SmartClass+ is the only language lab platform that supports connectivity options for each of the three major network types that are commonly deployed in school language lab environments: ASDN (Application-Specific Dedicated Network), LAN (Local Area Network), and WLAN (Wireless Local Area Network). The choice of which network to deploy for a language lab will be influenced by the type of technology being used (e.g., desktop computers, laptops, tablets, Chromebooks, BYOD), the availability of a dedicated room, the need to support specific real-time didactic capabilities (e.g., conversation pairing), and the level of performance (speed, quality, & flexibility) required.

This document provides an overview of the benefits and limitations of each network type, so that you can make an informed decision regarding which network is best for your school's language lab. Additionally, we examine some of the common WLAN implementation pitfalls that can affect overall system performance and might degrade the overall user experience.

**INTRODUCTION**

**ASDN – APPLICATION-SPECIFIC DEDICATED NETWORK**

A SmartClass+ ASDN is used in combination with a traditional data network (LAN). The ASDN uses dedicated cabling and hardware switching modules to offload media-rich data (audio, screen video, and/or both) from the school's data network.

**BENEFITS**
- Best overall performance
- Superb HD video quality
- Excellent Hi-Fi audio quality
- Does not load the school's data network

**LIMITATIONS**
- Works only with desktop computers
- Uses wired network connections
- Requires a dedicated room
- Most expensive solution
“There can be infinite uses of the computer and of new age technology, but if teachers themselves are not able to bring it into the classroom and make it work, then it fails.”
~ Nancy Kassebaum

Congratulations! Your school has acquired a new SmartClass+ language lab system that will really energize your language programs.

Now, your language teachers are going to need some basic training and coaching to ensure they are comfortable in using the technology.

Professional development is a critical step in assuring the success of this project.

Our professional development courses will:

- Familiarize teachers with SmartClass+,
- Guide them in structuring and running digital learning activities in the classroom
- Teach them how to build and assign self-study activities for homework
- Help them choose which activities are most appropriate for their learning objectives.

What training do teachers need?
AVAILABLE TRAINING FORMATS & COURSES
One size does not fit all

FLEXIBLE TRAINING FORMATS
We provide a wide range of training options that can accommodate everyone’s schedule, learning style, and budget:

- On-site face-to-face training
- On-site one-on-one classroom coaching
- Web-based face-to-face training
- Web-based one-on-one coaching
- Web-based train-the-trainers sessions
- Online video training
- Webinars on selected topics (e.g. AP testing)
- Tips for teaching blog topics

Typically, schools will sign up for a bank of training hours, which can be allocated to any combination of the above formats.

Customized courses and periodic refresher training sessions are also available as required.

MODULAR COURSES
Most people – including teachers – can’t absorb all there is to know about SmartClass+ in one extended session. We all become saturated after a few hours.

For this reason, our training materials and courses are organized in a modular fashion, with the expectation that teachers will gain some independent hands-on experience in the classroom between multiple training sessions.

A complete training course will comprise at least three sessions:

- Beginner
- Intermediate
- Advanced

Teachers appreciate having access to one-on-one coaching support and printed training guides for their first class in a new SmartClass+ language lab.
TESTIMONIALS

“...a word about our trainer, Miss Veronika Biskupova: Her work was exquisite. She possesses undeniable teaching skills and a thorough knowledge of the SmartClass+ software. She had the ability to put everyone at ease and anticipated our questions and objections with professionalism and most of all, patience. No question was left unanswered. All of our teachers are unanimous: She deserves an A+. Congrats!”

~ Daniel Barbeau, Coordinator, Language Department, Cégep de Trois-Rivières

Veroniká is a former teacher who has taught at the primary, secondary, and adult levels. She holds two masters degrees in education and has extensive first-hand experience with using technology in the classroom.

Lindsey Klein has taught high school German in the USA for the past 12 years. Having recently integrated SmartClass+ into her own curriculum, she is a great resource with many innovative ideas for mastering technology in the classroom.