



News Flash



Dragon Newsletter

July 2008

Welcome to the latest issue of our monthly Dragon Newsletter. Please see below for stories from current Dragon users, tips and tricks to improve your use of Dragon NaturallySpeaking and updates on the latest product news.

Tips and Tricks

Using Hot Keys to turn the microphone on and off

You can use your voice to control the microphone by saying basic commands such as "microphone off" or "stop listening." You can also use your mouse to click the microphone icon of the DragonBar off and on. But sometimes it can be more convenient to use your keyboard. Dragon offers default "hot keys" that can be used to perform these actions :

- To turn the microphone on or off, press the Plus key (+) on the numeric keyboard.
- To put the microphone to sleep or wake it up, press the Slash key (/) on the numeric keypad.

You can change the hot keys that control the microphone button and other features by customizing the "Hot Keys" tab of the Options dialog box. For example, if you use a laptop computer you can set the options to use more convenient keys.

1. On the DragonBar, click Tools and select Options (you can also say "open NaturallySpeaking options").
2. Click the tab labeled Hot keys
3. Click Microphone on/off. A window to Set Hot Key will appear.
4. Press the F10 key (or another key of your choice), then click OK (or press Enter) to close the window.

Improving Accuracy and Productivity

Spoken Forms of Words

Did you know that you can use the Vocabulary Editor to add words that are spoken one way but written a different way? A word's written form is what Dragon types when you say the word. The spoken form is how you say the word. For example: the written form ® uses the spoken form "registered-sign" and the written form GMAC uses the spoken form "G. Mac."

Creating a spoken form can be useful in automating some words or phrases that you dictate frequently. For example, you can define a spoken form for a phone number that you frequently use instead of dictating a string of numbers.

To create a spoken form for a word or phrase:

1. Select the Accuracy Center from the Tools menu on the DragonBar and click or say "View or edit your vocabulary." You can also click View/Edit on the Words menu on the DragonBar.
2. Find the word you want in the list by typing the first few letters in the Written Form box of the Vocabulary Editor. If the word you want to edit doesn't appear in the Vocabulary Editor, it means the word isn't in the active vocabulary. You need to add it to the active vocabulary before you can edit it.
3. Select the word.
4. Type the new spoken form into the Spoken Form box. Make sure you type it exactly as it is pronounced.
5. (optional) Make any changes, such as punctuation or capitalization, to the Written Form box.
6. Click Add. This adds the word with your changes. If the word was already in the active vocabulary before you edited it, you should then delete the original word.

Don't Have Dragon on Your Desktop Yet?

Visit www.nuance.com/talk to see a demo of the software, take our typing challenge, and compare our products to find the product that is best for you.

You Asked, We Answer

You Asked:

"Does Dragon NaturallySpeaking support the Windows Vista operating system?"

Answer:

Dragon NaturallySpeaking 9 supports Windows Vista via an update accessible through our website: www.nuance.com/vista.

This free update is available if you currently have Dragon NaturallySpeaking 9. (If you are not sure which version of the product you are using, simply click the Help menu from the DragonBar and select "About Dragon NaturallySpeaking.") Your current serial number is required for installation. You do not need to uninstall your current version of Dragon NaturallySpeaking before you install version 9.5.

Readers also asked:

"When will Dragon NaturallySpeaking offer 64-bit support?"

Answer:

Dragon NaturallySpeaking 9.5 does not support 64-bit versions of Windows Vista. Nuance plans to release a 64-bit version of Dragon NaturallySpeaking in a future release. Stay tuned for more information about this release.

Dragon Customer Profiles

Our "I Speak Dragon" contest is now closed, and the judges are reviewing the 550 entries that we received. We will share a list of the winners in our next newsletter, but here's a quick glimpse at some of the finalists:

Carol N. -- Dragon NaturallySpeaking allows me to wear two hats: (1) technical and business writer and (2) novelist. Traveling to and working at technical writing jobs didn't leave me much time for writing fiction, so I purchased Dragon NaturallySpeaking and a Sony recorder. I recorded while driving in the car to and from work and wherever else the muse struck. Then, I connected the recorder to Dragon via USB and my deathless prose was transcribed in the word processing software I use to write books. Thanks to Dragon, what used to be only a dream has become a reality. I have two romance novels being released this year and a third is in progress.

Michael P. -- I work with AutoCAD. By the end of the day, my hand is sore from repetitively entering commands. I speak commands to my Dragon and it tells AutoCAD what to do for me so I don't wear out my hand on menial repetitive tasks. When we get really busy, work takes its toll in the form of what feels like bad writers cramp. Dragon eases the burden by allowing me to 'tell' AutoCAD what to do. I say "circle" and it initiates the circle command. I say "move" or "copy" and... Well, you get the picture. It's a life saver and it's just plain cool. Everyone who enters my workspace when I am dictating is really wowed by it. Most are impressed that it actually works and works well. But, beyond the novelty of it, I'm just trying to save myself some immediate physical ailments and future health problems.

Zac C. -- We got Dragon Naturally Speaking for our Middle School aged son three years ago. He was having a really tough time with home work assignments, especially essays. He would get frustrated trying to type his ideas into the word processor. Both his slow typing speed and poor spelling were holding him back. The first assignment that he wrote using Naturally Speak was so amazing, well we had trouble believing he had written it himself! Being able to "talk" his ideas into the computer allowed his words to flow easily from his mind to the word processor. He began, dare I say, "enjoying" his writing assignments. Not only that, but his spelling got much better because Naturally Speaking helped teach him the correct spelling of words. Now we tell all of our friends with kids about Naturally Speaking and the difference it has made in our child's academic life. Thank You Dragon!

To read the complete collection of user stories, visit www.nuance.com/dragonstories.