In Gear
by Ryann K. Ellis

1. Be Innovative, Grasshopper

In the practice of Zen, a *sensei* is a master teacher who instructs by posing questions and offering analogies and parables. The *Sensei* interactive CD applies those same principles to tools and techniques that stimulate innovation and focus creativity. Also, its personal developer feature provides Internet links, a reference list, and hard-copy versions of the interactive questionnaires and tools.

Sensei costs US$179.99, site licenses are available. To order, contact Zeisler Associates at 877.795.6100, www.senseisays.com. *Circle 294 on reader service card.*

1.

2. Presentation Power

Multimedia presentations made easy. M*prez* incorporates virtually any graphic element, including Flash clips, live Websites, full-screen video, and PowerPoint slides. The plug-and-play software works like a file manager and organizes presentation design and delivery into assets, events, strings of events, and an export folder. Plus, M*prez* runs on both standard PCs and Macintosh computers.

M*prez* costs US$2,000. To order, contact Virtual Systems Distributing at 800.766.2981, mprez.com. *Circle 295 on reader service card.*


2.

3. 20/20 HR Planning

Would you like to have a single software package—rather than dozens of niche programs—to automate your organization's HR planning? Try Criterion's *Workforce Vision*. The new software solution pulls together information on competencies, training adminstration, individual career paths, job requirements, reporting relationships, and so forth. The Web-based technology works with most major HRMS systems; includes advanced security features; offers flexible reporting features; and supports Crystal 8.0 imports, Microsoft SQLServer 7.x, Oracle 8.x, and MAPI- or VMI-compatible email systems.

Workforce Vision costs US$50,000. To order, contact Criterion at 800.782.1818; criterioninc.com. *Circle 296 on reader service card.*
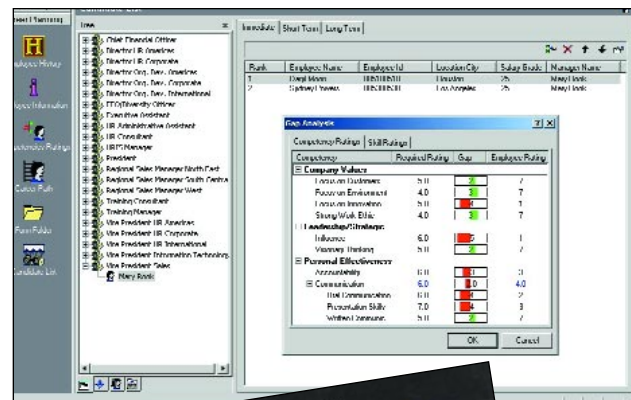

3.

4. Software Training

A software rollout can be one of the most stressful events an organization faces, and training often comes too little and too late. A new book from McGraw-Hill, *Training for Software Rollouts*, offers a step-by-step guide for coordinating organization-wide training for the rollout of a new application. In 490 pages, the author covers assessing IT training needs, deciding whether to build or buy training, choosing the right vendor, and so forth. Other features include directions for producing programs that use generic and custom-developed materials, special tips for well-known business applications, and dozens of customizable forms, checklists, and document samples.

Training for Software Rollouts costs US$39.95. To order, contact McGraw-Hill at 800.262.4729, www.books.mcgraw-hill.com. *Circle 297 on reader service card.*
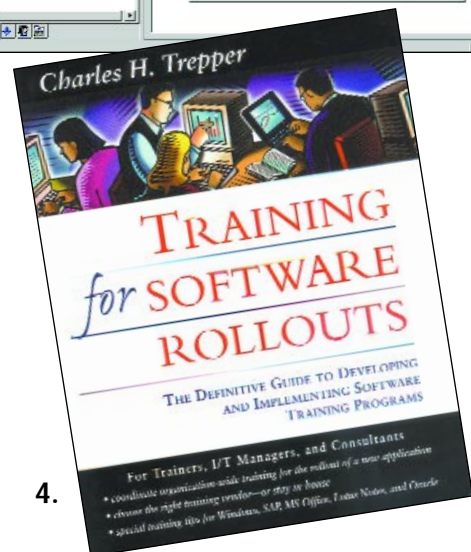
4.

Send press kits on new products and items of interest to **In Gear**, Training & Development, *1640 King Street, Box 1443, Alexandria, VA 22313-2043; ingear@astd.org.*