

Impatica for PowerPoint – An Essential Tool for Students and Teachers

A Review by Jeanie C. Crain,
Professor, Department of English, Foreign Languages, and Journalism
Missouri Western State College

Software, software, software. Teachers and students ask, Do I need it? Can I afford it? Will I use it? With **Impatica for PowerPoint for PowerPoint**, the answer is Yes, Yes, Yes. In minutes, your PowerPoint presentation can be delivered by email to an individual or by Internet to a class or classes. And **Impatica for PowerPoint** works flawlessly with WebCT and BlackBoard.

Do I need **Impatica for PowerPoint** for PowerPoint? Teachers and students have been using PowerPoint in their classrooms for a decade now and are comfortable with this mode of presentation. Narration and animation in PowerPoint can now be translated to email or the web without worry about large files and slow speed connections. Over 450 colleges and universities are now using **Impatica for PowerPoint**. For testimony from five professors at five institutions, go to <http://www.impatica.com/higher-ed>. All enthusiastically endorse **Impatica for PowerPoint** for its ease of use, functionality, and online delivery of content without any added requirement for technical skills, plugins, or additional software. **Impatica for PowerPoint** promotes quick and economic publishing for quality online learning using the already known PowerPoint and widely used, popular learning management systems WebCT and BlackBoard. All praise **Impatica for PowerPoint** as an original, innovative, and revolutionary software solution for online learning. **Impatica for PowerPoint** is changing, they agree, the way we present lectures and other learning materials online. Can I afford it? According to Paul Noah at **Impatica for PowerPoint**, institutions may purchase either an annual site license (guaranteed price for minimum of three years, maintenance included) for use on all computers or a perpetual license (maintenance program available). Faculty are permitted to use **Impatica for PowerPoint** on their home computer and other computers being used for work content. A single user license is also available for \$299 for educational use. The cost of a site license varies with the number of faculty, i.e. for 460 full-time faculty, the license cost is \$9,995 for a perpetual license, \$4,995 annual; or \$6,995 for a perpetual license, \$3,495 annual for 250 faculty or fewer. The value of the site license for an institution varies

with the use made of PowerPoint in daily instruction and other productivity. At any institution heavily engaged in presentation in electronic format, PowerPoint and learning management systems, the cost of a perpetual license is reasonable relative to server space gained in publication and a simple conversion, packaging, and running through a Java applet process.

Will I use **Impatica for PowerPoint**? You're already using PowerPoint, and a high percentage of institutions are now promoting learning using a learning management system. **Impatica for PowerPoint** runs on Windows95/98/NT/XP platforms, and once PowerPoint presentations are translated, Impaticized PowerPoint files will play on Java 1.0.2 or 1+1 environments, including Windows, Macintosh, Sun Solaris, Linux, Unix, OS/2, set-top boxes, and many hand held devices. Feature unique to PowerPoint XP (2002) are not currently supported (User's Guide <http://www.impatica.com/support/guides/imp4ppt.html>). Java-enabled browsers let you deliver or receive your presentations over the Internet or e-mail using Netscape Navigator Version 2 and later, Microsoft Internet Explorer Version 3 and later, Netscape Mail 3, Messenger 4 and later, Outlook Express for Windows 97 and later, Outlook 2000, and Eudora.

You will spend very little time downloading, installing, and learning to use **Impatica for PowerPoint**. The User's Manual describes a "simple, three-step process" for installing **Impatica for PowerPoint**, a process most computer users already know:

1. Download from **Impatica for PowerPoint's** web site.
2. Uninstall, if used previously, any previous **Impatica for PowerPoint** versions.
3. Run the Installer and follow on-screen instructions.

You can begin using **Impatica for PowerPoint** immediately upon installing, use requiring only four steps: *Create* the presentation, *Save*, *Translate* using **Impatica for PowerPoint for PowerPoint**, and *Send* your Impaticized e-mail or update your web site using the automatically generated html. For advanced users of PowerPoint who have published presentations as web pages using PowerPoint's *Save As a Web Page*, an expected response may be "So why do I need another software program when I can accomplish this already with PowerPoint?" The answer here is a 90 percent or higher compression of PowerPoint files. Importantly, too, you work with one **Impatica for PowerPoint** HTML file.

Impatica for PowerPoint has a built-in Web Server Upload and Email HTML for prompt publication of your impaticized presentation. Should, however, your server security restrict you from FTP Web Server Upload, you can still publish your files to your web by moving three files, .html,

.imp, and Implayer.jar, to the appropriate folder on your web. Once these files have been moved to a server, the presentation can be delivered by email either by providing a direct link to the web or by writing html. If your web server will permit FTP, you can work directly within **Impatica for PowerPoint** to translate and publish to the web or email. Globetechnology has rated **Impatica** with four and a half stars, indicating the product is highly recommended and child's play to set up and use.

(<http://rtnews.globetechnology.com/servlet/ArticleNews/tech/RTGAM/20020906/gtimpa/Technology/techBN/>)

To become acquainted with **Impatica for PowerPoint**, download the evaluation copy, scan the *User's Guide*, upload, translate, and publish within **Impatica** or move your translation files (3) to your web. Ottawa's **Impatica** staff will enthusiastically welcome you to **Impatica**, cheerfully support you in your evaluation of the product, and honestly provide you with the right packaging price for your institution. Your initial questions of Do I need it? Can I afford it? And Will I use it? surrender to Wow, the simplicity! Wow, the compression! Wow, the power of PowerPoint and **Impatica!**

Jeanie C. Crain, Professor
Department of English, Foreign Languages, and Journalism
Missouri Western State College

You can request an evaluation copy of Impatica from:

<http://www.indezine.com/products/powerpoint/addin/reqimpatica.html>