

## Broadcasting to Computers

Datacasting is an exciting new way to build a digital library of ECB resources in your school district. With its new digital signal, Wisconsin Public Television can turn school districts into vast libraries of media-rich information.

## Digital TV Makes it Possible

Thanks to the national transition from analog to digital television, datacasting is possible! Within the broadcast digital TV data stream, there are unused spaces that can be filled with "packets" of data, like video, music and photos. It is the delivery of these data "packets" that we call datacasting.

## Get Your School Connected

Bring instructional content from the ECB directly to your school with these tools:

- Antenna—A roof- or tower-mounted UHF TV antenna and an RG-6 coaxial cable to connect the school antenna to a personal computer (PC) inside the school
- PC—One school PC must be equipped with:
  - Microsoft Windows 2000 (SP4) / XP Tower\*
  - 1.4 gigahertz (Ghz) Pentium IV processor or better
  - 512 megabytes (MB) or more of random-access memory (RAM)
  - 100 gigabytes (GB) or more of hard drive space or ethernet access to a 100 GB network shared drive
  - PCI datacast receive card (BBTI AirStar HD-5000 PCI or Airstar HD5000-PCI-X card) that extracts datacast packets from the DTV data stream
  - Unused full-size 5.0 volt PCI or 3.3 Volt PCI-X slot. *No compact PCI (cPCI) support*
  - Software to store the datacast packets on a hard drive (this free software is provided by the ECB)

*\*Current technology does not enable Macintosh computers to receive datacasts, but content can be viewed on a Macintosh after it's been received by a PC.*

## Using and Storing Datacasts

To make content available for on-demand use, resources delivered via datacast should be moved from the receive PC to long-term storage on a shared server, DVDs, or CDs. Within the limits of copyright restrictions, data can be copied, pasted, and manipulated in a spreadsheet, photo editing program, or other software application.

## Find More on the Web

Visit [www.datacastwisconsin.org](http://www.datacastwisconsin.org) for additional information and to learn more about:

- Set-Up Requirements—Providing all of the system requirements needed to get your school ready for datacasting
- How-Tos of Technical Set-Up—Offers valuable instruction on how to get the components working and ready to go
- Frequently Asked Questions—Where to go when you want to know more!
- Find a list of series available for datacasting, sites in production, and more
- E-mail—Send an email to [datacastsupport@ecb.state.wi.us](mailto:datacastsupport@ecb.state.wi.us)

## Broadcast Information

School districts served by public station WDSE-TV in Duluth, Minnesota, can receive datacasts; those served by public station WMVS/WMVT in Milwaukee are tentatively scheduled to receive datacasts sometime during the 2007-2008 school year.

## Learn More

For more information about Datacasting, visit [www.datacastwisconsin.org](http://www.datacastwisconsin.org), or send an e-mail to [datacastsupport@ecb.state.wi.us](mailto:datacastsupport@ecb.state.wi.us).