

Assistive Technology and Service Resources

This information is a supplement to the Front Range PC Users Group (FRPCUG) (<http://www.frpcug.org>) presentation "Innovative Technology—It's Never 2 Late."

The following list is a *very small* sample of available technologies and services. For more information, use the words:

assistive technology

OR

adaptive technology

in the search field of your favorite search engine.

Please note that the two local service organizations listed below provide their services on a fee basis.

Technologies:

It's Never 2 Late: <http://in2l.com>

IN2L offers ". . . a full complement of services and solutions to ensure the success of your community and the lives of your elders."

Operating system compatibility: Windows

Freedom Scientific: <http://freedomscientific.com>

"Freedom Scientific is the world's leader in technology-based solutions for people with visual impairments . . . Freedom Scientific has also developed leading-edge products that enable the blind to have complete access to information and computing. In addition, Freedom Scientific is a leading developer of products specifically designed to assist persons with reading-related learning challenges."

Products include:

JAWS[®] screen reading software
PAC Mate Omni[™] accessible Pocket PC
MAGic[®] screen magnification software
Braille Displays

and many others.

Operating system compatibility: Windows

Nuance Communications, Inc.: <http://www.nuance.com>

Nuance has developed a product called ". . . Dragon Naturally Speaking, the world's best-selling speech recognition software." "Dragon Naturally Speaking works with the most commonly used desktop applications, including Microsoft Word, Internet Explorer, AOL"

The company sells this product to a number of industries for improving documentation productivity—not just to those needing assistance with using computers.

Operating system compatibility: Windows, MAC

NOTES: Windows Vista also has speech recognition technology, and there are other speech recognition software applications available. Not all speech recognition technologies provide assistance with *both* computer control *and* computer input.

AbleLink Technologies: <http://www.ablelinktech.com>

"AbleLink Technologies was founded in 1997 specifically to address the significant need for well-researched cognitive support technologies...."

AbleLink offers a number of handheld "solutions," for which the company claims that "In addition to being portable, powerful, and customizable to each user, handheld solutions from AbleLink parallel how a typical mainstream individual uses a handheld computer. A significant bonus is that AbleLink's handhelds all use off the shelf hardware and therefore carry no social stigma."

Operating system compatibility: Windows

Local Resources:

CSU Center for Community Partnerships
<http://www.ccp.colostate.edu/>
Cathy Schelly
Director, Center for Community Partnerships
Colorado State University
College of Applied Human Sciences
Department of Occupational Therapy
320 Occupational Therapy Building
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1573
970-491-5930

University of Colorado Health Sciences Center Assistive Technology Partners
<http://www.uchsc.edu/atp/>

Jim Sandstrum

Direct Services Coordinator

Assistive Technology Partners

University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center

Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Voice: (303) 315-1288

Fax: (303) 837-1208

This website, <http://www.at-partners.org/ATFunding>, also available from a link on the Assistive Technology Partners website, “. . . is a searchable online database tool. It is provided to assist Coloradoans with disabilities locate needed funding to purchase AT devices and services for their specific needs.”

Other Resources:

The Microsoft website has several resource pages:

Accessibility Solutions:

<http://www.microsoft.com/enable/>

Guides by Impairment:

<http://www.microsoft.com/enable/guides/default.aspx>

Resource Guide for Individuals with Dexterity Difficulties and Impairments:

<http://www.microsoft.com/enable/guides/dexterity.aspx>

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