# Pediaphon presentation at the Learntec 2009 fair

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At the Learntec 2009 [1] fair in Karlsruhe the 'Pediaphon' project [2] was presented at the university joint booth. Pediaphon is a web based service which generates audio representations of Wikipedia articles dynamically. The tool is usable on- and off-line, as a web based service to listen to the articles directly in the web browser as well as to download MP3 files for later use on mobile devices like MP3 players and mobile phones.



Figure 1: PRT booth at the Learntec 2009

The mobile phone branch of the service was enhanced by new features. Due to user requests a new service to convert typed in text to speech was integrated. The user request to convert web pages other than Wikipedia was rejected before due to legal issues. In case of a request of an foreign website the IP address of the Pediaphon server appears in the log files of the potential illegal service and acts as an open proxy for the content. A new approach based on so called 'bookmarklets' [3] makes it possible to realize such a functionality without any legal issues. A bookmarklet is a javascript code snippet which realize an automatic cut and paste to the Pediaphon service of a marked text on any web page. The text will be converted to speech and played back in a new browser window. Only the IP address of the client PC appears in the log files of the unknown and potentially illegal web page. The converted text is just available for the user who requested the speech output. The user can just drag and drop the bookmaklet to the Firefox bookmark toolbar. A very convenient behavior can be established with the help of the bookmarklet approach.

[1] http://www.learntec.de

[2] http://pediaphon.fernuni-hagen.de

[3] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bookmarklet

[4] http://www.welt.de/wams_print/article3166823/Technik-fuer-modernes-Lernen.html