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support@lodeStarLearning.com

Instructions for deploying lodeStar™ to your campus:

**Introduction:**

Minnesota State Colleges & Universities has made available system-wide academic licensing for lodeStar™ from lodeStar Learning Corporation. lodeStar™ and the academic license enables MNSCU instructors to configure engaging interactions for their own students. With lodeStar™, instructors don't need to be programmers. They can stay focused on content. lodeStar™ is, therefore, a kind of a wizard that guides instructors step by step through customizing an educational interaction.

With a few clicks and some content entry, instructors can liven up their online learning and their classrooms with presentations, games, slide shows, quizzes, puzzles, web quests, animations and so much more. These interactions can then be published to a number of different learning management systems including Desire2Learn.

**Overview:**

You will be issued a college-wide license key. The license key will work with any copy of lodeStar version 5.x. Technically the license key is a 100 year key but this has no effect on the end product created with lodeStar. An instructor can use lodeStar to generate an activity that can be used by an unlimited number of his or her own students for an unlimited period of time. The license key only governs access to the lodeStar authoring tool.

A MNSCU instructor can install a copy of lodeStar 5.x on a personal (home) computer in addition to office and lab computers.

In return, for keeping this as simple as possible, we ask that the individual responsible for deploying the lodeStar license, voluntarily submit a simple report to lodeStar Learning which lists the following:

**Name of Instructor using lodeStar**  
**Subject Area**  
**Email address**

This is a voluntary list of individuals who wish to be contacted by lodeStar Learning periodically with an electronic newsletter that will provide useful information on techniques, instructional design ideas, free minor version upgrades, and much more.

The system-wide license and contract in no way requires college personnel to share this information with lodeStar Learning. The contact information will only be used by lodeStar Learning to disseminate the electronic newsletter to individuals interested in staying abreast of lodeStar developments, new templates, etc.

The list can be sent in any common format to [bob.bilyk@lodeStarLearning.com](mailto:bob.bilyk@lodeStarLearning.com)

## **Instructions for Deployment**

### **Downloading lodeStar**

Before downloading lodeStar, uninstall any previous versions of lodeStar. If you have installed an older version of lodeStar, use Windows Control Panel to remove the older version of lodestar. This will ensure a clean install.

Download the latest version from [http://www.lodestarlearning.com/c\\_el.html](http://www.lodestarlearning.com/c_el.html). Be sure that it is version 5.x, which means 5.1, 5.2, etc.

### **License Key**

Here are your instructions for installing the license key and the license key itself.

1. Launch lodeStar 5.0
2. On the main menu, click 'License'
3. On the drop down menu, click 'Register License Key'
4. In the text box provided, paste the license key that was given to you.
5. Click 'Create License'. Your license status will display in the gray box.
6. Close the license window

### **First Steps to Success**

You've joined a growing number of colleges who use lodeStar for classroom presentations (with LCD projector) and for publishing to a Learning Management System like Microsoft Class Server, Desire2Learn, Blackboard, Moodle and others.

Your first step to success is to view the online tutorial on lodeStar located at [http://www.lodestarlearning.com/c\\_cl.html](http://www.lodestarlearning.com/c_cl.html)

Your next step is the lodeStar Authoring Guide found in lodeStar under Help > Getting Started.

### **Support**

Please don't hesitate to report problems to the lodeStar support site at

[http://www.lodestarlearning.com/t\\_s.html](http://www.lodestarlearning.com/t_s.html). We'd also love to hear your suggestions. Use the bug report form at the support site to send us your suggestions.