

We DO listen to your comments – as some of the items below will show!

The new M3 – what about a big screen version?

Since launching the new M3 digitised device, which replaced the MiniMo and MightyMo, we have had a large number of requests for a larger screen version. This was not planned by DynaVox USA as the M3 was positioned between the MiniMo and MightyMo (size wise) to provide one product rather than two. However, after the comments we received we have put pressure on the States to produce a larger version. They have now agreed to this – for International ONLY – so your voice IS heard and DOES count! The new larger unit should be available in about 3 months and we will announce details, including prices as soon as possible.

Anglicisation of InterAACT

In January last year we held a “UK Advisory Panel” meeting at which invited representatives of the AAC professional industry were given the chance to comment on the V and InterAACT that were about to be launched. Although there was a positive reaction to it, there was also a feeling that there should be a UK version. So, during the last few months we have been working on producing an “Anglicised” Version of InterAACT. The work has been carried out by a speech therapist, and after the first phase of the work, a full review was organised with interested parties who attended James Rowe’s CM presentation on the project and who expressed a desire to be actively involved, invited to comment. The full, final version is now complete and has been sent to DynaVox USA so that it can be incorporated into the V and V Max in due course. There are a few other aspects we need to address like ensuring the editing software also reflects the UK version, as indeed should the free standing speaking software. Once that is all completed this version will become the standard for all V and V Max’s supplied from the UK (we will advise of the launch date as soon as possible).

Changes to our service in Ireland

Mike McConnell has served us extremely well in Ireland over the last 10 years as our representative, but it is now getting to the stage where he is travelling across the Irish sea every other week, so the time has come to invest in a full time local Product Specialist, either in Southern or Northern Ireland. We will be doing interviews later in March and if you know of anyone who would be suitable and interested in this post perhaps you would ask them to contact David Morgan. In line with this, and again to answer some concerns about delivery times in Ireland we are also looking to improve our service in other areas in the country, like having some local product for loans, and even local repairs, if we can find the right resource. We are confident that will take our level of customer service to a new high in Ireland. Our target to complete this is July at which point Mike will have a UK only based territory to look after.

*******Series 5 Speaking Software special education promotion*******

As part of our support of education establishments we are offering the series 5 software to education at prices reduced by up to 77%. The software is currently shown in the price list as £1,995, but for March and April we are offering single copies to educational organisations at £695 (65% off), 2-5 copies purchased at the same time, £595 each (70% off), 6-10 copies at £495 each (75% off) and for more than 10 copies the price drops to £450 (77% off). This is the full series 5 speaking software, designed for a standard PC. This means that we cannot guarantee it will work as expected if added to a non standard PC (e.g. alternative AAC hardware). In addition, any school or college purchasing software for use within the school, and who purchase a V or V Max within 6 months of that purchase, may “trade in” the software against the V or V Max, but still keep the software on their PC – effectively gaining a discount on the device (one discount per device only). For more details call the helpline or speak with your Product Specialist

Palmtop and iChat Loans

We have been inundated with loan requests for Palmtops & iChats to the extent that we are having to give dates too far in the future to be practical, so we are adding more devices to our stock. Also, based on the feedback of the amount of time needed to assess using them, we are reducing the loan period to 2 weeks until further notice (new requests only).

BoardMaker Activity Pad

We now have CE marked BoardMaker Activity Pads (BAP) which are a natural extension to BoardMaker and BoardMaker Plus to move interactive activities from the computer and into the hands of the student. Printed “boards” – or indeed any paper item, including drawings, photos etc, can be placed into “Smartpockets” which slide into the BAP. Buttons are then assigned and recorded and everything is saved to a chip on the Smartpocket itself. The BAP can bring lessons to life and add fun to learning. Details from your local Product Specialist or the helpline (01384-446789)