

Myths and Legends about Dragon NaturallySpeaking

MYTH: “The technology is not mature enough to use.”

NaturallySpeaking was released in June 1997 and has had extensive research, development & technical improvements over the past 11 years. The software has won over 175 awards worldwide since it was first developed and is regarded as the best speech recognition software available today.

MYTH: “You have to spend a long time training the software to use it.”

Most experienced users suggest that to create a new voice profile i.e. train Dragon to understand your voice, takes about five minutes (about the time it takes to make a cup of coffee). The latest version even allows you to create a ‘no-training’ voice profile in 30 seconds!

MYTH: “It costs a lot of money.”

The cost of ownership has dropped from £4000 for the first edition of DragonDictate (the first PC based speech recognition application) to £120+VAT for the Preferred edition and £399+VAT for the Professional edition. Most users benefit from training as well (with prices for half-day training courses starting at £295+VAT). These package prices are on par with buying a copy of MS Office Professional 2007 or other standard Windows software applications.

MYTH: “It is not very fast.”

A relatively fast typist who can type 50 words per minute will produce a 900-word document in 18 minutes. Using speech recognition software, a person dictating 140-160 words per minute can produce the same 900-word document in about 6 minutes - this is about one third of the time. The software therefore saves you time and money.

MYTH: “It requires a lot of time invested in it to be productive.”

Most users find that at the end of the first day of using the software they are getting over 95% accuracy i.e. 95 words out of 100 words dictated are correctly recognised by the software. There are simple to use verbal commands that NaturallySpeaking uses to create text and perform navigational functions such as moving the cursor around a Word document or opening an e-mail.

MYTH: “I only need to use NaturallySpeaking if I have hand or wrist pain when using a keyboard or mouse.”

Many technical assessors recommend the use of speech recognition software to actually prevent cases of Repetitive Strain Injury (RSI) and other disorders related to extensive keyboard and mouse use. NaturallySpeaking Professional is used by both able bodied and disabled PC users. Whether you are a doctor, lawyer or student needing to create documentation quickly and accurately or someone who finds using a keyboard or mouse painful or difficult, NaturallySpeaking offers great benefits.

MYTH: “NaturallySpeaking does not work with my in-house software.”

There are hundreds of voice commands already built into NaturallySpeaking allowing you to control applications such as MS Word, MS Excel, MS Outlook, Internet Explorer etc. These commands allow you to say “Go to Page 25”, “Delete Next 4 Words”, “Add Up Next Six Columns” etc. Additional voice commands can be created (with the Professional edition) allowing you to ensure that even your own in-house application can be controlled by voice!



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