

PlayBax™

A Single Product for All Your Transcription Needs

Dictation was formerly recorded primarily using tape cassettes. Today dictation is increasingly digital. Audio is recorded into a handheld recorder or microphone attached to a PC. The audio may be recorded using standard .wav format. Frequently, the audio is recorded using a proprietary compressed format. Examples include .mp3, .wma, .dss, and .mvs. The popular .mp3 format is used both for speech and music. The .wma format has been produced by Microsoft. The .dss and .mvs formats are available from Olympus and Sony, respectively. There are others.

Compressed audio files are smaller. They require less hard disk space on a PC for storage and are more rapidly transmitted across the internet. This proprietary format may require special software developed by the manufacturer for playback. Usually each company's playback software has its own special interface and transcriptionist foot pedal. Examples include products by Olympus and Sony.

As a result of the proliferation of formats, a transcriptionist who transcribes for different speakers may be required to play back different formats. From the transcriptionist's perspective, it would be desirable to have a single playback system which could handle a variety of audio formats.

Patent pending PlayBax™ is designed to provide the "essential" playback features used by most transcriptionists, as well as permit playback of a variety of audio files. The software runs with Windows 95/98/ME/NT/2000/XP and is distributed with Windows Media Player. It uses a standard transcription foot pedal (play, fast forward, rewind) connected to a serial or USB port. Keyboard and hot-key controls are available for most functions. PlayBax™ includes a playback speed control slider-bar, auto-return to the last audio file and position played, customizable rollback, and other useful features.

PlayBax™ can also convert different formats into a standard .wav file for playback. In this way, a single, easy-to-use software program and foot pedal is available to process all dictation files. In some cases, e.g., for .mp3 or .wma files, the conversion software is incorporated into the PlayBax™ software. In other cases, e.g., .dss or .mvs, PlayBax™ activates Olympus and Sony software for conversion into a standard wav file. This requires separate purchase of the Olympus or Sony software.

Use with Script Tool™ to create macros to convert proprietary audio format to standard .wav file. As new proprietary formats are created and used for dictation audio, update PlayBax™ conversion to play back the new format. PlayBax™ may be the only transcription software that you will ever need.

Finally, PlayBax™ can be integrated with Command!™ workflow manager to create simple or complex dictation-transcription systems. Command!™ Call Center provides a telephone dictation server for the small office or large transcription company. Other speech processing applications provide for efficient audio conversion and integrate speech recognition.

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We teach computers how to listen®

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