



# project update

November 2004

**Highlights:** Proof-of-concept prototype completed; interface design nearly complete; first four templates converted to new format; new "frame" template for customized presentations.

## Background

The *Pachyderm 2.0 Project* is a partnership led by NMC: The New Media Consortium and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), and funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The project brings software development teams and digital library experts from six NMC universities together with counterparts from five major museums to create a new, open source authoring environment for creators of web-based and multimedia learning experiences. The new tool will be based on Pachyderm, the authoring and publishing tool developed by SFMOMA to author its successful series, *Making Sense of Modern Art*.

Central to the Pachyderm 2.0 Project is the development of an interoperable, robust, easily distributable version of Pachyderm that will be open-source and include a wide range of pedagogical templates. The learning materials created with Pachyderm 2.0 will be optimized for Internet delivery, easily reusable, and conformant with key search, archival, and cataloging standards. The final product will be made available to the field at no charge as an explicit goal of the project.

## Current Status

The effort this fall has been centered on creating a proof-of-concept prototype that encompasses the process of authoring and publishing from start to finish. With that prototype successfully completed, the development team has begun implementing the new interface. The first four templates have been updated and the team has created a new "frame" template that will allow users to easily customize the look of a presentation.

Development and testing will continue through the winter, wrapping up in February 2005, when Pachyderm will be opened for beta testing among NMC member institutions. For more information on the beta tests, please see the Pachyderm Beta Concept Document, available in the Document Archive at the Pachyderm website (<http://www.nmc.org/pachyderm>).

### Project Leads

NMC: The New Media Consortium  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

### University Partners

California State University  
Case Western Reserve University  
Northwestern University  
University of Arizona  
University of British Columbia  
University of Calgary

### Museum Partners

Berkeley Art Museum  
Cleveland Museum of Art  
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco  
Metropolitan Museum of Art  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

### Additional Partners

Design Worlds for Learning

The Pachyderm project is supported by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

