment as well as being a
- acknowledged adviser to education, industry and government on the selection and introduction of e-Assessment.

Drawing on expertise from the UK, Europe and worldwide, it manages projects and organises conferences and seminars aimed at informing and assisting policy makers, assessment developers and providers. It covers implementing e-Assessment in the work place and in the classroom and provides the opportunity to understand and successfully implement e-Assessment solutions, debate the issues and find out about the latest developments.

### **Assessment Tomorrow in India and West Bengal in particular**

In 2006 and 2007 Assessment Tomorrow developed and ran the first international event to be held in India focussed on the practical aspects of e-Assessment with a two day conference and exhibition in Bangalore. This conference met very positive response from government, educators and industrialists who attended. This will now be followed by the second such event in Kolkata in September 2009 ( [www.kolkata.assessmenttomorrow.com](http://www.kolkata.assessmenttomorrow.com) ).

Assessment Tomorrow have also worked with a number of India companies in the e-Assessment and e-Learning marketplace to provide seminars introducing the concept of e-Assessment and how it can be used to bridge the Skills gap.

Assessment Tomorrow is now planning to hold a further seminar on e-Assessment and the Skills Gap with UK Trade and Investment in Kolkata on the morning of Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at the Oberoi Grand. An invited audience of companies, training providers and educationalists will be invited to hear a program of presentations including an opening address from UKT&I, an introduction to the tools and techniques of e-Assessment and case studies of successful implementations of the technology in India by Indian organisations.

### **Objectives of the Seminar and the Work of Assessment Tomorrow in India and West Bengal.**

Our objectives are to help organisations answer the following questions

1. What is involved in developing an e-Assessment facility?
2. Why the technology is so valuable in this area?
3. How it can be used to optimise the talent pool of employees and learners?
4. When is e-Assessment appropriate and successful and when is best practice achieved?
5. Who is involved in ensuring a successful development?

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### **Why e-Assessment and the Skills Gap**

Only 30% of IT graduates meet the demands and expectations of India's IT industry. Less than 20% of other graduates are suitable for BPO and ITES.

How will India, and in particular West Bengal, bridge this Skills Gap?

- How will it cope with the increasing numbers and the demands of industry, customers and the economy?
- How will it recognize and develop the right talent?
- How will it derive the maximum benefit from the new technologies of skills assessment and development?
- How can the technology provide reliable and cost effective measurements of skills and competencies?
- How can the assessment and technology support learning, training and teaching?

West Bengal is rapidly being seen as a leader in BP, KPO and other ITES Industries. The 2008 NASSCOM/A.T. Kearney report reinforced this. With major Governmental and Industry investment the challenge is how manage the talent already in place in West Bengal and develop the next generation to its full potential.

*'Today, there is a booming demand for bright youngsters with certain skill sets .... engineers are recruited in law firms .... historians in call centres .... They are recruited for skills that have little to do with the subject they studied .... At the same time there are specialised jobs that demand deep and strong disciplinary background ....*

*The key problem is employability.....*

*30% of graduating engineers fit the needs of the IT industry.....*

*(less than 20% ) in the case of 'ordinary graduates' sought by the BPO industry'.*

*Kiran Karnak – President of NASSCOM, The Economic Times, Tuesday 10th April 2007*

**We say the problem is how to manage the skills required by industry and commerce. This in turn raises the question: 'How to identify and recognise the necessary skills and how do we successfully plan the development of our talent base?'**

**and the answer is 'Through e-Assessment – by using a proven technology to provide cost effective, efficient and rewarding tools and techniques!'**



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### **Assessment Tomorrow will be supported at the seminar by Eduquity**

*One of the largest e-Assessment service companies in India, Eduquity was incorporated in India in June 2000 by a group of entrepreneurs with over five decades of experience in running large organizations successfully. Funded by Acclaim Ventures, a Silicon Valley technology fund, Eduquity is headquartered in Bangalore, India. The company is managed by a team that has demonstrated considerable success in businesses like software, advertising and communication. Eduquity also has a highly qualified team of HR professionals and psychologists. Eduquity has successfully assessed approximately 2m candidates world wide in education and industry.*