India's Best e-Contents 2005

The manthan Award

The best in eContent & Creativity 2005

Showcasing the richness
and diversity of e-Contents

Bridging the
Content Gap

Acknowledging the achievements
of producers and designers

Narrowing the
Digital Divide

Celebrating creativity
and digital cultures

Networking & cooperating
Globally in best practice

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Content

Manthan Award Mission

INDIA'S BEST e-CONTENTS

- e - Business
- e - Culture
- e - Science
- e - Entertainment
- e - Health
- e - Inclusion
- e - Learning
- e - Governance

Content India
STATE WISE WINNERS

Manthan Award 2005 JURY

Invitation to the Manthan Award 2006

Manthan @ DEF

Manthan Award associates and partners

e-Inclusion

- aAQUA: Almost All Questions Answered
  MAHARASTRA
- VAACHAK - Text to speech software for Indian languages
  UTTAR PRADESH
- Dissemination of animal health - RGCVAS PONDICHERRY
- Save the Girl Child
  DELHI
- Disability India Network
  DELHI

e-Inclusion contents are:

All measures supporting IT integration of least developed states of India into the Information Society. Reducing the "digital divide" and content gap between technology-empowered and technology-excluded communities and groups - such as rural areas and women. Bridging society through multimedia.

GOLD

aAQUA

Description of the product/project:

aAQUA is a multilingual online question and answer forum. Almost All Questions Answered (aAQUA) provides online answers to questions asked over the internet.

aAQUA caters to the needs of the farmer in many ways such as
a) Providing a forum for a farmer (typically posted by a computer operator) to pose his question
b) Having a panel of experts to view the problem and work out a feasible solution
c) Providing back the solution to the affected farmer over the internet
d) Thus creating a cumulative archived database of questions and answers on various issues
e) Allowing users to search the archive
f) Allowing common Indian languages and simultaneous keyword searches in Hindi-English-Marathi.

Experts use aAQUA to assist farmers in seed selection, new techniques, animal husbandry, and pest and disease management. Kiosk operators photograph crop and animal diseases, and are sometimes assisted by our full-time local person in administering the solutions. Information on where to buy medicines, techniques, taking soil samples etc. are also answered by experts.

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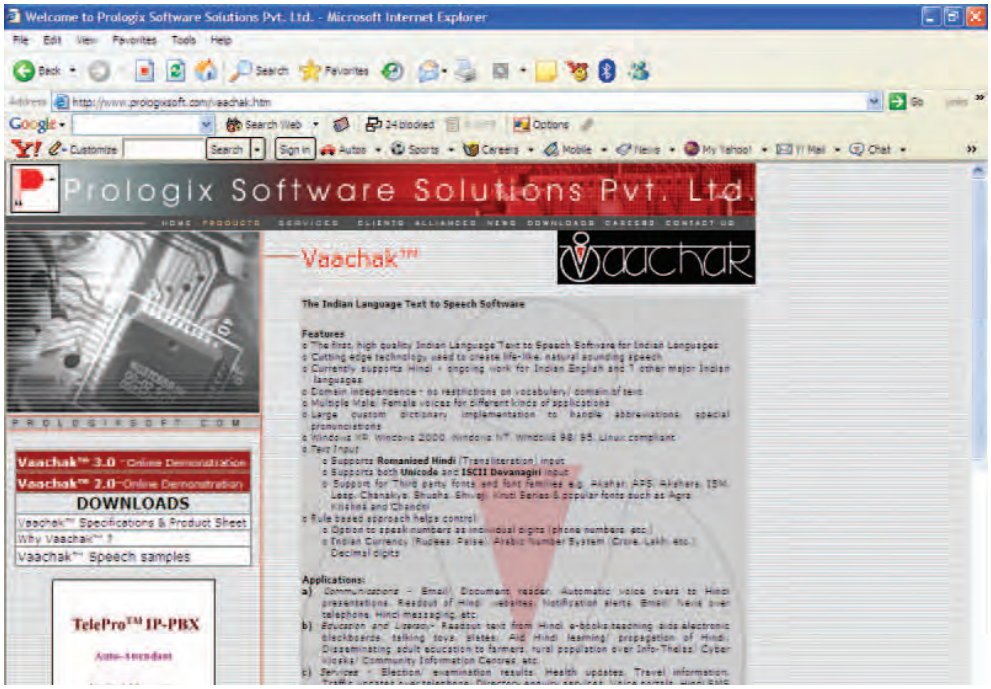
Platform of Product
Broadband/Online

Title in English
aAQUA (Almost All Questions Answered)

Language of Product
Multilingual - Marathi, Hindi, English



SILVER

VAACHAK

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www.vaachak.com

Title in English
Text to Speech software for Indian languages

Platform of Product
Broadband/Online

Language of Product
Major Indian Languages and English

Description of the product/project:

Vaachak is Text-to-Speech (TTS) software for Indian Languages and English developed by Prologix based in Lucknow.

Vaachak enables computers to read out text in Indian languages and English in clear, easily understandable and Natural (Indian) accented voice (particularly for English - as opposed to British or American accents for other Text-to-Speech software).

Vaachak is the first product of its kind developed and breaks new ground by being the first and only high quality, natural sounding software for reading out text in Indian languages and in English, in an Indian accent.

The software finds use in making Human-Computer interfaces more natural for the end users - by giving them the option of being able to hear information required by them - either on the computer itself, or through a telephone based service.

It can be a wonderful tool to produce content / applications for the visually impaired and illiterate people. It can help convert the written information to voice in native language.