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Screencast as a replacement of routine teaching

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What is a screencast?

- Screencast is a recording of computer display output
- Usually contains also the lecturers commentaries in audio form
- The output is a video file

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What kind of teaching is a “routine”?

- Solving standard excercises in seminars of mathematics, physics or chemistry
- Explanations about how to use the computer programs
- Explanations about how to write the reports of laboratory works
- etc

mms://193.40.5.165/2005/Toomas_Plank/EM0_741.wmv

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In the case of a screen-cast, every student can…

- … choose the apropriate
  - place for learning,
  - time of learning,
  - speed of lesson.
- … stop watching the video and try everything learned in practice.
- … turn back the video, if nessesary, and repeat the unclear moments.

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In the case of a screen-cast can the teacher …

- … save time
  - it is possible to deliver lectures with many groups just once,
  - also those students, who missed the auditory lecture, can participate

  or in other words – the teacher can avoid speeking several times about the same subject.
  - already recorded screencast can be usually used several years.
- … in seminars concentrate to the solving of concrete problems of concrete students.

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What do you need for recording a screencast?

Hardware

- Relatively good/expensive computer
- Microphone
- Web- or videocamera

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What do you need for recording a screencast?

For recording close-up's you might need videocamera or digital quality-photocamera

Software

- Look: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Screencast

ScreenCasters - DonationCoder.com - Microsoft Internet Explorer
File Edit View Favorites Tools Help
Address http://www.donationcoder.com/Reviews/Archive/ScreenCasting/
Go Links
Google Search 4 blocked Check AutoLink AutoFill Options

5-STAR AWARD

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UPDATED 6/08/06
Removed ViewletCam from Best list.

UPDATED 6/22/05
Added discount info.

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MORE INFO..

BEST SCREENCASTERS
Macromedia Captivate
BB FlashBack
Camtasia Studio

OTHER SCREENCASTERS
Oarbon ViewletCam

BEST SCREENCASTING TOOL

ScreenCasting is the new hip term for recording movies of your computer desktop as you demonstrate some program.

The name is a bit misleading because you aren't actually broadcasting demonstrations live - you're recording movies to post on your website (or send via email, etc.). But then when the **cult-of-apple** types decide they need a new term for an old thing, there's no sense trying to fight it and you might as well go along for the ride.

Regardless of whether you call it screencasting or **demo movie recording**, a new breed of tools (combined with the market penetration of Macromedia Flash) is making it easier and easier for home users to produce software demonstrations.

After an exhaustive review of screencasting software, which involved making dozens of demo movies spanning several full hours of video, we narrowed down the list of best screencasting tools to a small handfull. We tried hard to choose a single best tool from this set of top contenders, but in the end we decided that we couldn't pick a single winner. Instead, this review represents the first **shared Best-in-Class award** at DonationCoder.com:

TechSmith Camtasia Studio
BEST Fast-motion/Quality
BEST Editing

BB FlashBack
BEST Price (express ed.)
BEST Low-bandwidth

Macromedia Captivate
BEST interaction, quiz, scripting

Internet

What kind of software to use?

- Compare:
  http://www.donationcoder.com/Reviews/Archive/ScreenCasting/
- Three best programs were chosen:
  - **TechSmith Camtasia Studio**
    - Best quality of recording fast movement
    - Best possibilities for corrections (after recording)
  - **BB FlashBack**
    - Best price
    - Best result at low data rate
  - **Macromedia Captivate**
    - Best for scripting
    - Best for creating interactive possibilities into you video

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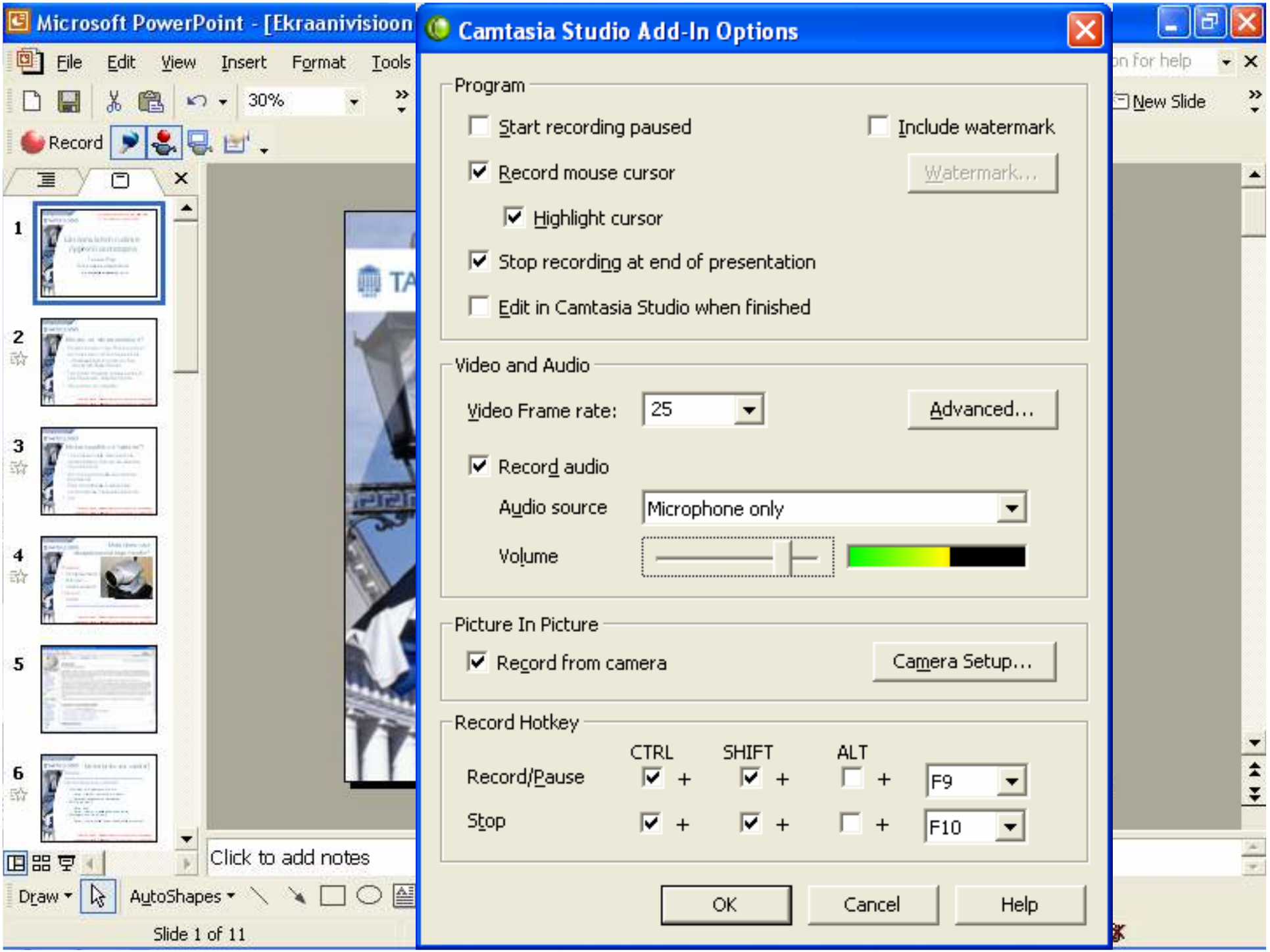
How difficult is the recording of a screencast?

- Camtasia Studio has a PowerPointi package
- Parameters
  - How many frames per second?
  - What should be the audio quality?
  - Do we record also the teachers face and movements (picture-in-picture possibility)
  - Do we display PIP also during the recording?
- After determination of those parameters you just need to deliver your lecture as good as possible ☺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Camtasia Studio Add-In Options
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Record mouse cursor
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Highlight cursor
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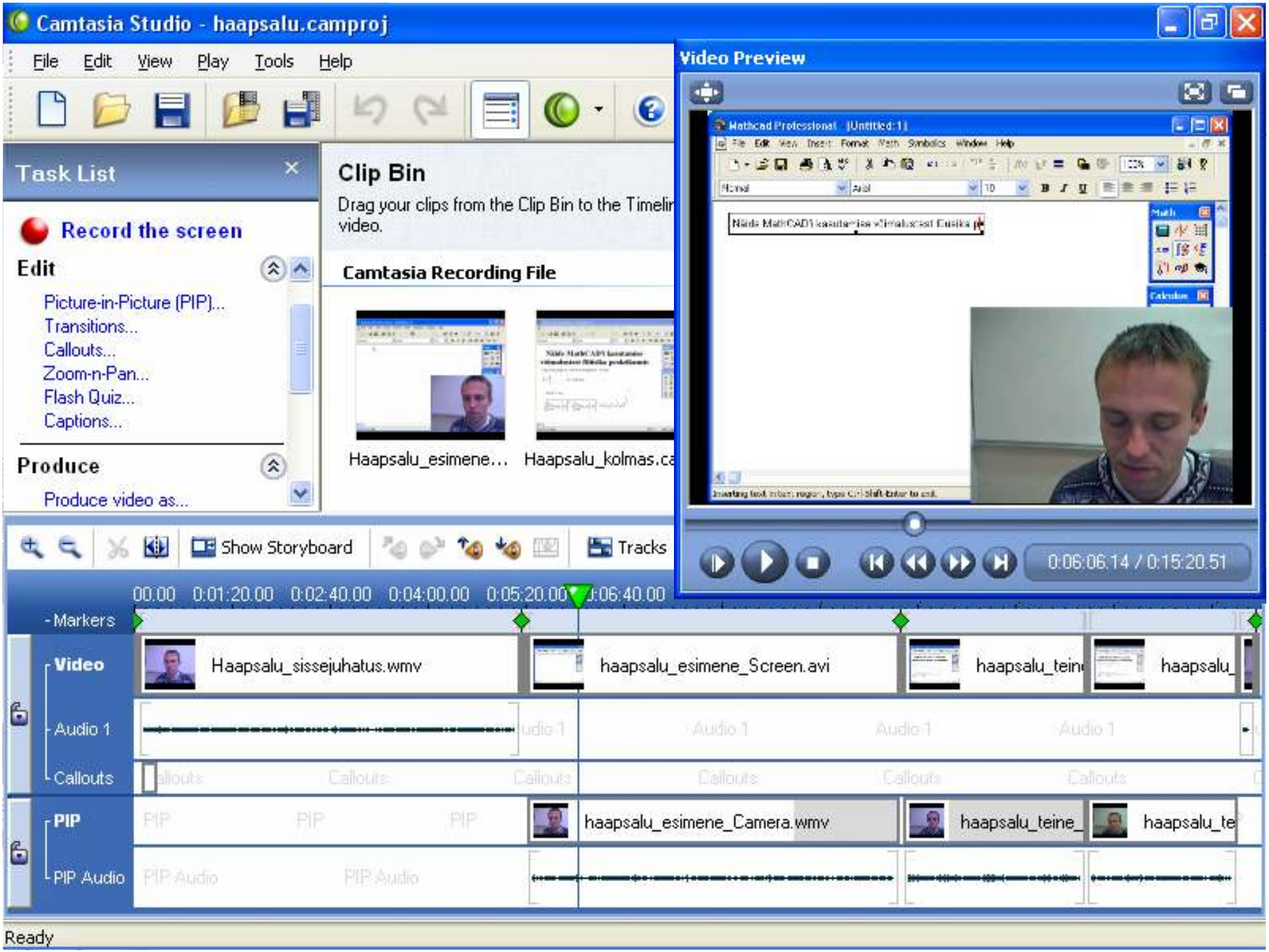
Camtasia Studio - haapsalu.camproj
File Edit View Play Tools Help
Task List
Record the screen
Edit
Picture-in-Picture (PIP)...
Transitions...
Callouts...
Zoom-n-Pan...
Flash Quiz...
Captions...
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Show Storyboard
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What really takes time?

- Chosing the place of recordings
  - Background should be in light colours
  - Without many small details
- Chosing the best clothing
  - Depends on the quality of a videocamera used
  - In general, clothing in light colours give also here the best result

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What really takes time?

- **Choice of output format and data rate:** it is a compromise between good quality and possibilities of an average user computer
  - The more the data rate the more you can put information inside.
  - What formats are supported by users computer?
  - What datarate is possible to play in users computer?
  - What is the internet band rate between video server and users computer?

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Preliminary response

- My first results (in estonian) you can see at http://www.fk.ut.ee/content/view/full/2129/
- Students response was positive: “Video lectures are great idea”
- One of comments from last year graduate: “Why they did not teach us [in seminars of physics laboratory works] in that way...”