

HACHETTE MULTIMEDIA ENCYCLOPEDIA ("EHM") PROJECT/PRODUCT CHRONOLOGY

Premises

1990	Hachette "electronic" Dictionary on CD-ROM: Zyzomys
1992	Hachette electronic Dictionary on Franklin and Sony devices
1994	Hachette multimedia Dictionary on CD-ROM (complement to the Hachette Axis print dictionary)
1994	Hachette multimedia Dictionary on CD-i (coproduced with Philips)
1995	Hachette multimedia Dictionary on CD-ROM (1st of kind to be sold to the general public in retail outlets)

May 1995 **Creation of the "Multimedia Encyclopedias & Dictionaries " division at Hachette Livre**

1st version of the Hachette Multimedia Encyclopedia ("EHM") on CD-ROM

July 1995 **Advisability & feasibility studies. 1st round of requirements specification, budget & schedule**

Sept 1995	"Go ahead" from the Lagardère Group's top management
Oct 1995	Editorial & functional requirements specifications. Detailed budget and schedule.
Oct 1995	Implementation & deployment of editorial tools (data engineering --> back-office)
Oct 1995	Setting up of the editorial & technical teams
Nov 1995	Start of the editorial part of the project
Nov 1995	Search for a suitable software development company
Jan 1996	Choice of developer
1Q1996	Software functional & graphic design specifications
Apr 1996	Start of the software development and media creation parts of the project
Jun 1997	Critical review of the 1st version of the product --> decision to delay launch
Jul 1997	Start of task of proofreading/correcting the texts of the encyclopedia
Jul 1997	Start of task of improving the interface and performance of the software
4Q1997-1Q98	Final testing and bug fixing cycle

March 1998 **Launch of the 1st version of the EHM on CD-ROM**

2nd version of the EHM on CD-ROM : enhancement of the software & addition of an "Extensions" CD-ROM

Apr 1998	Requirements specification for the 2nd version of the EHM
May 1998	Start of the software enhancement project
Jun 1998	(Internal) production of the "Extensions" CD-ROM with 3 text-only dictionaries
Sep 1998	Launch of the 2nd version of the EHM on 2 CD-ROMs: EHM 99

3rd version of the EHM on CD-ROM & DVD-ROM: 2x media & complete redesign of the software

Oct 1998	Requirements specification for the 3rd version of the EHM
Nov 1998	Setting up of an internal software development team
Dec 1998	Extension of the editorial team and start of a new media project
1Q1999	Internal development of an intranet version of the EHM, intended as a tool for the editors
1-3Q1999	Internal development of the 3rd version of the EHM, incorporating updates via the Internet
3Q1999	Internal development of the 1st "Hachette Encyclopedia" website
Nov 1999	Launch of the 3rd version of the EHM on 2 CD-ROMs & DVD-ROM: EHM 2000
Jan 2000	Major downsizing of internal development & data engineering teams

4th, 5th, 6th & 7th versions of the EHM on CD/DVD-ROM + multiple web versions of the EHM

Aug 2000	Launch of the 4th version of the EHM on CD/DVD-ROM: EHM 2001
Sep 2000	Online EHM open to the public (free of charge) on Club Internet
Oct 2000	Online EHM open to the public (free of charge) on Wanadoo & Voila
Mar 2001	Online EHM open to the public (free of charge) on Yahoo! France
Aug 2001	Launch of the 5th version of the EHM on CD/DVD-ROM: EHM 2002
Oct 2001	Online EHM open to subscribers on AOL France
Dec 2001	Online EHM open to the public (free of charge) on the "Hachette Encyclopedia" website
Apr 2002	Online EHM "Pro" (fee-based) open to subscribers in institutions (schools, libraries, etc.)
Aug 2002	Launch of the 6th version of the EHM on CD/DVD-ROM: EHM 2003
Jun 2003	Switch to "subscribers only" mode for the online EHM on Club Internet
Aug 2003	Launch of the 7th version of the EHM on CD/DVD-ROM: EHM 2004
Nov 2003	End of service of the online EHM (free of charge) on the "Hachette Encyclopedia" website
Nov 2003	Switch to "fee-based" mode for the online EHM on Wanadoo & Voila
Nov 2003	End of service of the online EHM (subscribers only) on AOL France
Jan 2004	Opening of the "Digital Kiosk for Education" (KNE), distributor of the online EHM "Pro" --> schools, libraries
Feb 2004	End of service of the online EHM (fee-based) on Wanadoo & Voila
Feb 2004	End of service of the online EHM (free of charge) on Yahoo! France

8th, 9th & 10th versions of the EHM on CD/DVD-ROM & online: complete redesign/redevelopment

May 2004	External development and deployment of new editorial tools (back office for editors)
Aug 2004	Launch of the 8th version of the EHM on CD/DVD-ROM: EHM 2005 (external development)
May 2005	New online, fee-based EHM (derived from the new CD/DVD-ROM) open to the public
Aug 2005	Launch of the 9th version of the EHM on CD/DVD-ROM: EHM 2006
Jun 2006	End of service of the online EHM (subscribers only) on Club Internet

Aug 2006 **Launch of the 10th and final version of the EHM on CD/DVD-ROM: EHM 2007**

Final stages: cost reduction & progressive end of life of product (with re-use of assets)

	Major downsizing (virtually to a single person) of the team in charge of the EHM
	Continuation of sales of the EHM 2007 on CD/DVD-ROM as long as there is demand
2007	EHM 2007 DVD-ROM selected to equip 120,000 portable PCs --> junior high schools in Marseille region
	Continuation of online EHM content updates as long as the reduced team is still available
	Final "editorial freeze" of the EHM, on November 30, 2007 (no more updates beyond that date)
	Use of part of the EHM editorial assets : 20-volume print encyclopedia "bundled" with TV magazine
2008	Reuse by Larousse of part of the EHM text content to enhance its own online encyclopedia!
	Continuation of service of the online, fee-based EHM but no more subscriptions accepted as of 1/10/2008
2009	Scheduled end of service of the online EHM on 30/9/2009 (end of site hosting contract)
Feb 2010	Actual end of service of the online EHM :-)