

High-Tech Invention Allows People Who Are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing to Freely Communicate with the Hearing World

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla., Sept. 22 /PRNewswire/ -- A new software program that converges the spoken word, sign language, and written text to create a personal information highway for persons who are deaf or hard-of-hearing is on the market. The iCommunicator(TM) gives persons with hearing loss the opportunity to comprehend and respond through two-way, multisensory communication in situations where an interpreter may be unavailable. See <http://www.mycommunicator.com>.

"The program converts, in real time, speech-to-text and video sign language, and produces computer-generated speech for transmission to personal assistive hearing devices," says Gail Rosenberg, Product Manager.

Rosenberg says it is the first advanced technology of its kind to incorporate a speech and voice recognition application that allows persons with hearing loss to communicate easily and independently with persons with normal hearing.

The program is used in K-12 education, post-secondary institutions, government, military, healthcare, agencies, and corporate settings primarily in the United States and Canada. It is a useful accommodation for daily workplace communication, ad hoc meetings, classroom applications, public venues such as libraries, and emergency situations.

According to Rosenberg, by design, the program delivers sign language in English word order to enhance relationships between spoken, written, and signed words, utilizing more than 9,200 video signs.

Dragon NaturallySpeaking(R) Professional, V.7.0, integrated with the latest version of iCommunicator (V.4.0), converts speech-to-text with a high rate of speed and accuracy. Clear speech input is essential for efficient translation. This is achieved using a wireless LightSPEED(R) FM (frequency modulation) system with a high quality noise canceling microphone to deliver speech to the computer.

Specialized features allow persons who are deaf or hard-of-hearing to customize the program. With a simple point and click, the *iText* tool provides immediate access to email, web pages, and other documents. Translated text can be saved as notes for future reference.

The iCommunicator program is compatible with Microsoft(R) accessibility options, and on a laptop computer becomes a portable communication access solution in multiple environments.

The iCommunicator is manufactured by Teltronics, Inc., Sarasota, FL, and distributed through 1450, Inc.'s reseller channels. For more information about iCommunicator, V.4.0, visit <http://www.mycommunicator.com> or call 888-933-0001.

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Web Site: <http://www.mycommunicator.com>