Learning-Standards Decision Worksheet

Settle SCORM vs xAPI vs cmi5 vs LTI before you build. The companion article explains every line.

Step 1 - Package, or launch?

- [ ] Content must be a file that lives inside a client's LMS (even offline) -> package (Step 2)
- [ ] Content stays a live tool you host and update -> launch with LTI 1.3 (+ xAPI for analytics)
- [ ] Learning happens mostly outside any LMS (mobile, simulation, on-the-job) -> pure xAPI + an LRS

Step 2 - If packaging: how much do you need to track?

- [ ] Only completion, score, and time, and it must run in old or strict LMSs -> SCORM (prefer 2004)
- [ ] Rich data - video behaviour, mobile, offline activities -> cmi5 (xAPI tracking + launch rules)
- [ ] Need both modern and legacy reach -> cmi5 package plus a SCORM 1.2 fallback from one source

At a glance: what each standard does

- [ ] SCORM - package into LMS - fixed data (completion/score/time) - maximum compatibility
- [ ] xAPI - track anywhere to an LRS - any experience incl. video - learning outside the LMS
- [ ] cmi5 - package + xAPI tracking - rich data with launch/completion - SCORM's successor
- [ ] LTI - launch a hosted tool in any LMS - identity + grade passback (AGS) - true SSO

Before you collect roster, grades, or video data: privacy

Roster identities, grades, and per-learner video analytics are personal data under GDPR, under FERPA for US student records, and under 152-FZ for a Russian audience. Decide what you store, why, and for how long before you build. This is engineering guidance, not legal advice.

Companion to: 'SCORM vs xAPI vs cmi5 vs LTI: Which Standard, When'
www.forasoft.com/learn/elearning-video/articles-elearning/scorm-vs-xapi-vs-cmi5-vs-lti



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This worksheet settles SCORM, xAPI, cmi5 or LTI in two steps and adds the privacy check. Our seven-volume handbook covers the video stack the package or tool delivers; start with Volume 3 for players and delivery, then Volume 1 for encoding and Volume 4 for captions and audio.

WHAT YOU WILL FIND INSIDE

- Players, CDNs and delivery into an LMS (Vol. 3)
- Captions and accessible audio (Vol. 4)
- Encoding ladders for packaged video (Vol. 1)

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Choosing between SCORM, xAPI, cmi5 and LTI for your product?

We will map your sales model to a standard, build the package or LTI 1.3 launch and test it in your clients' LMSs. 250+ video products shipped since 2005.

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