

## **Development and Evaluation of Introductory IT Self-training System for Life-long Learners**

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As a contract research trusted by Digital Communities Promotion Office (DCs), a set of self-instructional materials for beginning users of computers and network has been designed, developed, and pilot-tested. The materials cover such basics as Introduction to PC, the Internet (Web browsing), E-mail, Word, Excel, and Power Point, all of which are introduced using clear and useful examples from everyday life. Clear checkpoints are given so that the beginners can proceed their training by themselves at their speed. A three-day training program was designed and carried out with those interested in involving in local community activities to be a licensed IT teacher. Characteristics of both instructional materials and training program will be summarized as to how this new set of life-long educational opportunity is different from traditional learning materials which can be seen in Japan. The process of material development and the results from field studies will also be reported.