

Course Management Systems

Software Evaluation and Selection Criteria

CMS Evaluation and Selection Criteria

- Why aren't we using this?
- Whose idea was this?
- Evaluation process
- Resources
- Costs

Needs Assessment

- Determine the purpose - Rossett (1987)
- Identify sources
- Select tools
- Gather information
- Decision making

Evaluation Process

- Identify products
- Choose features
- Apply weighting criteria
- Assign scores
- Make a decision
- <http://www.edutools.info>

Identify Products

- [Angel 5.5](#)
- [Anlon 4.1](#)
- [ATutor 1.1](#)
- [Avilar WebMentor 4.0](#)
- [Bazaar 7](#)
- [Blackboard 6](#)
- [BSCW 4.0.6](#)
- [CentraOne 6.0](#)
- [Claroline 1.2.0](#)
- [Click2Learn Aspen 2.0](#)
- [Colloquia 1.3.2](#)
- [COSE 2.051](#)
- [Desire2Learn](#)
- [eCollege AU+](#)
- [Educator](#)
- [EduSystem](#)
- [Eledge 1.2](#)

- [Embanet Hosting](#)
- [FirstClass 7.1](#)
- [Fle3](#)
- [Internet Course Assistant 2.0](#)
- [IntraLearn SME 3.1.2](#)
- [Janison Toolbox 6.2](#)
- [Jenzabar Internet Solution 1.03](#)
- [Jones e-education V2002](#)
- [KnowEdge eLearning Suite](#)
- [Manhattan Virtual Classroom](#)
- [Mimerdesk 1.5.3.1](#)
- [Moodle 1.0.8.1](#)
- [The Learning Manager 3.2](#)
- [Theorix 3.3](#)
- [Virtual-U 2.5](#)
- [WebCT 3.8](#)

Choose Features

- Learner Tools
- Support Tools
- Technical Specifications

Learner Tools

- Communication Tools
- Productivity Tools
- Student Involvement Tools

Learner Tools

- Communication Tools
- Productivity Tools
- Student Involvement Tools
- Discussion
- File Exchange
- Internal Email
- Journal/Notes
- Chat
- Video Services
- Whiteboard

Learner Tools

- Communication Tools
- Productivity Tools
- Student Involvement Tools
- Bookmarks
- Calendar
- Progress Review
- Search Engine
- Help/Tutorial
- Work Offline/
Synchronize

Learner Tools

- Communication Tools
- Productivity Tools
- Student Involvement Tools
- Group work
- Self-assessment
- Student Community Building
- Student Portfolios

Support Tools

- Administration Tools
- Course Delivery Tools
- Curriculum Design

Support Tools

- Administration Tools
- Course Delivery Tools
- Curriculum Design
- Authentication
- Course Authorization
- Hosted Services
- Registration Integration

Support Tools

- Administration Tools
- Curriculum Design
- Course Delivery Tools
- Accessibility Compliance
- Course Templates
- Curriculum Mgmt
- Customized Look
- Design Tools
- Standards

Support Tools

- Administration Tools
- Curriculum Design
- Course Delivery Tools
- Automated Testing and Scoring
- Course Management
- Instructor Helpdesk
- Online Grading Tools
- Student Tracking

Technical Specifications

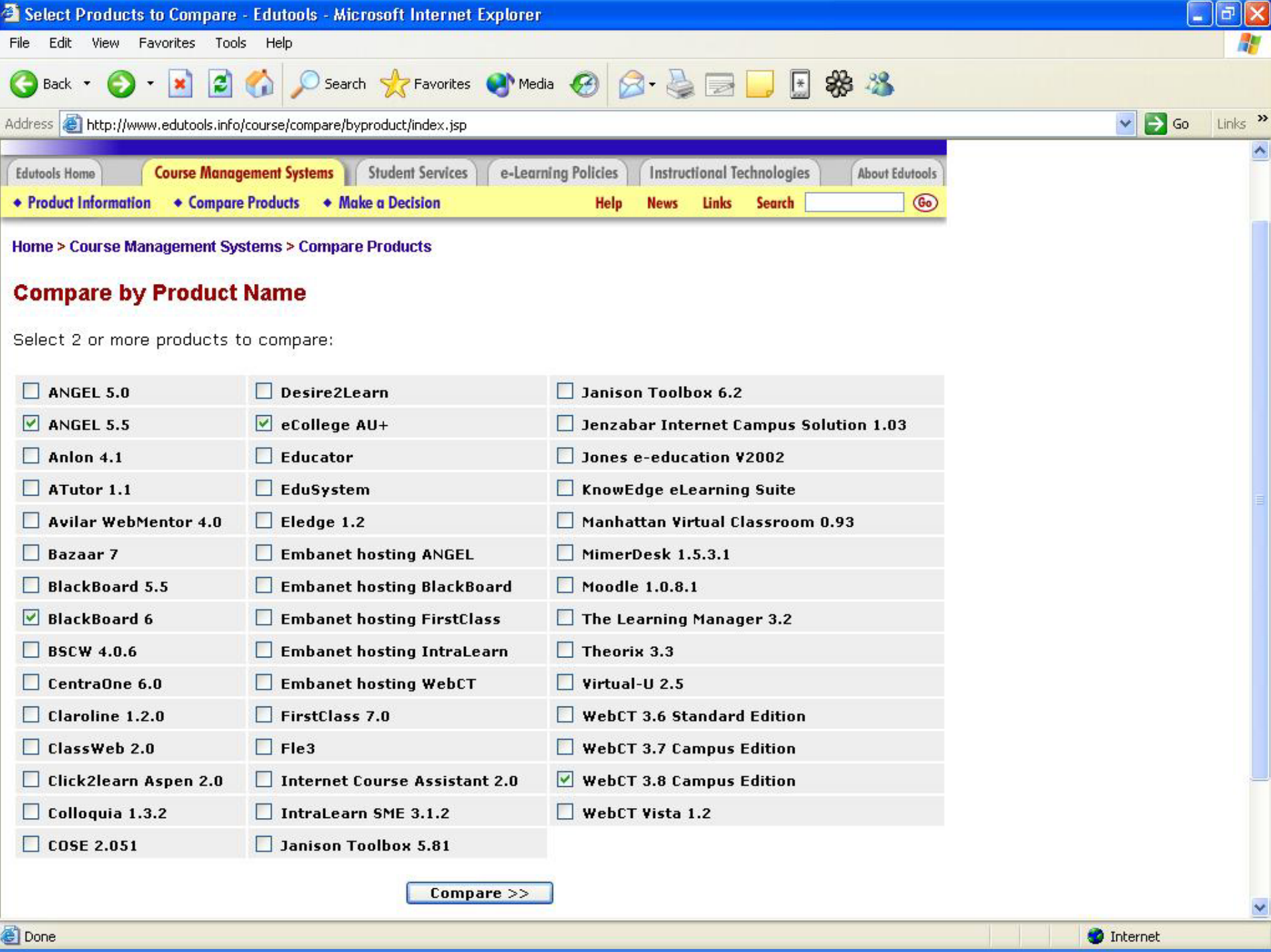
- Hardware/Software
- Pricing/Licensing

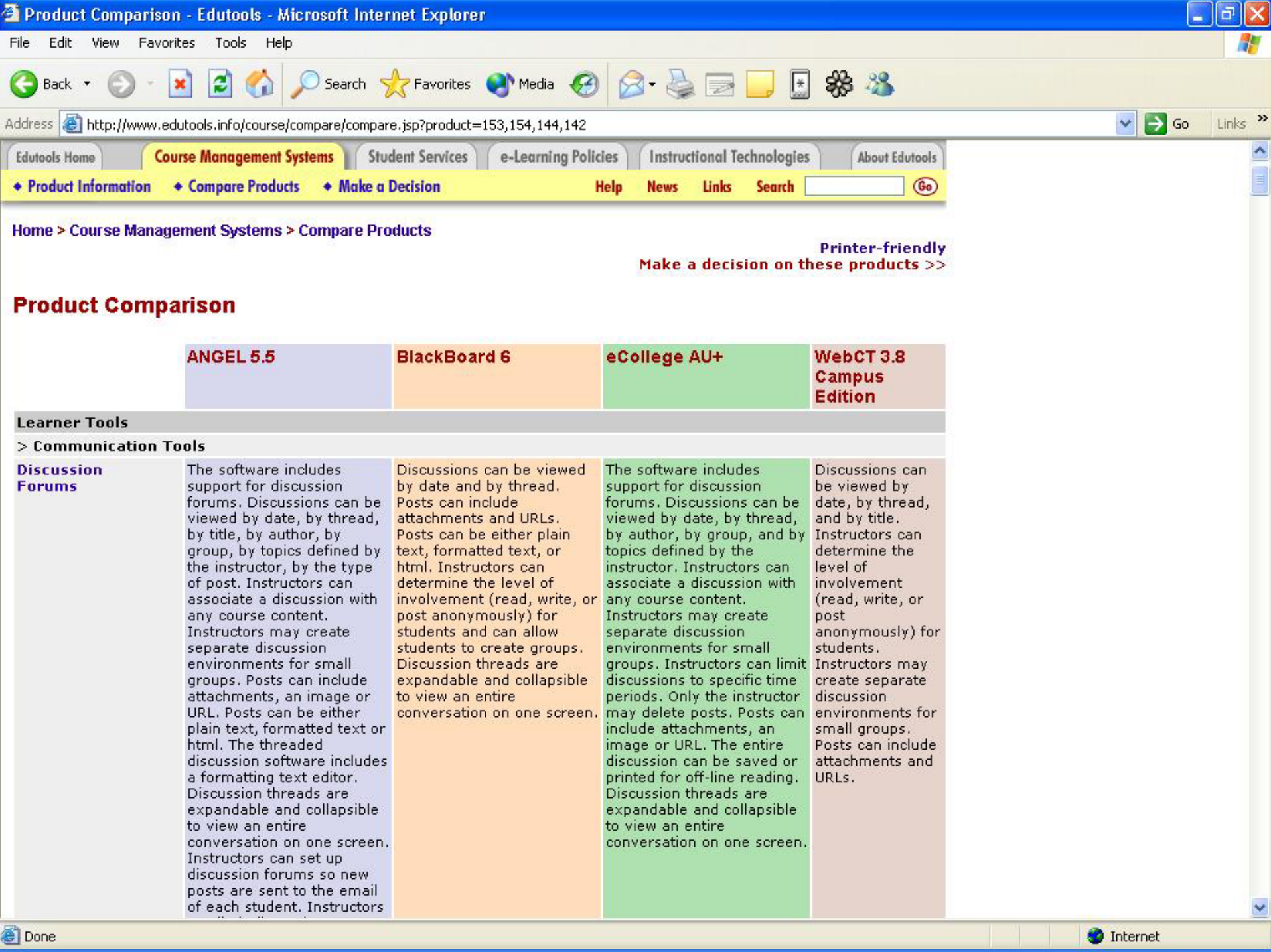
Technical Specifications

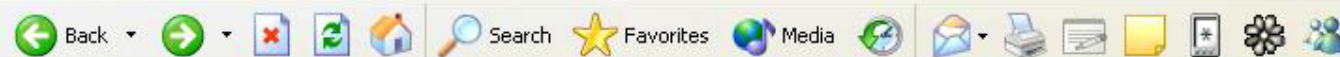
- Hardware/Software
- Pricing/Licensing
- Client Browser
- Database Requirements
- Server Software
- UNIX Server
- Windows Server
- Linux Server

Technical Specifications

- Hardware/Software
- Pricing/Licensing
- Company Profile
- Cost
- Open Source
- Optional Extras
- Software Version







Address http://www.edutools.info/course/decision/index.jsp

Go Links >>

The **Edutools Decision Engine** is most useful if you are already familiar with the products and features you wish to compare.

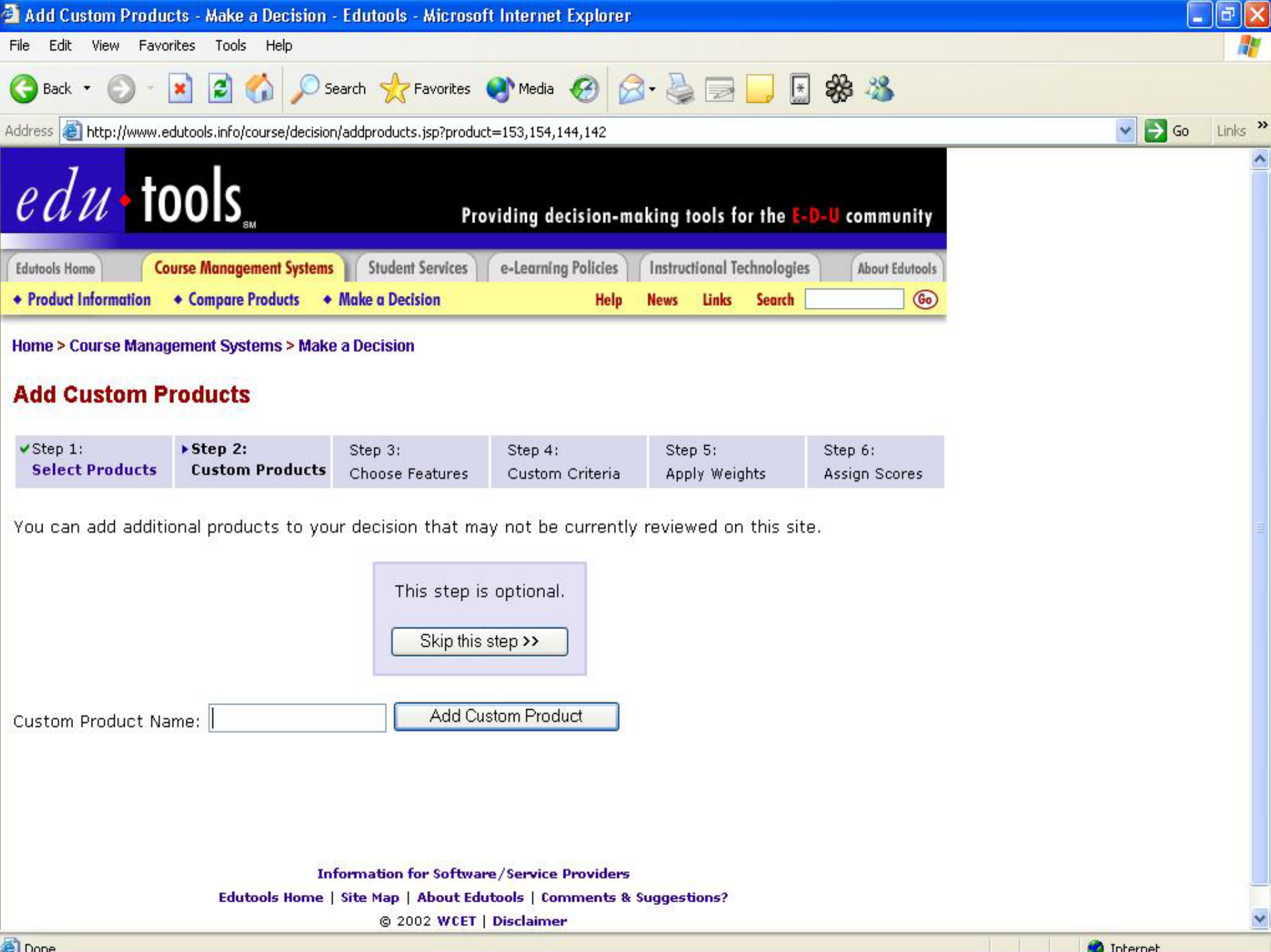
The goal of the decision tool is to give the user a rational decision making process to assist in selecting a course management system. [Read more about the Edutools Decision Engine](#)

► Step 1: Select Products	Step 2: Custom Products	Step 3: Choose Features	Step 4: Custom Criteria	Step 5: Apply Weights	Step 6: Assign Scores
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Select products that you want to include in your decision:

<input type="checkbox"/> ANGEL 5.0	<input type="checkbox"/> Desire2Learn	<input type="checkbox"/> Janison Toolbox 6.2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ANGEL 5.5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> eCollege AU+	<input type="checkbox"/> Jenzabar Internet Campus Solution 1.03
<input type="checkbox"/> Anlon 4.1	<input type="checkbox"/> Educator	<input type="checkbox"/> Jones e-education V2002
<input type="checkbox"/> ATutor 1.1	<input type="checkbox"/> EduSystem	<input type="checkbox"/> KnowEdge eLearning Suite
<input type="checkbox"/> Avilar WebMentor 4.0	<input type="checkbox"/> Eledge 1.2	<input type="checkbox"/> Manhattan Virtual Classroom 0.93
<input type="checkbox"/> Bazaar 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Embanet hosting ANGEL	<input type="checkbox"/> MimerDesk 1.5.3.1
<input type="checkbox"/> BlackBoard 5.5	<input type="checkbox"/> Embanet hosting BlackBoard	<input type="checkbox"/> Moodle 1.0.8.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BlackBoard 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Embanet hosting FirstClass	<input type="checkbox"/> The Learning Manager 3.2
<input type="checkbox"/> BSCW 4.0.6	<input type="checkbox"/> Embanet hosting IntraLearn	<input type="checkbox"/> Theorix 3.3
<input type="checkbox"/> CentraOne 6.0	<input type="checkbox"/> Embanet hosting WebCT	<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual-U 2.5
<input type="checkbox"/> Claroline 1.2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> FirstClass 7.0	<input type="checkbox"/> WebCT 3.6 Standard Edition
<input type="checkbox"/> ClassWeb 2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> Fle3	<input type="checkbox"/> WebCT 3.7 Campus Edition
<input type="checkbox"/> Click2learn Aspen 2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> Internet Course Assistant 2.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WebCT 3.8 Campus Edition
<input type="checkbox"/> Colloquia 1.3.2	<input type="checkbox"/> IntraLearn SME 3.1.2	<input type="checkbox"/> WebCT Vista 1.2
<input type="checkbox"/> COSE 2.051	<input type="checkbox"/> Janison Toolbox 5.81	

[Next >>](#)



Select Features - Make a Decision - Edutools - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back

Search

Favorites

Media

Addresshttp://www.edutools.info/course/decision/selectfeatures.jsp?product=153,154,144,142GoLinks

Step 1:
Select Products

Step 2:
Custom Products

Step 3:
Choose Features

Step 4:
Custom Criteria

Step 5:
Apply Weights

Step 6:
Assign Scores

Select features below that are important to your decision:Next >>

Learner Tools

> Communication Tools

☒ Discussion Forums

☐ File Exchange

☒ Internal Email

☐ Online Journal/Notes

☒ Real-time Chat

☐ Video Services

☐ Whiteboard

> Productivity Tools

☐ Bookmarks

☒ Calendar/Progress Review

☐ Orientation/Help

☐ Searching Within Course

☐ Work Offline/Synchronize

> Student Involvement Tools

☒ Groupwork

☐ Self-assessment

☐ Student Community Building

☐ Student Portfolios

Support Tools

> Administration Tools

☒ Authentication

☐ Course Authorization

☐ Hosted Services

☒ Registration Integration

> Course Delivery Tools

☒ Automated Testing and Scoring

☐ Course Management

☐ Instructor Helpdesk

☒ Online Grading Tools

☒ Student Tracking

> Curriculum Design

☒ Accessibility Compliance

☐ Course Templates

☐ Curriculum Management

☒ Customized Look and Feel

☐ Instructional Design Tools

☒ Instructional Standards Compliance

Technical Specifications

> Hardware/Software

☐ Client Browser Required

☐ Database Requirements

☐ Server Software

☒ Unix Server

☐ Windows Server

> Pricing/Licensing

☐ Company Profile

☒ Costs

☐ Open Source

☐ Optional Extras

☐ Software Version

Next >>

Internet

[Home](#) > [Course Management Systems](#) > [Make a Decision](#)

Add Custom Criteria

✓ Step 1: Select Products	✓ Step 2: Custom Products	✓ Step 3: Choose Features	▶ Step 4: Custom Criteria	Step 5: Apply Weights	Step 6: Assign Scores
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You can add custom criteria to your decision that may be unique to your institution or situation.

This step is optional.

[Skip this step >>](#)

Custom Criteria: [Add Custom Criteria](#)

Information for Software/Service Providers

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Apply custom weights to your selected features:

Weight	Feature
<input type="text" value="1"/>	Accessibility Compliance
<input type="text" value="2"/>	Authentication
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Automated Testing and Scoring
<input type="text" value="5"/>	Calendar/Progress Review
<input type="text" value="20"/>	Costs
<input type="text" value="8"/>	Customized Look and Feel
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Discussion Forums
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Groupwork
<input type="text" value="9"/>	Instructional Standards Compliance
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Internal Email
<input type="text" value="15"/>	Online Grading Tools
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Real-time Chat

Weights allow you to make some features more important than others in your decision. Assign weights based on the relative importance of each feature. Weights are relative to each other - there is no scale.

In the example below, Feature B is twice as important in your decision as Feature A. Feature C is 30 times as important as Feature A and 15 times as important as Feature B.

Example:

Weight	Feature
1	Feature A
2	Feature B
30	Feature C

Equal weights mean that the features are equally important in your decision.

The weights you choose now can be adjusted later.



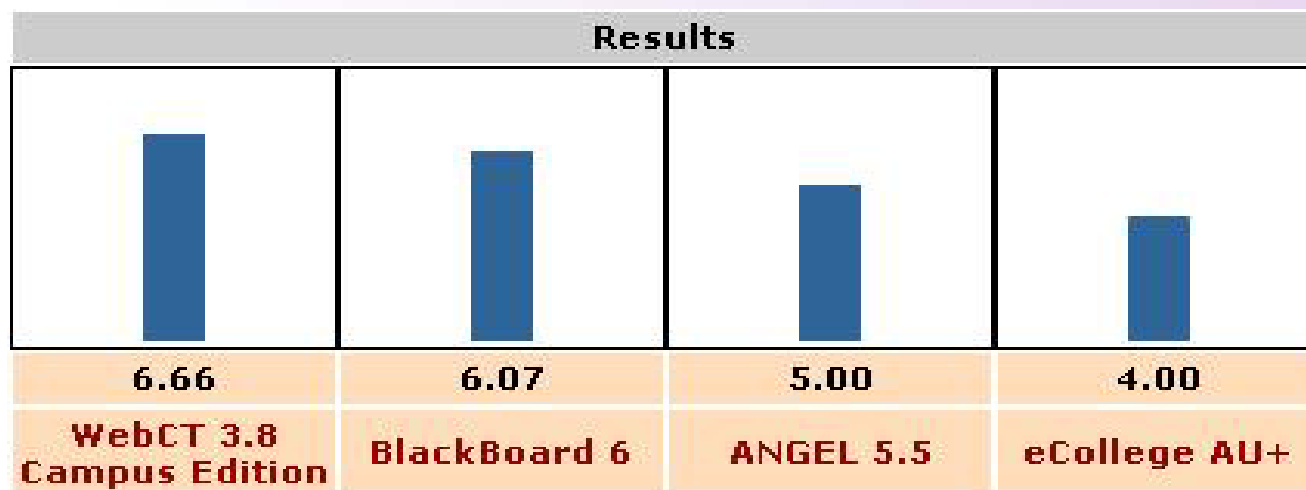
Decision Results

WebCT 3.8 Campus Edition is the numerical winner. Based on your criteria, weights and suitability scores, **WebCT 3.8 Campus Edition has a weighted average score of 6.66 out of 9**. You can adjust the values below to see if a change will affect the outcome.

[▶ View a comparison of these products and features](#)

		WebCT 3.8 Campus Edition	BlackBoard 6	ANGEL 5.5	eCollege AU+
Weights	Features	Suitability scores			
<input type="text" value="1"/>	Accessibility Compliance	<input type="text" value="4"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="2"/>	Authentication	<input type="text" value="8"/>	<input type="text" value="7"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Automated Testing and Scoring	<input type="text" value="6"/>	<input type="text" value="6"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="5"/>	Calendar/Progress Review	<input type="text" value="7"/>	<input type="text" value="6"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="20"/>	Costs	<input type="text" value="3"/>	<input type="text" value="3"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="8"/>	Customized Look and Feel	<input type="text" value="8"/>	<input type="text" value="6"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Discussion Forums	<input type="text" value="9"/>	<input type="text" value="7"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Groupwork	<input type="text" value="8"/>	<input type="text" value="8"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="9"/>	Instructional Standards Compliance	<input type="text" value="6"/>	<input type="text" value="8"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Internal Email	<input type="text" value="9"/>	<input type="text" value="7"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="15"/>	Online Grading Tools	<input type="text" value="8"/>	<input type="text" value="6"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Real-time Chat	<input type="text" value="7"/>	<input type="text" value="7"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="8"/>	Registration Integration	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Student Tracking	<input type="text" value="6"/>	<input type="text" value="8"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="text" value="4"/>	Unix Server	<input type="text" value="9"/>	<input type="text" value="3"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
<input type="button" value="Recalculate Results"/>					

Decisions Makers



- Functional area representation
- Discipline specific
- Constituent buy-in

LMS Team

- Learning Systems Manager (ITS-ET)
- Instructional Designers/Technology Specialists (ITS-ET)
- Instructional Developer (Continuing Education)
- Computer Consulting Center Manager (ITS-US)
- UNIX System Administrator (ITS-NS)
- Data Access Programmer (ITS-IS)
- Research/Development (ITS-ET)

E-learning Advisory Group

- Student representative
- College representation
- Information Technology
- Continuing Education
- Rod Library

Expenses

- Initial costs
- Recurring costs
- Hardware
- Personnel

Support Model

- Centralized support
- Distributed support
- Virtual 24x7

System Integration

- Naming conventions
- Portal access
- Registration
- Semester transition

Comments and Questions

- Evaluation process
- Resources
- Costs

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