

Healthcare Organisations Turn to Speech Recognition

In an effort to improve patient care and speed up the delivery of medical reports, healthcare organisations throughout the world implement speech recognition technology. Speech recognition instantly turns medical dictations into text, thus reducing the time needed to produce final medical reports.

Spain's Castilla-La Mancha regional healthcare service (SESCAM) and the Paris hospital network AP-HP will be the first organisations to introduce speech recognition to thousands of physicians and transcribers on a regional level. At SESCAM, radiologists aim to share and access medical patient information without delay. By capturing this information through a speech recognition system, physicians have a powerful tool that improves clinical documentation, as it facilitates the immediate and complete availability of a patient's documents.

AP-HP will implement speech recognition throughout Paris for all of its 39 hospitals, involving over 12,000 physicians and 3,000 medical secretaries. When the installation period ends in 2010, Paris will have the world's largest deployment of hospital-wide speech recognition.

The professional's choice

SpeechMagic, the industrial-grade speech recognition technology from Philips, has established itself as the standard in healthcare speech recognition. Robert Thornton, Commercial Director at Philips Speech Recognition, highlighted the fact that the software is installed in more than 8000 organisations in 45 nations.

length. Unlike traditional laparoscopic instruments that allow four degrees of freedom-up/down, left/right, rotation, and in/out activation, EndoLink instruments articulate with wrist-like left/right and up/down movements inside the closed surgical field, thereby allowing surgeons to use the full spectrum of their traditional open surgery skills for laparoscopic operations. Surgeons who have used the EndoLink instruments report that



"SpeechMagic provides industrial-grade features, specifically designed to facilitate large-scale implementations in the healthcare sector", he said. "The current leap towards speech recognition will increase efficiency and accuracy of medical documentation for better quality of care and improved patient service."

SpeechMagic in the Middle East Various healthcare IT providers integrate SpeechMagic with their medical IT or reporting solutions and distribute it worldwide. The Middle East region is served by Agfa Healthcare, GE Healthcare, Kodak Health, Philips Medical Systems and Siemens Medical Solutions – but also by the provider of medical dictation solutions, Crescendo Systems Corporation. Hospitals in the region implement the English version of the software, as no speech recognition technology has been developed in Arabic yet.

However, Denmark is an example that

a public-private partnership can quickly lead to a local version of the software. The country initiated a program to improve its population's accessibility to information, delivering particularly on the very specific requirements of people with disabilities. The initiative comprises three major projects including the live subtitling of TV shows, consumer speech recognition software and speech recognition-based publishing of parliamentary speeches. Mr. Helge Sander, the Danish Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation, said that with this unique initiative Denmark is using state-of-the-art technology to give its people access to information and computers without barriers. Many other countries have already expressed interest in following the Danish example. The project was recognised with the Most Innovative Solution Award by Speech Technology Magazine.

For further information please visit: www.philips.com/speechrecognition.

the technology allows full mobility and tactile feedback inside the abdominal cavity without the cost and set-up time of robotic surgical systems. These key benefits may enable a whole new class of minimally invasive procedures, as well as reduce the complexity and learning of high-volume procedures such as TLH. EndoLink translates natural wrist movements without the stress, strain and tension that surgeons have tolerated for many years with the

older laparoscopic instruments. Although robotic systems provide instrument articulation inside the abdominal cavity, they greatly compromise tactile feedback. EndoLink offers this same articulation benefit, while maintaining essential tactile feedback. E-mail: kpope@novaresurgical.com

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