

Ensemble @ IU

Evaluation Report of the Pilot Implemented in Fall 2014

Serdar Abaci, PhD & Dabae Lee – Indiana University

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Introduction

Ensemble Video is a cloud-based video management system used for storing, publishing, and streaming videos, video collections, and other types of media. It can also be plugged into a learning management system (LMS). Ensemble Video was added to the list of video management platforms that were piloted at Indiana University during summer and fall of 2014. During its pilot phase, Ensemble Video has been used in online and residential courses.

In November 2014, faculty members and their students, who used Ensemble Video in their courses during summer and fall 2014 across the campuses of Indiana University, were sent online surveys to evaluate Ensemble Video's quality and utility and to share their experiences. This report summarizes the findings from the faculty and student surveys.

Key Faculty Findings

- Twelve faculty members in 11 courses received the survey. Four of them responded, resulting in a 33% response rate. These faculty members were teaching undergraduate courses. Three faculty members felt extremely or very comfortable using technology. Two of the courses were delivered online, and one was delivered face-to-face. The fourth course was offered in two sections, one online and one face-to-face. Enrollment sizes for these courses ranged from 12 to 27.
- Two of the faculty respondents used Ensemble Video extensively for delivering videos to students, whereas one faculty used it incidentally. The other respondent never used it and explained that he found Kaltura, another piloted video management tool, more user-friendly than Ensemble Video.
- When asked to rate their overall satisfaction with Ensemble Video on a 4-point scale (1 – *Strongly Disagree*, 4 – *Strongly Agree*), two out of three respondents:
 - Found it easy to use.
 - Found it useful for their teaching.
 - Reported that they would use it in future courses and recommend it to their colleagues.

On the other hand, the third respondent strongly disagreed with the statements above.

- In terms of Ensemble Video's impact on teaching and learning, two out of three respondents agreed that Ensemble Video:
 - Was easy to use for students.
 - Increased their effectiveness and efficiency as an instructor.
 - Increased student engagement in their courses.
 - Allowed them to teach in a new way.

On the other hand, the third respondent strongly disagreed with the statements.

- Regarding the usefulness of Ensemble Video’s features, two out of three respondents found the *support for mobile devices, individual or bulk video upload options, and publishing and sharing options* very useful. The third respondent, who rated the previous two questions negatively, did not find any of the tool features useful, either.
- One of the faculty respondents who also used Kaltura video management tool found Kaltura and Ensemble Video similar to each other. Another respondent found Canvas’ video tool better than Ensemble Video.
- Faculty respondents liked reliable playback on multiple devices and the ease of keeping videos in one place. However, one respondent reported that there were some errors when he tried to play the videos and had to put the files in a different place for students to view.
- When asked what they liked least about Ensemble Video, one faculty complained about the lack of video usage analytics. Another faculty claimed that Ensemble Video was not a functional tool for her online course.

Key Student Findings

- 170 students in 11 courses received the survey. Twenty-one students responded, resulting in a 12% response rate. Nine students responded to the demographic questions. Most of the respondents were undergraduate students ($n = 8$). Three students were male while six were female. All of the nine respondents were at least somewhat comfortable with technology.
- Six students reported using Ensemble Video incidentally while another three used it moderately. The other 12 students reported not using Ensemble Video tool. Some students indicated that they never heard of it, did not need it, or were not asked to use it ($n = 6$). Others stated that it was not compatible with iPad, or it was one of the options to upload a video.
- Among eight respondents, six respondents found Ensemble Video easy to use, five found it useful for their learning, and three would recommend it for use in other classes.
- When asked to rate the statements on a 4-point scale (*1 - Strongly Disagree, 4- Strongly Agree*), some respondents out of eight agreed that Ensemble:
 - Enhanced their understandings ($n = 3$)
 - Helped to study for exams and quizzes ($n = 2$)
 - Helped to complete course assignments ($n = 5$)
 - Made efficient use of their time in the course ($n = 3$)
 - Helped to communicate with their professors ($n = 4$) and their classmates ($n = 3$)
 - Helped to collaborate with their professors ($n = 2$)
 - Allowed them to express themselves and their ideas in new and creative ways ($n = 3$)

- Regarding the usefulness of Ensemble Video's features, some respondents out of eight found the following functions to be at least slightly useful:
 - Creating or capturing video content ($n = 4$)
 - Video management ($n = 2$)
 - Video editing ($n = 1$)
 - Support for mobile devices ($n = 2$)
 - Individual or bulk upload options ($n = 3$)
 - Publishing and sharing video options ($n = 3$)

- When asked what they liked most about Ensemble, two students mentioned the ease of use and providing a different option for class.

- When asked what they liked least about Ensemble, one student complained about long upload time. Another student commented that it was hard to use for the first few times.