2008 EXTREME WEB DESIGNER AWARD

JUDGING PROCESS:

STEP 1: Short Listing

The top 15 website from Google and Yahoo search of the competition terms - "CityU Web Hacker" Dogs Cats – were short listed at noon time on 14 Nov 2008 (competition deadline). This resulted in 9 qualified sites (some of the eliminated sites were blogs, forums, bookmarks, etc):

1. courses.cs.cityu.edu.hk/cs3382/50778215/cityu_web_hacker/dogs_cats/
2. cityu-web-hacker-dogs-cats.cubeforge.net
3. cityuwebhackerdogscats.gvt.hk
4. cityuwebhackerdogscats.omouth.net
5. cityuwebhackerdogscats.hea.hk
6. cityuwebhackerdogscats.winsonli.com
7. cityuwebhackerdogscats.dogs.hk
8. courses.cs.cityu.edu.hk/cs3382/50779003/cityu_web_hacker_dogs_cats/
9. www.cityuwebhacker.com

STEP 2: XHTML Validation

To be fair, all sites were validated against the XHTML 1.1 standard which was standardized back in May 2001. The judges felt that using old XHTML 1.0 standard is a sign that the website is not up-to-date. Out of the 9 sites, only 5 sites passed the test:

1. cityuwebhackerdogscats.gvt.hk
2. cityuwebhackerdogscats.omouth.net
3. cityuwebhackerdogscats.hea.hk
4. cityuwebhackerdogscats.winsonli.com
5. www.cityuwebhacker.com

STEP 3: CSS Validation

Then we performed CSS validation, all the remaining 5 sites passed CSS validation.

STEP 4: Frames/Tables Check

All 5 sites did not use frames or tables for layout, techniques that are no longer used for usability and SEO reasons.

STEP 5: Accessibility Check

WAI Accessibility Level was checked using automatic software checkers. All 5 sites received "A" level ranking – the basic ranking. Only one site was able to get "AAA" ranking – the best accessibility ranking:

- cityuwebhackerdogscats.gvt.hk

STEP 6: Accessible Forms and Tables

All 5 sites were checked to see if their forms and data tables were accessible. All sites passed this test with one site having minor coding problem for data table:

- cityuwebhackerdogscats.omouth.net

STEP 7: Screen Reader

To make sure that people with visual disabilities were able to access the websites in a user friendly manner, each of the 5 sites were checked using a screen reader. All the sites passed this test, i.e. contents were read in logical order. Unfortunately, only one site had "skip" links:

- www.cityuwebhacker.com

STEP 8: Web 2.0 Style Check

All 5 sites were then checked against Web 2.0 style guidelines. Unfortunately, only one site had recognizable Web 2.0 visual style:

- cityuwebhackerdogscats.hea.hk

STEP 9: Final Judging

None of the 5 sites were perfect in all categories. However, three of the sites were able to get top listing in both Google and Yahoo. The judges consider this to be an important factor for successful Web marketing. These three sites are considered to be "Excellent Award" winners:

- cityuwebhackerdogscats.gvt.hk
- cityuwebhackerdogscats.hea.hk
- cityuwebhackerdogscats.winsonli.com

The remaining 2 sites are "Award" winners:

- cityuwebhackerdogscats.omouth.net
- www.cityuwebhacker.com

STEP 10: Winners

In total, 8 students will be receiving awards:

"Excellent Award" winners:

- cityuwebhackerdogscats.gvt.hk
    - **Anthony, Lau Wai Ho**
    - **Chris, Lam Jung Yu**

- cityuwebhackerdogscats.hea.hk
    - **Alfred Sung**
    - **Karl Mok**

- cityuwebhackerdogscats.winsonli.com
    - **Winson Li**

"Award" winners:

- cityuwebhackerdogscats.omouth.net
    - **Simon Lau**
    - **Victor Mok**

- www.cityuwebhacker.com
    - **AU Yam Shek, Roy**

Congratulations to winners and we applaud all students who joined – we know it was not easy. Awards will be presented 21 November 2008 at LT-9 at 7:30pm.