



VOICE

Voice Output Independence Consultation Evaluation

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WOW! THAT LOOKS *COOL!*

Navigating the confusing
world of speech generating
devices (SGDs)



Speech Generating Devices (SGDS)

- ▶ Speech, voice, language prosthesis
- ▶ Primary function is to provide expressive language as naturally as possible for appropriate SGD candidates

Today's workshop:

High Technology SGDs

- ▶ **Dynamic display** – touch sensitive screens
- ▶ Both **recorded** (digitized) and **synthesized** (text to speech) speech output
- ▶ Flexibility in **symbol sets** (text, photos, line drawings)
- ▶ Many allow for importation of **digital files**, including video, music and photo files
- ▶ **Internet access** and connectivity to externals
- ▶ **Environmental control**

How can you learn to be a *discerning consumer* of SGDs?



Especially when.....



We love



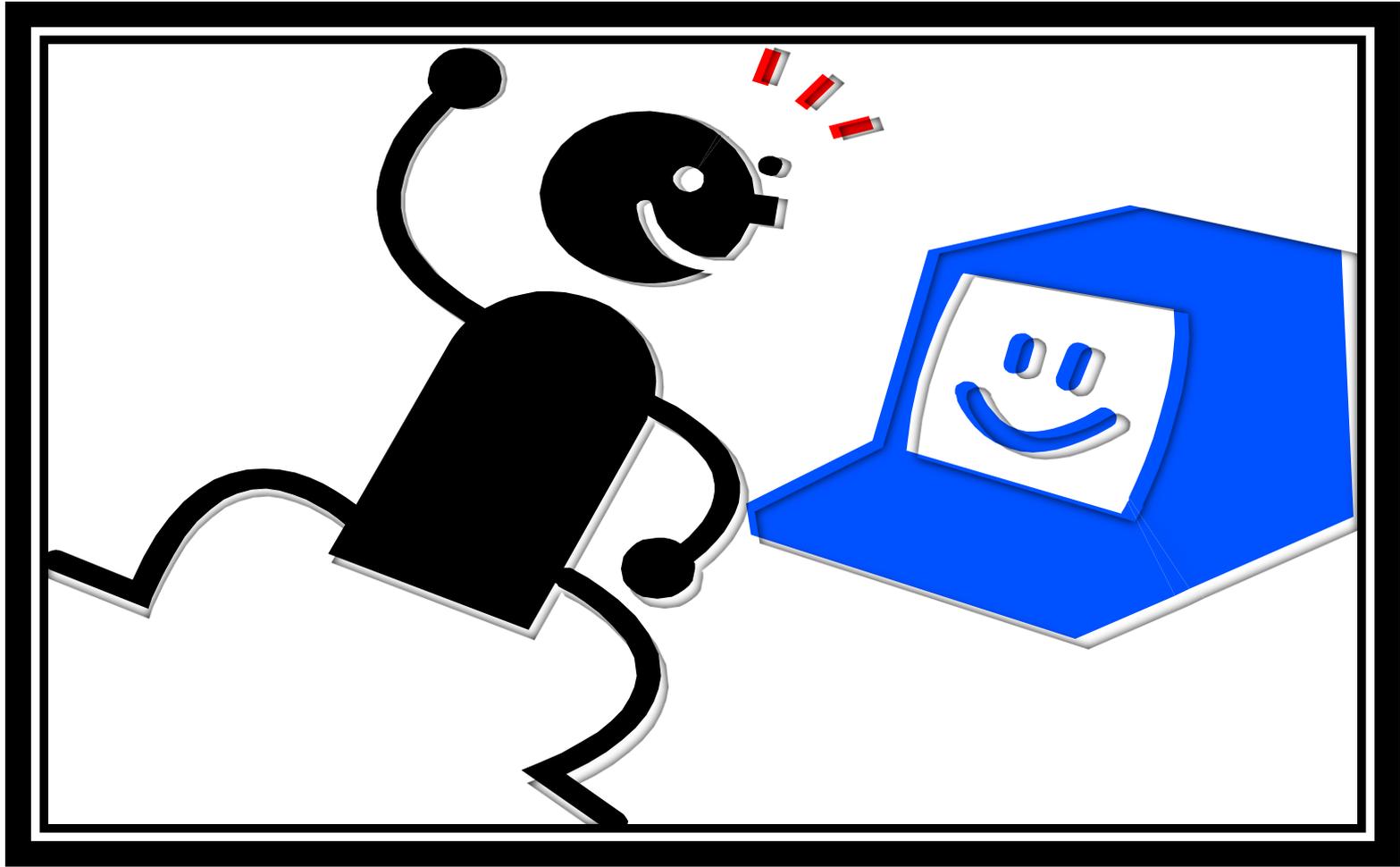
What is new



and shiny



New and shiny is best, right?



C.A.S.S.H.

CLINICAL ASSESSMENT (SLP)

ACCESS

SIZE

SOFTWARE

HARDWARE



CLINICAL ASSESSMENT (SLP)

- ▶ An appropriate match between an individual and an SGD must be determined in a *clinical assessment* process conducted by a speech and language pathologist and documented in a report
- ▶ Evaluations can be accomplished efficiently and effectively
- ▶ This is required by Medicaid and other insurances

ACCESS

- ▶ How is the user going to *access* the system?
- ▶ Examples: direct selection (finger, eye gaze, head pointer, stylus); scanning (auditory and or visual with a switch)
- ▶ *Access* includes vision, visual discrimination and hearing and well as fine and gross motor status

SIZE

- ▶ Access will determine *size* – it's as simple as that!
- ▶ We will address SGD class by *size* today

*S*SOFTWARE

- ▶ Once you have decided on size, you can decide on *software*
- ▶ Based on a potential user's needs
- ▶ (User profile) -> Assessment

HARDWARE

- ▶ Durability
- ▶ Weight
- ▶ External
- ▶ Screen type

SGDs based on *Size*

- ▶ Hand helds
- ▶ Tablet style – portable
- ▶ Tablet style – 10” screen
and larger

HAND HELDS



ALT-Chat Saltillo Corp Released: 2/09	Chat PC-Silk Saltillo Corp Released: 10/08	iPod Apple Released: 2008?	Xpress DynaVox Released: 9/09	Jive Possum Released: 7/10	Say-it Sam Communicator2 Words + Released: 2005
Weight: 2 lbs 8 oz	Weight: 12.5oz	Weight: 3.56 oz	Weight: 2 lbs with extended battery	Weight: 11.78 oz	Weight: 10 oz
Software: Palmchat Typing Icons	Software: Palmchat Typing Icons	Software: Mac Apps	Software: InterAACT Typing Icons	Software: IDV4Life Typing Icons	Software: Say-it! Sam Typing Icons

Partial software list only

TABLET STYLE – PORTABLE



<p>Vantage Lite Prentke Romich Released 9/08</p>	<p>C8 TobiiATI Released 10/09 <i>Integrated camera</i></p>	<p>DynaVox V Released 1/07</p>	<p>iPad Apple Released 2010</p>
<p>Weight: 3 lbs, 6 oz</p>	<p>Weight: 4 lbs</p>	<p>Weight: 4 lbs 11 oz</p>	<p>Weight: 1.5 lbs Released 2010</p>
<p>Software: Unity and Essence Icons w/ Unity Typing with Essence</p>	<p>Software: Communicator 4, SD Pro Icons Typing</p>	<p>Software: InterAACT, SD Pro Typing Icons</p>	<p>Software Mac apps</p>

Note: this is a partial list of software for all equipment

TABLET STYLE – 10” + screen



<p>C12 TobiiATI (Eye gaze w/ CEye) Released July 2009 <i>Integrated camera</i></p>	<p>Vanguard Plus Prentke Romich</p>	<p>ECO 2 Prentke Romich (Eye gaze w/Eco point) Released June 2007</p>	<p>DynaVox V Max (Eye gaze w/ Eye Max) Released June 2007</p>	<p>DynaVox Maestro Released October 2010 <i>Integrated camera</i></p>
<p>Weight – 6.5 lbs</p>	<p>Weight – 6 lbs</p>	<p>Weight – 6 lbs, 13 oz</p>	<p>Weight – 6 lbs, 14 oz</p>	<p>Weight – with extended battery – 3.45 lbs</p>

All software options are extensive

SOFTWARE APPS for Apple portables – the best so far

- ▶ User text to speech for independent spellers
 - Assistive Chat – 26.99
 - Speak it – 1.99

- ▶ Icon (photo and line drawing based)
 - ProLoQuo2Go – AssistiveWare – 189.99
 - MyTalk – MyTalkTools Mobile – 2nd Half Enterprises – 39.99 + monthly subscription fee

APP RESOURCES

- ▶ Everything is ordered via iTunes

<http://www.apple.com/itunes/download>

- ▶ iTunes is free, BUT the apps aren't:

<http://www.proloquo2go.com/buy/>

<http://mytalktools.com>

http://www.future-apps.net/main/Future_Apps.html

Find Assistive Chat on iTunes

Companies and representatives

DynaVox	Prentke Romich	TobiiATI	Saltillo	Words +
<p>Website: www.dynavoxtech.com 800 number: 866-396-2896 Rep and contact info: Sabrina Levesque (603) 657-4466 (800) 344-1778 ext 6547 Sabrina.Levesque@dynavoxtech.com</p>	<p>Website: www.prentrom.com 800 number: 800-262-1990 Rep and contact info: David Kay (518) 584-4650 800-262-1984 ext 430 Dmk.cons@prentrom.com</p>	<p>Website: www.tobiiATI.com 800 number: 800-793-9227 Rep and contact info: Chris LeBlanc (508) 207-6275 Chrisleblanc@tobiiati.com</p>	<p>Website: www.salttillo.com 800 number: 800-382-8622 Rep and contact info: Aaron Shute (805) 863-6985 aaron@salttillo.com</p>	<p>Website: www.words-plus.com 800 number: 800-869-8521 Rep and contact info: Bill Griffin 131 Daniel Webster Hwy. #469 Nashua, NH 03060 Phone: 603-475- 4762 E-Mail: empoweringaccess@comcast.net</p>

Excellent resource for side by side device feature comparisons

- ▶ <http://www.aactechconnect.com>
 - ▶ Over 100 SGDs of all types, light and high technology, digitized speech and synthesized
 - ▶ 14 day free trial, then you pay an annual subscription fee
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