

5 Popular Types of Learning to Create in VR

(and why they WORK!)



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1 Equipment Training

When your employees need hands-on training with equipment or processes, but can't do so physically due to office closures, space limitations, health risks, or other challenges, VR can often replicate the experience just as effectively.

In addition to needing less equipment dedicated to hands-on training, training in VR saves you money by decreasing the wear and tear on your machines, extending their life.

Virtual reality works well for safely training users on equipment such as:

- » Medical and surgical devices
- » Airplanes and helicopters
- » Heavy machinery such as forklifts, cranes, and excavators

1. Equipment Training

Why It Works

While eLearning can show students how to set up the ultrasound console, it cannot adequately demonstrate to clinicians how to properly use the probe on a patient, especially when trying to identify the anatomy being scanned.

By replacing much of the didactic training with virtual environment experiences, the students can interact with that content at a distance, orient themselves on the anatomical features being scanned, and view the ultrasound output in the full field of view in real-time coinciding with what the clinician is doing with the patient.

The virtual experience means all students can train at the same time, instead of waiting for an ultrasound machine or instructor to be available.

Furthermore, the chances of a student encountering patients with specific and diverse problems during in-person training sessions are low, so VR provides an opportunity to interpret multiple scenarios and patient conditions.

Since rolling out the immersive learning module in the spring of 2019, each student reported they had a more efficient training experience with the ultrasound probes. In addition, Vanderbilt University avoided the need to purchase additional ultrasound machines, and has reported \$588,000 savings by not purchasing additional ultrasound machines nor hiring additional instructors.⁹

⁹ <https://www.learningtechnologies.co.uk/shortlist-2020/j-best-use-of-simulations-or-virtual-environments>



2. Safety Courses

Here are two very different types of safety training that both benefit from an immersive learning approach.

First Responder Training

In this South Wales Fire & Rescue training exercise developed by Video Interact, firefighters respond to the scene of a collision, where they extract and rescue a victim. Whether on a desktop or mobile device, the viewer can interact with filmed images of people, objects and the environment from multiple angles.

Features include on-screen augments and question sets, scoring, a home button, expert testimonies and action shots captured on GoPros worn by the team as they work on the rescue.

Why It Works

Immersive fire safety training can be delivered over and over without causing any additional wear and tear on personal protective equipment (PPE) and response equipment. In addition, the virtual training means that all equipment and vehicles remain available in the event of an emergency.

A simulated emergency situation allows firefighters to test their abilities without incurring any risk. 360-degree video allows first responders to see the situation from all angles and the highly visual nature encourages greater retention compared to text-based training manuals.



Scenes from a 360VR fire and rescue training created by Video Interact.



3. Virtual Events

Why It Works

By creating an immersive learning experience, the event and educational content feels customized to each visitor and remains top-of mind.

Attendees can “walk” around at their own pace. Background audio and sound effects add to the immersive effect.

The virtual nature of the experience means it can remain live on CISC RP’s site, which provides the opportunity for continued engagement past the event date. Visitors can come back to a booth at any time to review resources and watch videos at their own pace. The potential for continued leads is a huge value-add for exhibitors.

A virtual experience still allows for interactions like videos, links to inquiry forms or calendar invites to schedule meetings with sales reps, and more.

CISC RP was able to maintain their in-person attendance and exhibitor rate, despite the switch to a virtual solution. The organization even gained more exhibitors for their second virtual event and achieved a 40% cost reduction over the cost of live events.



4. User Education

Take a look at these two unique ways to use immersive learning to educate potential customers or users of your products.

Patient Education

To encourage more adults to get regular colonoscopies, Thomas Jefferson University created an interactive immersive learning module using CenarioVR, a virtual reality authoring tool, that guides patients through the exam process to get them more comfortable with it.



The immersive experience helps patients know exactly what to expect before they come in.

Colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer in the United States, but it is also among the most preventable. Colonoscopies, which can detect early signs of cancer, are the gold standard for colon cancer prevention, yet many adults avoid undergoing this procedure.

Why It Works

Taking patients through the experience virtually beforehand increases their comfort level and awareness of the procedure. This makes them more likely to schedule and complete their colonoscopy.

Delivering this same introduction and walk-through in person at a hospital or doctor's office would be impossible due to scheduling and logistical constraints. With a virtual experience, anyone can familiarize themselves with the procedure from the comfort of their home.

According to a Thomas Jefferson University Hospital patient survey, 57% of patients found the module to be “extremely helpful,” while 14% found it “very helpful.” 71% of participants also agreed with this statement “I have sufficient knowledge of the colonoscopy procedure,” a 19% increase over findings on the pre-survey. Due to the success of the initiative, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital decided to roll out a similar module for mammograms.