

## Making the Transition to Speech Recognition

### *Avoid Potential Pitfalls and Problems*

- **Be State-of-the Art.** Speech recognition is resource intensive. Use at least a Pentium III (or equivalent) 500 MHz CPU, 256 MB RAM, a good sound card, and noise-canceling microphone.
- **Build a Customized Vocabulary.** Most speech recognition programs permit the user to add new words and analyze the pattern of word choice in your documents. Customized language modeling can substantially improve accuracy. (Diagnostic Imaging, September 1999) Commercially available specialty vocabularies for medicine, law, and other topics can help too. (J. Am. Med. Informatics Ass'n, May/June 1999) Try **SpeechScape™** for acute medical care, the first edition in the planned series.
- **Pretrain.** Speech recognition makes mistakes. It may take hours, days, or weeks of corrective training to reach a high accuracy level. (InfoWorld Electric, Sept. 20, 1999) With our advanced speech processing tools, your secretary or Custom Speech USA, Inc. can pretrain your speech recognition software using your daily dictation (digital format required).
- **Use Macros.** Macro commands launch computer programs and activate software functions. Speech recognition makes errors, but a voice-activated macro always correctly types the standardized report or document. You can also use structured reporting to complete "fill-in-the-blank" templates by voice. (Home Office Computing, Feb. 1999)
- **Buy Off-the-Shelf.** Use workflow manager **Command!™** to create complex workflows with off-the-shelf, mass-marketed Windows-based products. Use **Command!™** with different speech recognition systems (e.g., Dragon, IBM) and other common business applications, including word processors, fax, spread sheets, contact managers, reporting tools, internet messaging, and others. Use with **Command!™ Call Center** to create a transcription system with a telephone dictation server. Message and information centers are available as well. **CustomMike™** can be used with a standard Philips handheld, slideswitch noise-canceling microphone. **PlayBax™** software uses a regular transcriptionist foot pedal and plays back standard audio formats, as well as proprietary formats by Olympus, Sony, Microsoft, and others. Use **MacroBLASTER™** to create macros activated by bar code, programmable keypad, or voice. **acWAVE™** can compress and decompress standard and proprietary audio formats, as well as perform other conversion functions on speech or other audio.
- **Make Correction of Speech Recognition More Efficient.** Because of inevitable mistakes, proofreading and correction of computer generated text are required. (Law Practice Management, Nov/Dec 1998) Use **SpeechMax™** to reduce editing time with computer-aided detection of potential errors. Batch transcribe your dictation locally with the Dragon or IBM engine with **SpeechServers™**. You can also send your audio to **TransQuantumUSA™**, an internet service. The speech recognition text can be edited by **TransQuantumUSA™**, or returned to your staff for correction with **SpeechMax™**. A full range of traditional manual transcription services are scheduled for availability late 2002.

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We teach computers how to listen®

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