

Speech recognition technology introduced across Paris

Royal Philips Electronics has announced that the Paris' hospital network, Assistance Publique – Hôpital de Paris (AP-HP) is to implement the speech recognition technology, SpeechMagic, in all its 39 public hospitals.

The installation is expected to be completed by 2010, and will involve over 12,000 physicians and 3,000 medical secretaries.

SpeechMagic technology was introduced in the UK 11 years ago, initially in a radiology only version, and then later hospital-wide. It is currently used in a number of UK hospitals including the Clatterbridge Center for Oncology and in the Diana, Princess of Wales Hospital in Grimsby. However, according to Philips, the Paris installation will be the first time that SpeechMagic will be in use in all public hospitals in one city. The company says that AP-HP aims to achieve a significant reduction in report turn-around time, and that SpeechMagic will speed up the creation of medical records which will reduce waiting times for patients.