



# Partners in Policymaking: Exploring Assistive Technology

Session presented by:

Carolyn Phillips, Director and PI, Tools for Life  
AMAC Accessibility Solutions and Research Center  
College of Architecture  
Georgia Institute of Technology

[www.amacusg.org](http://www.amacusg.org)



# Workshop Objectives



## **Participants (You) will be able to identify and explain:**

- Assistive technology (AT)
- AT in Legislation and Policy
- Your AT Act Program – Tools for Life
- AT solutions need to be considered in various settings
- Trends to track in AT

# Session Presenter



**Carolyn Phillips**  
**Assistive Technology Director**

Carolyn P. Phillips is nationally recognized in the field of assistive technology and disabilities. Carolyn serves as Director and Principal Investigator of Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology (AT) Act Program at Georgia Tech | AMAC.

# AMAC Accessibility



AMAC Accessibility is a social change organization on a mission to create affordable services for governmental, private and non-profits organization working with individuals with disabilities. Services include e-text, braille, captioning, assistive technology, office management software and consulting.



# Tools for Life Mission



We're here to help Georgians with disabilities gain access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services so they can live, learn, work, and play independently in the communities of their choice.



# Tools for Life

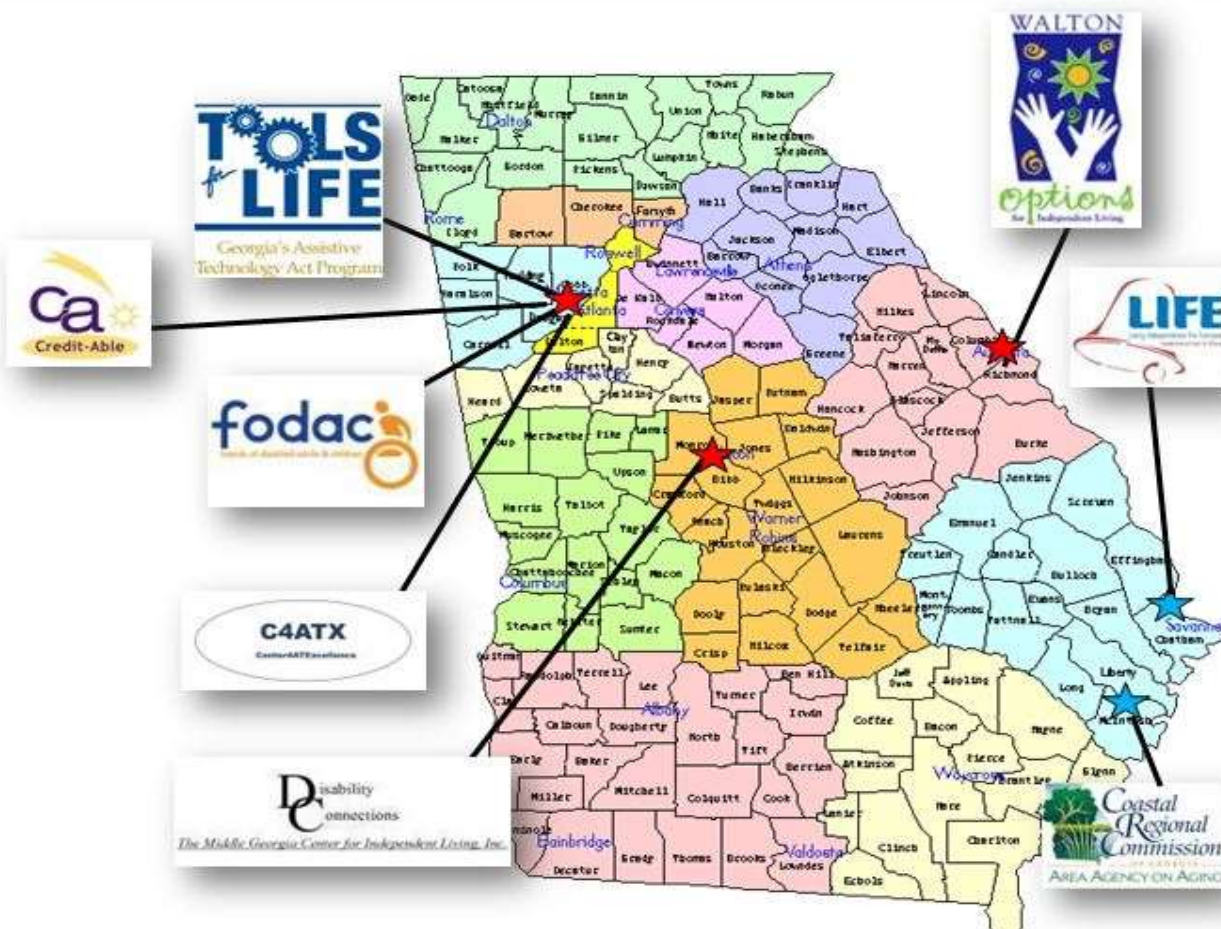
## Georgia's Federal AT Act Program



- TFL developed Georgia's Plan for AT
- We serve individuals of all ages & all disabilities in Georgia
  - Over 50,000 thru various activities throughout the year
- TFL Network
  - Assistive Technology Resource / Outreach Centers
  - Lending Libraries
  - Training and Demonstrations
  - AT Reuse
  - AT Funding Education/Assistance and Resources
- Online Resources
  - 5,000 unique visitors a month



# The TFL Network



# Come Visit Us!




Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

HOME ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TFL NETWORK CALENDAR OF EVENTS YouTube Facebook Search our Site Go

TRAINING  
FUNDING  
PUBLICATIONS  
TFL WIKI  
MEET THE TFL TEAM  
MEET THE ADVISORY COUNCIL  
DIRECTIONS/MAP  
JOIN OUR MAILING LIST  
SCHEDULE A TOUR

Welcome AT Services Try AT Get AT AT Guides Research

## Find Your AT Solutions



○ ● ● ● ● ●

### Welcome to Tools for Life

Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work and play independently and with greater freedom in communities of their choice.

### ATLANTA ABILITIES EXPO

## Abilities EXPO

MAR 14 Georgia World Congress Center Hall C4 Atlanta, GA

### WEBINARS


FEB 6 [Choosing Core AT Inventory for the Classroom](#)

FEB 18 [Two Peas in a Pod: IEP Objectives & Standards Based Instruction](#)

MAR 6 [TFL & Center for AT Excellence TBD](#)

- Current Webinar Schedule
- Webinar Archives

### TOOLS FOR LIFE APPFINDER



...for Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.



# What is Assistive Technology?

- Assistive Technology (AT) is any item or piece of equipment that is used to increase, maintain or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of life, including at school, at work, at home and in the community.
- Assistive Technology ranges from no/low/light tech to high tech devices or equipment.



# Defining Universal Design



- **Universal Design makes things *safer, easier and more convenient* for everyone.**
- Universal Design involves designing products and spaces so that they can be used by the widest range of people possible.

# In the Shadows...Mainstream



- Tim Cook, Apple Chief Executive
- 2013 speech at Auburn University
- ...people with disabilities are "in a struggle to have their human dignity acknowledged."
- "They're frequently left in the shadows of technological advancements that are a source of empowerment and attainment for others."

# Mainstream Example: Mobile/Smart Phones



- iPhone - mobile phone in the mainstream market.
- Apple included a screen reader in the IOS for every iPhone.
- Increased Access for everyone – especially individuals with disabilities
- Decreased Cost – not as costly as it would be for a company specializing on screen readers
- Moved us Out of the Shadows, Into the Light!

# iOS 8 – released in 2014

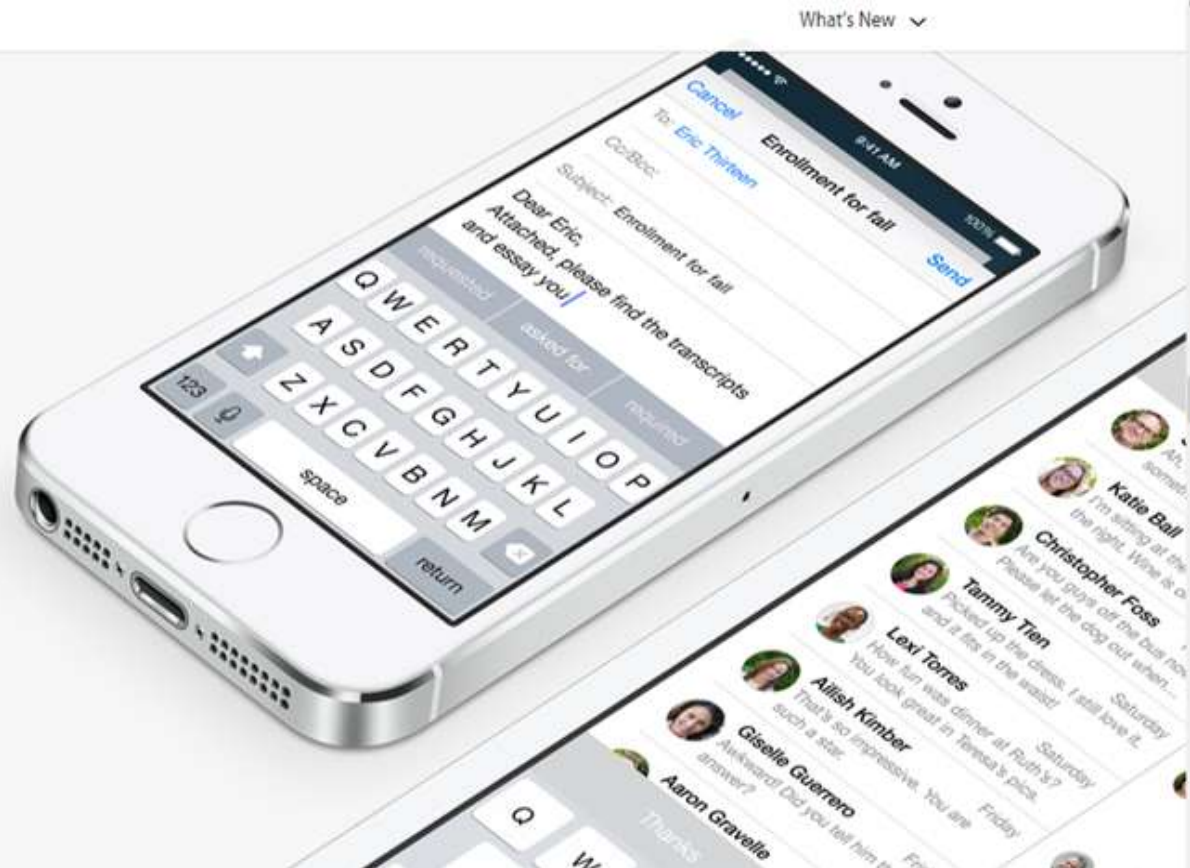
## iOS 8 Preview



Our smartest  
keyboard ever.

iOS 8 makes typing easier by suggesting contextually appropriate words to complete your sentences. It even recognizes to whom you're typing and whether you're in Mail or Messages. Because your tone in an email may be different from your tone in a message.

[Learn more >](#)





# Why Assistive Technology?

- For a person without a disability, technology makes things easier.
- For a person with a disability, technology makes things possible.



# Assistive Technology



## Assistive Technology Device

...any item, piece of equipment or product that is used to increase, maintain or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.

- Public Law 105-394 [29 USC 2201]

### Low/No-tech

- pencil grip
- adapted books
- slant board
- highlighters, tape
- magnifiers
- color coding
- read to out loud
- picture schedule
- strategies for memory
- colored transparencies
- Proof readers
- note taker

### Mid-Tech

- word prediction
- text to speech
- speech to text
- spell checkers
- talking calculators
- digital recorders
- organizers
- e-books
- adapted keyboard
- adapted mouse
- adapted toys
- CCTV
- apps under \$100

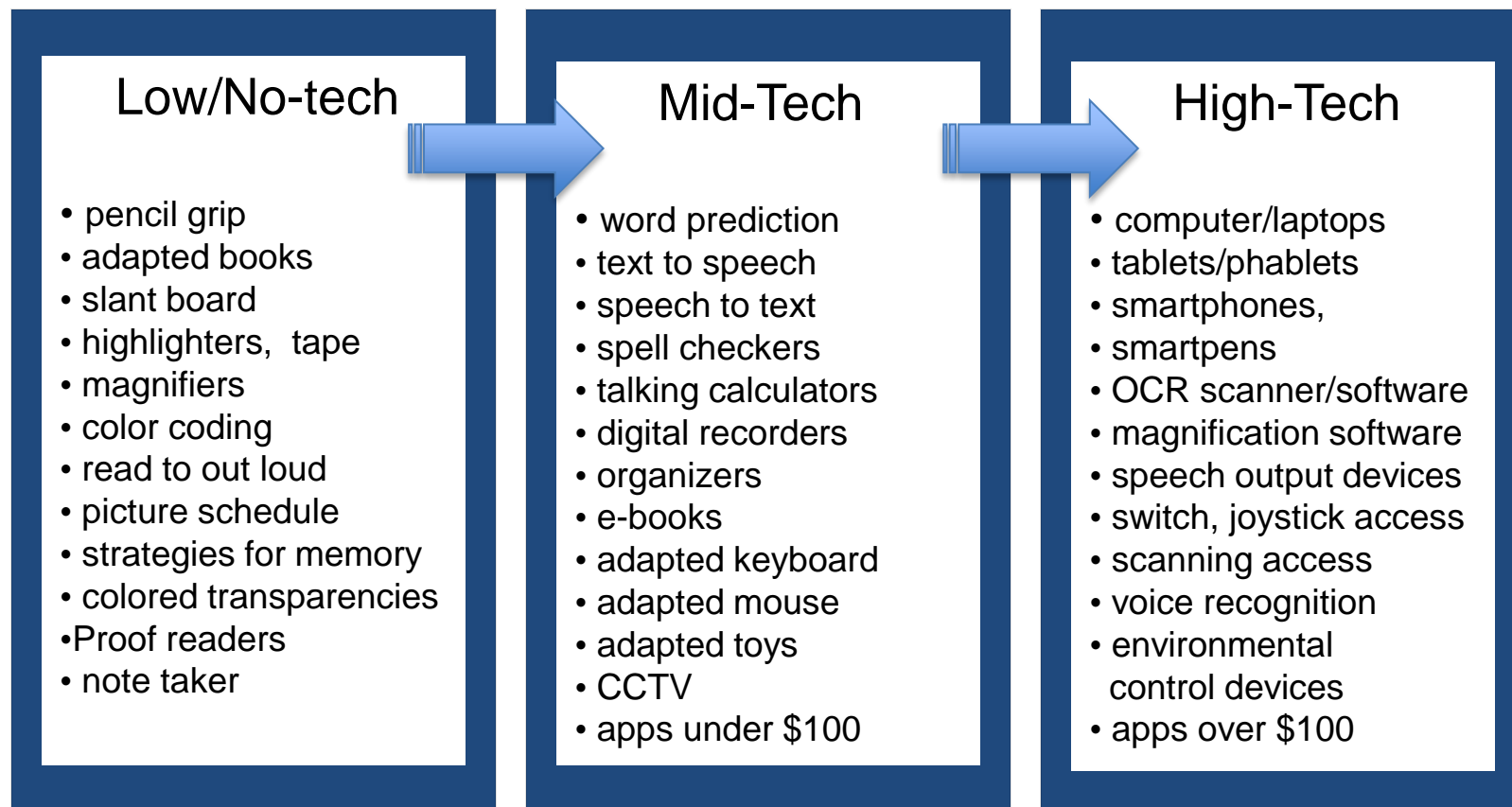
### High-Tech

- computer/laptops
- tablets/phablets
- smartphones,
- smartpens
- OCR scanner/software
- magnification software
- speech output devices
- switch, joystick access
- scanning access
- voice recognition
- environmental control devices
- apps over \$100

# Assistive Technology Continuum

## Observations & “Hanging out with Intent”

Assistive Technology is a **continuum of tools, strategies, and services** that match a person’s needs, abilities and tasks.



# History of AT in Legislation



- 1980s and 90s, the civil and education rights of individuals with disabilities were strengthened.
- "...for all individuals, technology can provide important tools for making the performance of tasks quicker and easier, but for some individuals with disabilities, assistive technology is a necessity that enables them to engage in or perform many tasks."

# “Nothing about us without us.”



- Disabled Persons Organizations (DPO) rightly believe that unless they can influence decisions that directly affect their lives, they will remain excluded from mainstream life and development and be merely the passive recipients of aid and assistance from governments or other sources.
- Active participation of persons with disabilities in decision making:  
“Nothing about us without us.”



# Assistive Technology Laws



- There are a wide range of laws and policies related to assistive technology (AT) services and devices.
- Following are brief summaries of laws that impact the provision of assistive technology and special education services.
- Federal laws are amended regularly.

# Assistive Technology Laws: AT Act



- **Assistive Technology Act of 1998**  
**Public Law 105-394 [29 USC 2201]**  
The Assistive Technology Act, also known as the “Tech Act” provides funds to states to support programs for:
  - the establishment of assistive technology (AT) demonstration centers, information centers, equipment loan facilities, referral services, and other consumer-oriented programs
  - protection and advocacy services to help people with disabilities and their families, as they attempt to access the services for which they are eligible
  - Programs for alternative financing options to help people with disabilities purchase needed assistive technology.

# Assistive Technology Laws: ADA



- Americans with Disabilities Act ( ADA )  
Public Law 101-336 [42 USC 12101]  
The ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment, state and local government, public accommodations, commercial facilities, transportation, and telecommunications.
  - Title I addresses employment, saying that any employer who has 15 or more employees must offer “equal opportunity” to employment-related activities.
  - Title II applies to state and local governments, and insists that people with disabilities be given equal access to public education, employment, transportation, recreation, health care, and other areas under their control.
  - Title III addresses public accommodations that may be provided by private companies, including private schools, restaurants, stores, hotels, doctors’ offices, etc.
  - Title IV addresses assistive technology specifically, as it requires that telephone companies provide the necessary services to allow people who are deaf or hearing impaired to use telecommunications devices.

# AT Laws: Section 508



- Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act requires that all electronic and information technologies developed and used by any Federal government agency must be accessible to people with disabilities.
- This includes websites, video and audio tapes, electronic books, televised programs, and other such media. Individuals with disabilities may still have to use special hardware and/or software to access the resources.

# Assistive Technology Laws: IDEA



- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) was initially passed in 1975, and guaranteed that eligible children and youth with disabilities would have a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) available to them, designed to meet their unique educational needs.



# AT Laws: Telecommunications



- **Telecommunications Act of 1996**
- **Title I - Public Law 104-104 [47 USC 255]**  
This law requires that telecommunications equipment and services be accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities.
- **Title III - Public Law 104-104 [47 USC 613]**  
Discusses rules on closed captions and video descriptions of video programming.

# Assistive Technology Act of 2004



- With the 2004 edition, the Act now required States to provide direct services to individuals with disabilities to ensure they have access to the technology they need. As a result, the majority of State efforts are required to be conducted in the following areas:
  - assistive technology reutilization programs,
  - assistive technology demonstration programs,
  - alternative financing programs
  - device loan programs

# Outcomes of the AT Act of 2004, Part 1



- Due to the efforts of the State Tech Act Programs, millions of Americans with disabilities are able to go to work, go to school, participate in recreation activities, and be contributing members of their communities.

# Outcomes of the AT Act of 2004, Part 2



- A summary of these accomplishments is compiled by the Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs; complete copies of each State Plan can be found at the National Information System for Assistive Technology.

# CATADA

## Center for Assistive Technology Act Data Assistance Website

A screenshot of the CATADA website. The header includes the CATADA logo and navigation links. The left sidebar contains a menu with links like Home, Generate Data Summary, and State AT Program Information. The main content area has a "Welcome" section with a bar chart icon and text about assistive technology programs. Below this is a section titled "IT & Telecommunications" with a photo of a woman using a computer and a description of AT devices. At the bottom, there is a "Latest CATADA Publication" section.

**CATADA** Center for Assistive Technology Act Data Assistance

Home About Contact us

- Home
- Generate Data Summary
  - Overall Summary Report
  - Activity Summary Report
  - Trend Chart
- State AT Program Information
- AT Program Activity Participation
- National Activities
- Publications
- AT Program Resources
- Website Tutorials

**Tweets**

**Community Inclusion** @Chickson  
Read this tale on "When Wheelchair Are Cool" from the [Blogs.ny.ny.gov/147710/](http://blogs.ny.ny.gov/147710/)  
44 Retweeted by update  
[Show Summary]

**AttoData** @attdata  
App built design solution to everyday problems for people with disabilities. [@medical\\_giants](https://11841.007.us)  
49 Retweeted by update  
[Show Summary]

**NOTAP** @NOTAP  
For blind bus riders, a new app boasts independent [www.fox.com/story/34444444-144](http://www.fox.com/story/34444444-144)  
49 Retweeted by update  
[Show Summary]

**Oklahoma A&L Tech** @OKA&LTech  
[Show Summary]

### CATADA

#### Welcome

State and Territory Assistive Technology Programs focus on improving the provision of Assistive Technology (AT) through comprehensive, statewide programs that are consumer responsive. The goal of these programs is to increase access to and acquisition of AT. Programs serve people with all types of disabilities, of all ages, in all environments.

Assistive technology devices are items, pieces of equipment, or product systems that are used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities. AT's primary purpose areas are education, community living, employment and IT.

#### IT & Telecommunications

This includes computers, software, websites, telephones, office equipment, and media. With the appropriate AT devices, individuals with disabilities can access information more easily.

#### Latest CATADA Publication

**Publication: AT ACT Data Brief Issue No. 2 2014**



# 2014: The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act



The screenshot shows the White House website interface. At the top, the navigation bar includes links for BLOG, PHOTOS & VIDEO, BRIEFING ROOM, ISSUES, ADMINISTRATION, WHITE HOUSE, and GOVERNMENT. Below the navigation bar, a search bar is visible. The main content area features a video player showing President Obama signing the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. To the right of the video player, the title "The President Signs the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act" is displayed, along with the date "July 22, 2014" and the time "29:19". Below the title, a brief description states: "President Obama and Vice President Biden deliver remarks before the signing of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act." Further down, there are links to "Download mp4 (1680MB)" and "mp3 (29MB)", and a link to "Read the Transcript". At the bottom of the video player, there are social media sharing buttons for Email, Tweet, Share, and Embed, and a "FOLLOW @WHVIDEO" button.

the WHITE HOUSE PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

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Search WhiteHouse.gov

The President Signs the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

July 22, 2014 | 29:19 | Public Domain

President Obama and Vice President Biden deliver remarks before the signing of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Download mp4 (1680MB) | mp3 (29MB)

Read the Transcript

Follow @WHVIDEO

# Get to Know Your AT Act Program



The screenshot shows the RESNA Catalyst Project website. The header features the RESNA Catalyst Project logo with the tagline "Providing Technical Assistance to AT Act Entities". Navigation links include "About Us", "Grantees Only", "AFP", "Statewide", "PAATs", "What's New", and "Contact Us".

**Follow us on Twitter!**

Follow @ResnaCatalyst

**CATALYST PROJECT** @ResnaCatalyst

A new sensor development could aid those suffering from Alzheimer's. [emmag.com/blog/2014/09/...](http://emmag.com/blog/2014/09/)

**CATALYST** 218

Tweet to @ResnaCatalyst

**#assistivetech**

**Sensory Guru** @sensoryguru

Register now! Sensory Guru Study Day Programme 2014  
- [sepur.com/20148](http://sepur.com/20148)  
#StudyDay #SEN

**The RESNA Catalyst Project** provides aid and resources for:

- [Statewide Programs](#)
- [Financial Loan Programs](#)
- [Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology \(PAATs\)](#)
- [AT Entity Grantees](#)

**Quick Catalyst Project Resources:**

- [Quick Contacts \(PDF\)](#)
- [Webinars](#)
- [Highlights Monthly Newsletter](#)

**Catalyst Project Hubs**

- [Transition to the Community](#)
- [AT for Employment](#)

**Links**

- [RESNA](#)
- [AT Connects](#)
- [Pass It On Center](#)
- [Center for Assistive Technology Act Data Assistance \(CATADA\)](#)

**Upcoming Events**

**Thu, Sep 25**  
Loan Directors New Directors Series (2 pm - 3 pm EST)  
New AFP Grantee Call (4 pm - 5 pm EST)


**Fri, Sep 26**  
AT for Employment Work Group call (3 pm - 4 pm EST)

**Tue, Sep 30**  
Deadline for obligation of HSA FY13 funds (All Day)

**Wed, Oct 1**  
AT & Education Series Webinar (two 3 pm - 4 pm EST)

# Get to Know ATAP



**ATAP**  
Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs

HOMELEGISLATIVE/ISSUESEVENTSCONTACTCOLLABORATIONSPUBLICATIONSMEMBERS

### About Atap

- [What is ATAP?](#)
- [Vision of ATAP](#)
- [Purpose of ATAP](#)

#### WHAT IS ATAP?

The Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs (ATAP) is a national, member-based organization, comprised of state Assistive Technology Act Programs funded under the Assistive Technology Act (AT Act).

ATAP was established in 1997 to provide support to state AT Program members to enhance the effectiveness of AT Programs on the state and local level, and promote the national network of AT Programs. ATAP facilitates the coordination of state AT Programs nationally and provides technical assistance and support to its members. ATAP represents the needs and interests of the state AT Programs and is the national voice of the AT Programs.

#### ATAP MISSION

To maintain and enhance a strong, effective and efficient national network of Statewide Assistive Technology Programs which enables individuals with disabilities, service providers and others to learn about, access, and acquire assistive technology (AT) needed for education, employment, and community living.

#### ATAP PURPOSE

- To provide a forum for member states and territories to study, deliberate, and act upon matters affecting the national network of Statewide AT Programs.
- To provide a resource for the formulation and expression of the collective points of view of Statewide AT Programs on critical issues that impact access to and acquisition of AT.
- To serve as an advisory body to the Administration on Community Living, other federal agencies and

### AT Programs

- [ATAP Webinars](#)
- [Thank You Video](#)
- [Voting](#)
- [Device Loan and Demo Forum](#)

### Quick Links

- [Local Committee Person](#)
- [Catalyst](#)
- [Federal Data Collection](#)
- [Recent Catalyst](#)

### Other Links

- [Closing the Gap](#)
- [ATConnects](#)

### News

President Obama Names Sachin Dev Pinto to the U.S. Access Board.

[For more information on the](#)

# Common AT Solutions for Access



- Text-to-Speech
- Speech Input
- Display Solutions
  - Magnification
  - Contrast
- Writing Solutions
  - Word Prediction
  - Grammar Check
- Alternative Access

# Recognizing AT Taxonomy Variations



- Example:
  - Text-to-Speech and Screen reader

## Contemporary screen readers [\[edit\]](#)

Screen reader ↕	Creator ↕	Supported platforms ↕	License ↕	Notes ↕
95Reader	SSCT	Windows	Commercial	Japanese screen reader
BRLTTY	The BRLTTY Team	*nix and Windows console	Free and open source (GPL2)	Available to download; part of most Linux distributions
<a href="#">BrowseAloud</a>	<a href="#">Texthelp Systems Inc</a>	Windows and Mac	Free for Users, Commercial	
<a href="#">Capture Assistant</a>	<a href="#">Renovation Software</a>	Windows	Commercial	Multilanguage screen reader
<a href="#">ChromeVox</a>	<a href="#">Google</a>	ChromeOS or, with a speech processor, Linux, Mac, Windows	Free	ChromeVox is a screen reader for Chrome and Chrome OS.
<a href="#">Microsurf</a>	<a href="#">Microsurf</a>	Mac, Windows	Free	Microsurf is a screen reader for Chrome.
<a href="#">Claro ScreenRuler Suite</a>	Claro Software	Windows	Commercial	Provides a "strip" or "ruler" across the screen.
<a href="#">ClickHear</a> <sup>[1]</sup>	gh LLC	Windows and Mac	Commercial	Text-to-speech. Three voice options. Variable text and highlighting color options. Translates to several different languages: Spanish, French and German. Configuration settings saved per user

# Features of Text-to-Speech



- Adjust Rate
- Adjust Pitch
- Adjust Voices
- Keystroke Control

# Difference between Text-to-Speech and Screen Readers, Part 1



- Screen readers often contain commands for emulating mouse functions; text-to-speech readers do not.
- Screen readers have a text-based interface that does not provide pictorial cues; text-to-speech readers generally have a visual interface, including pictures that accompany or replace text on buttons, which is likely to be useful to people with reading difficulties.

# Difference between Text-to-Speech and Screen Readers, Part 2



- Screen readers speak any text near the cursor; text-to-speech readers usually require that users cut and paste text into a separate window or highlight text to have it read.
- Screen readers can be set to read programmatic text, such as menus and dialogue boxes; text-to-speech readers generally do not do this.



# Text-to-Speech for Learning Disabilities



- Often assist with:
  - reading, studying, and writing,
  - may include optical character recognition (OCR),
  - word prediction,
  - tools to highlight, extract, and organize text, and
  - homophone checkers.

# Introduction to Screen Readers, Part 1



- The most widely used screen readers in the English-speaking market are:
  - [JAWS](#) from [Freedom Scientific](#)
  - [Window-Eyes](#) from GW Micro
  - Dolphin Supernova by [Dolphin](#)
  - System Access from Serotek
  - [ZoomText](#) Magnifier/Reader from AiSquared
  - The open source screen reader [NVDA](#) is gaining popularity
  - Narrator – Microsoft
  - VoiceOver - Apple

# Introduction to Screen Readers, Part 2



- Screen readers are a form of AT useful to individuals who are blind, vision-related disabilities, mobility-related disabilities, print-related disabilities or learning disabled.

# Introduction to Screen Readers, Part 3



- WebAIM, a web accessibility company, found JAWS to be the most popular screen reader worldwide; 49.1% of survey participants used it as a primary screen reader.

# Features of Writing Solutions



- Adjust Word Prediction
- Adjust Grammar and Spell Checks

# Kurzweil 3000



- Text-to-Speech software
- Helps improve reading speed and comprehension
- Note taking capabilities
  - Different color highlighters
- firefly
  - Access many features of Kurzweil through the internet
  - firefly demo
- Free download trial
  - [www.kurzweilededu.com](http://www.kurzweilededu.com)
  - Kurzweil 3000 Demo



**Kurzweil**  
EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS®

# WYNN

- What You Need Now
  - Freedom Scientific
  - Scanning and Reading software
  - Highlights text as spoken
  - Icon friendly
  - Built in study tools
- Internet Features



# TextHelp



- Text-to- Speech software
- Helps improves reading skills
- Built in text and picture dictionaries
- Study skills highlighter
- Has a Google Chrome version
- [www.texthelp.com](http://www.texthelp.com)





# TextHelp for Google



- Open a webpage within the Chrome Browser
- Click on the Read&Write for Google icon to open up the toolbar (click on the icon again to close out the toolbar later)



# Premier Software



- Compose
  - Predict
  - Create study notes and much more!
- 
- [www.readingmadeeZ.com](http://www.readingmadeeZ.com)

The screenshot shows the homepage of readingmadeeZ.com. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Home, About Us, and flags for the USA and Canada. A Google Custom Search bar is also present. The main header features the 'Premier Literacy' logo and the site name 'readingmadeeZ.com'. Below this is a large banner image of a tablet displaying the software interface. A green navigation bar lists categories: PRODUCTS, EDUCATIONAL SOLUTIONS, TRAINING, SUPPORT & VIDEOS, FREE TRIALS, ORDERING OPTIONS, and CONTACT. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column, titled 'LITERACY TOOLS', lists various software bundles and individual tools like 'English Talking Dictionary' and 'Write Now'. The middle column features a large advertisement for 'Write Now - Version 4.0', which includes a 'BUY NOW \$59.95' button and a description of its features. The right column, titled 'THE PREMIER STORY', contains two short articles: 'The Possibility of Premier...' and 'The Power of Premier...'. At the bottom of the 'Write Now' advertisement, there are links for 'Overview', 'Features', 'Screenshots', and purchase options for download and CD versions.

readingmadeeZ.com

Home About Us

Google Custom Search Search

a division of Premier Assistive

PRODUCTS EDUCATIONAL SOLUTIONS TRAINING SUPPORT & VIDEOS FREE TRIALS ORDERING OPTIONS CONTACT

**LITERACY TOOLS**

PORTABLE TECHNOLOGY BUNDLES

INDIVIDUAL TOOLS

English Talking Dictionary  
E-Text Reader  
PDF Equalizer  
Scan and Read Pro  
Talking Calculator  
Talking Word Processor  
Text-To-Audio  
Universal Reader Plus  
Write Now  
Worksheet Wizard

**Write Now - Version 4.0**

**Write Now**

Compose, Predict, Assist, all RIGHT NOW

**BUY NOW \$59.95**

[Overview](#) | [Features](#) | [Screenshots](#)  
[Buy \\$59.95 - Download](#) | [Buy \\$59.95 - CD Version](#)

**THE PREMIER STORY**

**The Possibility of Premier...**

The joy of learning and the power of success should be things every student feels. Premier Literacy technologies support and empower students, giving them the chance to excel.

**The Power of Premier...**

Premier Literacy creates learning tools to make writing smoother, reading better, and studying easier. Premier Literacy students use technology as easily and as simply as most

# Ginger

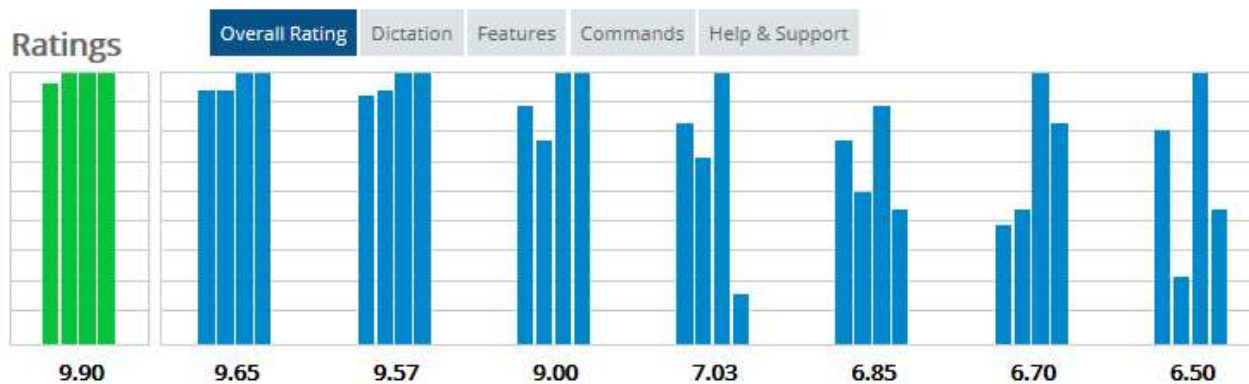
- Online grammar and spell checker
- Can see corrections as you type or use Ginger Proofreader to scan the entire document for mistakes
- Will read corrections out loud
- Has an mobile Android app
- Works inside Word and emails
- Text to Speech
  - Read emails and docs
  - Can choose voice and accent
- [Ginger Demo](#)



# 2015 Software Review

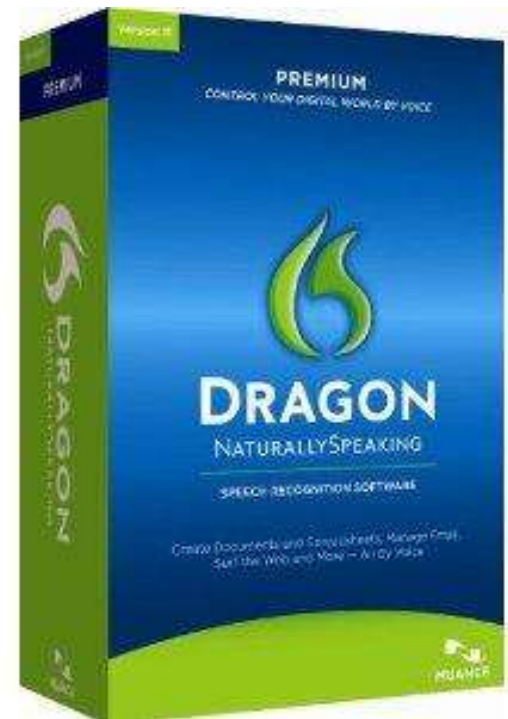
## 2015 BEST Voice Recognition Software Review

REVIEWS AND COMPARISONS



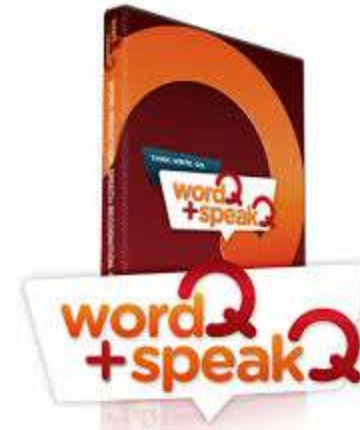
# Speech Recognition Software

- Turn spoken words into text
- Connect with the timing of your thoughts
- Dictation speed 70 to 100 words per minute



# Word Q/ Speech Q

- Software that has built-in word prediction
  - Suggests words
  - Spoken feedback to hear what was written
  - Speech Q is a plugin for Speech Recognition
- 30 day free trial  
<http://www.goqsoftware.com/trial/>





# wordQ + speakQ

[Français](#) | [Quick links](#) | [Mind Tools](#) | [Resources](#) | [Contact](#) | [Support](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Store](#)



Think. Write. Go!  
1-877-674-7687

**wQ: Use > arrow key to show/hear usage example indicated by the triangle** [New Tip](#)

[Download Trial](#)  
[Buy Now](#)



Word prediction, speech feedback and speech recognition.



wordQ+speaKQ works in English, French, and Spanish.

Now, I can write using diff

- 1 different
- 2 difficult
- 3 difference
- 4 differences
- 5 difficulty

### wordQ + speakQ

wordQ is a simple but brilliantly designed writing solution that improves with you, regardless of your age or writing ability.



**Works in all these and more!**

- Word prediction works even if words are spelled creatively or missing parts
- Offers a list of words with similar meaning to add variety to your writing

- Now available. Linguistically aligned dictionaries and speech feedback for English, French, and Spanish
- speakQ plug-in takes everything you love about WordQ and adds forgiving speech recognition in the mix.
- Lets you type the words you know and use voice to text to say the ones you don't, from single words to entire paragraphs
- Lets you type the words you know and use voice to text to say the ones you don't, from single words to entire paragraphs
- Speech recognition helps you write everything you say from single words to entire paragraphs
- Offers suggestions for words you have difficulty pronouncing
- Train its voice recognition to understand your voice, with no reading required
- Allows you to mix typing and speaking for best results
- No voice commands to remember

# Features of Display Solutions



- Adjust Magnification
- Adjust Contrast
- Demo of Magnification



# Features of Access Solutions



- Keyboard options
- Mice options
- Switch Access
- Alternative Input methods

# ASL Switch Labs

## Products / New Products

ASL brings innovative products to our clients! We are here to help each client reach their full potential – our team creates products and designs as a direct result of the needs of those we serve. Our goal has always been independence and equal rights for those we work with.

### Driver Control Packages

ASL 138 Extremity Control Joystick



100 Series

### Electronic Switches

ASL 215 Round Proximity Sensor with Mono Port and 24 Volt Connector



200 Series

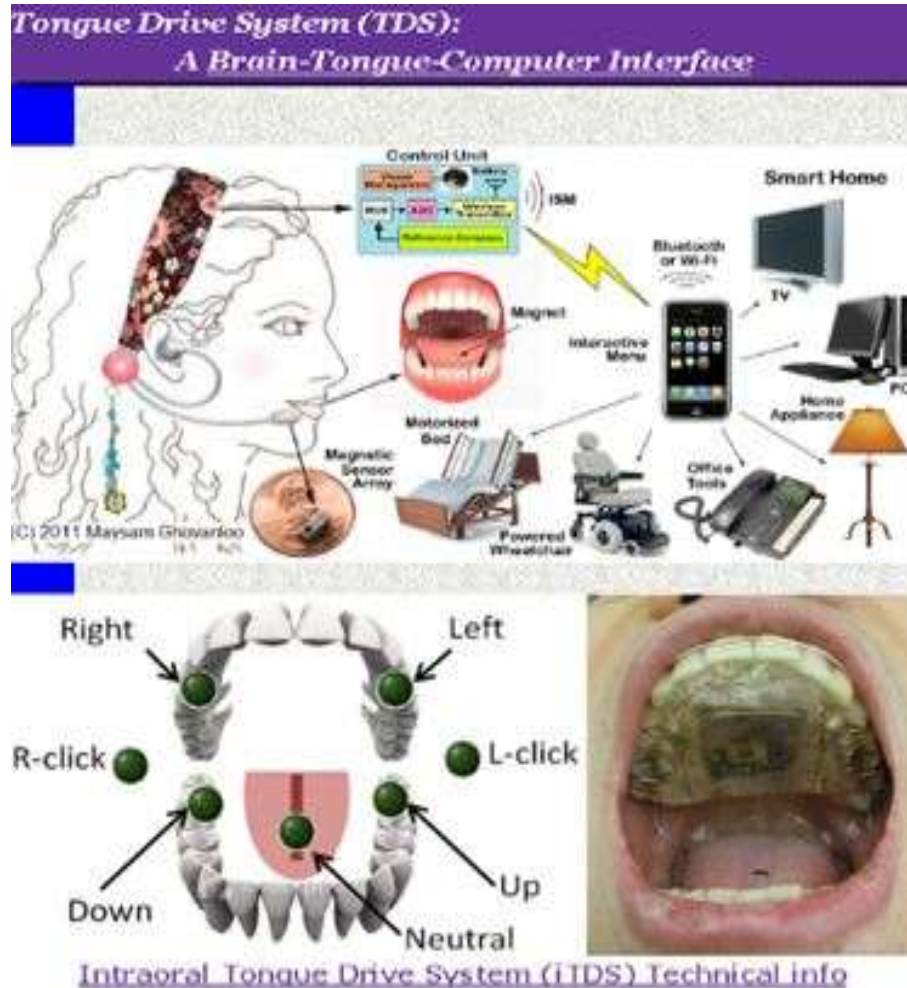
### Electronic Switches

ASL 215 Round Proximity Sensor 3 Pin



200 Series

# Tongue Drive System



# Tracking Trends

- Increase in Universal Design in Mainstream
- Schools incorporate “Bring Your Own Technology”
- Customized reading levels
- Convergence
- The Future is Contextual
  - GPS in technology
  - Ads on Internet
  - Social Media



# Google Now




Google now What is it How to get it Cards [Get it now](#)

## Introducing Google Now

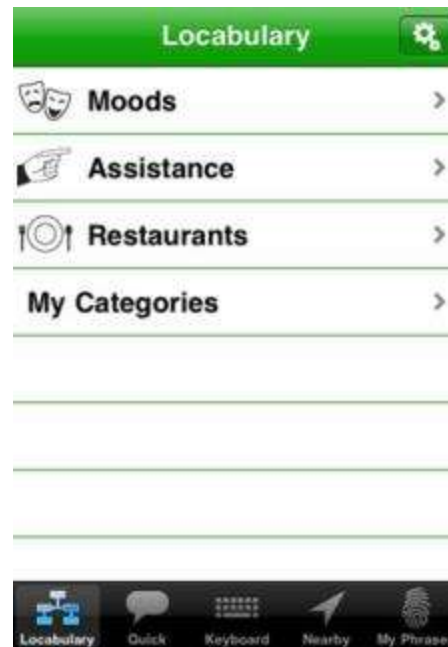
The right information at just the right time

From knowing the weather before you start your day, to planning the best route to avoid traffic, or even checking your favorite team's score while they're playing, Google Now brings you the information you want, when you need it.

A smartphone screen displays a Google Now weather card for Venice. The card shows a large yellow sun icon, the temperature "70°", and a forecast for the week: "CLEAR" for Tuesday, "partly" for Wednesday, and "partly" for Thursday and Friday. The background of the card features a stylized mountain range.

Assistance around the clock

# Locabulary



- Uses GPS to track user location and suggests appropriate vocabulary based on location
  - ie: Starbucks
- A keyboard to type for text-to-speech
- User can tag their own locations and create vocabulary for each location
- Lite version Free; Pro version \$130



# LEAP Computer Input

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MOTION

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# Google Glass

## Ten days with Google Glass

By Will Shanklin  
December 23, 2013

14 Comments  
7 Pictures

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Gizmag shares some more thoughts about being part of the Google Glass Explorer program

[Image Gallery \(7 Images\)](#)

Here at Gizmag, we're very interested in the present and future of w tech. So we thought it was fitting to sign up for the Google Glass Explorer program, to give you a better idea of what Sergey Brin and compa brewing up in Mountain View. Though we aren't quite ready to dis proper Google Glass review, we want to share some more thou our first ten days with Glass.





# Mindrdr for Google Glass

## MINDRDR FOR GOOGLE GLASS LETS YOU TAKE AND SHARE PICTURES JUST BY THINKING

NEUROGADGET - JULY 12, 2014

SHARE ON: [f](#) [W](#) [S+](#) [t](#) [in](#) [v](#) [Ac](#)

100



# Reading Finger Device

## MIT Finger Device Reads to the Blind in Real Time



By RODRIQUE NGOWI  
Associated Press

2014.7.6. 2014 1:00 AM

In this Thursday, June 26, 2014 photo, a model wears a FingerReader ring at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Media Lab in Cambridge, Mass. Researchers designed and developed the instrument, which enables people with visual disabilities to read text printed on paper or electronic devices. (AP Photo/Stephan Savoie)

# Nod



- Controls devices remotely
- Change presentation slides
- Type notes
- Environmental Control Units

\$149, Early 2015

<https://hellonod.com/>

# VGo Telepresence Robot

- Enables individuals to replicate themselves in a distant location and have the freedom to move around as if they were physically there
- Reduces travel costs
- School
- Hospital
- Work from home



# Questions?



# The TFL Team



**Carolyn Phillips**

Director, Tools for Life

[Carolyn.Phillips@gatfl.gatech.edu](mailto:Carolyn.Phillips@gatfl.gatech.edu)



**Liz Persaud**

Training and Outreach Coordinator

[Liz.Persaud@gatfl.gatech.edu](mailto:Liz.Persaud@gatfl.gatech.edu)



**Daphne Brookins**

AT Funding & Resource Specialist

[Daphne.Brookins@gatfl.gatech.edu](mailto:Daphne.Brookins@gatfl.gatech.edu)



**Martha Rust**

AT Specialist

[Martha.Rust@gatfl.gatech.edu](mailto:Martha.Rust@gatfl.gatech.edu)



**Ben Jacobs**

Accommodations Specialist

[Ben.Jacobs@gatfl.gatech.edu](mailto:Ben.Jacobs@gatfl.gatech.edu)



**Rachel Wilson**

Tech Match Specialist

[Rachel.Wilson@gatfl.gatech.edu](mailto:Rachel.Wilson@gatfl.gatech.edu)

## Disclaimer

*This presentation is produced by Tools for Life which is a result of the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended in 2004. It is a program of the Georgia Institute of Technology, College of Architecture [COA], AMAC and is funded by grant #H224C030009 of the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), Department of Education. The contents of this presentation were developed under a grant from the Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, Georgia Tech, COA or AMAC and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal government.*