



The AT Messenger

....bringing technology to you

Published by the Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative

Vol. 2, Issue 6, Nov/Dec 1994

The News That We've Been Waiting For....

The DATI began operation under Extension Grant funding on September 1. This is the end result of a year-long process that included public forums, consumer surveys, staff and advisory board planning retreats, hours/days/months of proposal writing, submission of a two-volume (!!) proposal, and a federal site visit.

In the new phase, the basic structure of the project remains the same, and several enhancements will be added over the course of the coming year. We will continue to offer you opportunities for hands-on experience with assistive technology at the Assistive Technology Resource Centers (ATRCs) and through the short-term equipment loan program. Training in a number of formats—state-wide workshops, the annual conference, and sessions at the ATRCs—will continue to be offered year-round. Lots of new informational materials are being developed and we will broaden the equipment recycling and peer mentor programs.

Many of the new initiatives represent partnerships with other agencies and organizations throughout the state. For example, the Protection & Advocacy Program (P & A) run by the Community Legal Aid Society, Inc. will join forces with DATI to help identify and remedy barriers to AT access. Following up on the AT Education Task Force recommendations, we will work closely with the Department of Public Instruction and individual schools and districts in helping them to meet the AT-related needs of their students. Tar-

geted outreach programs will be designed to heighten awareness of AT among older Delawareans as well as the general public.

These are challenging times, however, as we are trying to conduct an expanded program on funding that has not expanded in proportion with our workscope. This means that we will have to make the most of the resources we have and join forces with others whenever feasible. What's your creative suggestion? What could your talents add to the statewide effort? Give me a call with your ideas, and we'll explore how we might make them happen. There are definite benefits to living in a small state....

Beth Mineo, Ph.D.
Director, DATI

Contents

County TRC Reports	
Sussex.....	2
New Castle	2
Kent	3
Equipment Recycling Ads	5
Funding News	6
New Opportunities	8
Mailing List Application	11
Calendar of Events	Center Insert



DATI Throughout the State...

Sussex County

*Easter Seal of Del-Mar
Easter Seal Rehabilitation Center
600 N. DuPont Highway, Suite 100
Georgetown, DE 19947
(302)856-7946 (voice or TDD)*

Environmental control at your fingertips

We have been working recently with people who would like to increase their independence through the use of an environmental control unit which manages lights, TV and other electrical appliances from one station. There are several options depending on the desires and needs of the customers.

One which we have available for loan is a switch-operated scanning unit which can operate 8 to 16 items at a time. The main box is 8-1/2" wide by 7-1/2" deep by 3" high. It only weighs two pounds and can be placed on a table, hung on a wall or mounted on a wheelchair frame. The main control box is accompanied by one master receiver and as many other receiver modules as there are devices to be controlled. There are even modules which can replace light switches and outlets.

The scanning speed can be adjusted to suit an individual's abilities. The type of switch used depends on the user's needs. If all of this is incorporated with a state-of-the-art uninterrupted power source (UPS) unit, a person can maintain lighting and other needs even during a power outage. Depending on the number of devices programmed to remain on, the UPS could keep the environmental control unit operating for several minutes so that emergency arrangements can be made, or a single light could remain on for a longer period of time.

The scanning environmental control system can be tested at our resource center. The purchase price ranges from \$200 - \$300. For further information on the uninterrupted power source unit, call 1-800-800-4APC. The prices can range from \$119 - \$1,499 depending on the individual needs.

If the user has no need for scanning and can operate buttons similar to those of a remote control, the same system, minus the scanning unit, can be purchased for under \$100. Again, the UPS can be added for the same price, but when you consider the amount of independence the device gives, it is amazingly inexpensive.

In closing, the staff at the Sussex ATRC would like to thank our readers for the interest they have shown in previous articles. We have received calls from as far away as Topeka, Kansas, and have spoken with people at exhibits who wanted to see the devices about which we have written. Currently, people are following through and borrowing the items while adding an adaptation or two of their own. So again, we appreciate your interest.

New Castle County

*Delaware Elwyn
321 E. 11th St.
Wilmington, DE 19801-3499
(302)657-5647; (302)658-8860 (TDD)*

Phones are much more than a "Hello"!

The basic telephone is still with us, but phones these days are for much more than just to say, "Hello"! Modern technology has opened up an enormous array of opportunities to non-disabled and disabled people alike. The breakup of "Ma Bell" was only the beginning of a revolution in telecommunications.

The ADA and other laws, combined with technological advances, have made telephones much more accessible to people with physical disabilities. Special telephones are needed by people with severe speech limitations, those who are cognitively or sensory impaired, and those with physical limitations. Cordless headsets, special screens and keyboards, enlarged print, one touch dialing and tactile indicators are only a few of the special features that one can have at work or home. Some products are designed to address a particular disability, but the trend is to design units with more universal applicability. For example, you may purchase an amplified phone with large print numbers for a person with both visual and auditory limitations. Unfortunately, there are not yet standards by which to measure a product's accessibility.

Telephone services have greatly improved in spite of many technical and government regulations surrounding telephone use. Today, we can send about 500 times more information in the same amount of time via telephone than you could just 5 years ago. Also, the availability of features such as FAX, Call Waiting, and Three Way Calling expand the usefulness of telephone service. Speech or hearing impaired users can now call any person they wish by calling the Delaware Telephone Relay Service Numbers (in Delaware 1-800-232-5470).

As with any technology, the needs of the customer determine which items are suitable for use. But there is no doubt that telecommunications hold great potential for expanding the horizons of people with disabilities. So if you want to hear more about telecommunications technology or want to see or borrow some special needs telephones, give us a call at the New Castle County Assistive Technology Center at (302)657-5647. But remember—if you call us, you'll get a lot more than just a "Hello"!

Kent County

*Easter Seal of Del-Mar
Kent County Community School
Carver Rd.
Dover, DE 19901-2716
(302)739-6885; (302)739-6886 (TDD)*

Note taking—a better way

Taking notes is a necessity in virtually all high school and college classes, lectures, and training seminars. For a person who is unable to write due to a physical disability or injury, the need to take notes can present a serious problem. Many people try to record lectures using the built-in microphone on mini cassette recorders, usually with little success. Asking the lecturer to hold the recorder would be placing an undue burden on him or her. Another option is to hire a note taker. Hiring a person, unfortunately, can become very costly and volunteers are few and far between.

One answer to this common problem is to use a personal amplification system designed for people with hearing impairments. A personal amplification system usually consists of two parts: a transmitter with miniature microphone worn by the speaker, and a receiver with headphones worn by the listener. The transmitter uses an FM radio frequency to broadcast to the receiver with a range of several hundred feet. The lightweight transmitter can be equipped with a non-obtrusive lapel microphone and worn comfortably by the speaker. The receiver can then be plugged directly into the tape recorder's microphone jack using an inexpensive patch cord. The listener is now provided with a clear and consistently high quality recording. The speaker's location or orientation in the room does not effect the quality of the recording. He or she may even leave the room. In this case, the speaker may need to be reminded that the transmitter is still on as to not accidentally record any private or embarrassing conversation. Most portable tape recorders also

AT Around the State *(cont'd from page 3)*

accommodate a remote switch for stopping and starting the recording. Remote switches, as well as patch cords, can be purchased at local electronics supply stores.

Quality personal FM amplification systems generally cost between five and six hundred dollars. Fortunately, many schools and conference facilities have purchased these systems to accommodate people with hearing impairments. Be sure to ask if such a system is available. If purchasing a cassette recorder, be sure it contains jacks for an external microphone and remote switch. Recorders that use full-size cassette tapes are generally more reliable and provide a better quality playback. Cassette tapes may be purchased in lengths of up to 120 minutes (that's a full hour per side). For best recording, set the volume on the receiver to its lowest setting.

Companies that make personal FM systems:

Comtek Communications Technology
c/o Audio Enhancement
1748 West 12600 South
Riverton, UT 84065
(801)254-9263

Phonic Ear, Inc.
3880 Cypress Drive
Petaluma, CA 94954-7600
(800)227-0735

Telex Communications, Inc.
9600 Aldrich Ave. South
Minneapolis, MN 55420
(800)328-3102

Williams Sound Corporation
10399 West 70th St.
Eden Prairie, MN 55344-3459
(800)328-6190

Contact your local ATRC for more information on personal FM systems.

NSF Awards Science, Engineering, & Math (SEM) Research Grant to ASEL

The National Science Foundation has awarded the Applied Science & Engineering Laboratories of the University of Delaware and the Alfred I. duPont Institute a 3-year research grant that will address the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in science, engineering and math curricula. The goal of the project is to engage, recruit and retain individuals with disabilities in SEM educational programs so that the current underrepresentation of these individuals in both SEM educational and professional positions will be reversed.

Under the direction of Ken Barner, Ph.D., this project will launch the following programs in advancing SEM opportunities:

- Regional outreach to families, counselors, and faculty via awareness training, solutions seminars, and abilities demonstrations.
- Extracurricular SEM programs updated to allow participation by all students.
- Mentoring program based on electronic communication.
- Virtual laboratory which will minimize physical requirements and allow all students access to laboratory equipment through computerization and virtual environments.
- Dissemination of findings so that results of this project will influence other organizations to make their improved curricula accessible.

Taken together, these programs form a comprehensive model for increasing the number of individuals that will advance the fields of science, engineering, and math.



....that the electronic assistive device market grew by more than 10% from 1992 to 1993, according to a survey conducted by the Electronic Industries Association. Sales of products for the visually impaired such as braille keyboards, braille displays, book players, screen magnifier software/hardware, note takers, braille embossers, speech synthesizers, reading machines and CCTV magnifiers increased 15% from \$57 million to \$66 million. Sales of hearing-related products such as TTY/TDD machines, telephone handsets, assistive listening devices, television captioning decoders and visual alerting devices rose 11% from \$48 million to \$53 million over the same period. For more information, contact EIA, 2001 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20006; (202)457-8728.

....that, after a recent settlement under the ADA, Avis will begin making rental cars with hand controls available for people with disabilities. Hand controls will be provided for 2- and 4-door compact cars, 2- and 4-door full-size cars, and luxury cars at no extra charge. To rent a vehicle with hand controls, less than 24 hours advance notice will generally be

required at rental locations open until 11 pm seven days a week. More notice may be required at other locations.

....that an MIT study predicts the median age of Internet users will drop from 26 to 15 within the next five years.

....that an analysis of more than 10,000 disabled employees showed that 31% of their employment situations required no added cost for special training or facilities. 50% were under \$50 and 69% cost less than \$500. Only 1% cost over \$5,000. Studies show that building a new facility that is accessible adds only 1/2 of 1% to the building's cost.

....that, according to *SHHH and Hearing Journal*, national statistics show:

- 1 out of every 11 persons is hearing impaired.
- only 1 out of every 10 hearing impaired persons have aids.
- about 40% of the people above age 65 have a hearing loss.
- only 6% of seniors feel they have a hearing problem.
- it takes an average of 7 years for someone with a hearing impairment to seek help.

Devices Available	<p>For sale: Everest & Jennings Marathon power wheelchairs (2) w/owner's manuals. Narrow adult size with right side power controls. 5 years old, work fine, need cleaning. \$500. (Item 2-6-003)</p> <p>For sale: Prentke Romich Liberator. Programmable augmentative communication device w/ voice output. Loaded with Word Strategy program. Bought in</p>	<p>1991. Good condition. Asking \$4000. (Item 2-6-004)</p> <p>Free! Rascal brand 3-wheeled scooters (2) for aiding mobility. 4 years old. Need repair. (Item 2-6-005)</p>
<p>For sale: Orthokenetics electric 3-wheel scooter with front-wheel drive. Used only 3 months. Comes with 2 batteries and charger. \$2,200 or best offer. (Item 2-6-001)</p> <p>Free! Boston Scoliosis Brace for spinal curvature. Size X-8-f-0. Works fine. Charity receipt available. (Item 2-6-002)</p>	Devices Wanted	<p>Needed: Extra wide adult wheelchair with 28-30 inch width and 400 lb. capacity. Will pay up to \$1000.</p>

Call DATI Central Site at (302)651-6790 for further information or to place your free ad!

FINANCING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Delaware Medicaid Coverage Standards for Motorized Wheelchairs/Powered Mobility Devices

Ron Sibert, Funding Specialist, DATI

The prominent role that Medicaid and other insurance carriers play in the provision of all types of durable medical equipment (DME) is fairly well-known. However, the Medicaid procedures and coverage criteria for “powered wheeled mobility devices” differ in subtle but important ways from those that apply to standard DME. Powered wheeled mobility devices (PWMDs), which include motorized wheelchairs and tricarts, require somewhat special treatment.

Medicaid requires all DME to be prescribed by a physician. However, the PWMD can only be covered if the prescribing doctor is one of the following types of specialists:

- Psychiatrist (physical medicine specialist)
- Cardiologist (heart specialist)
- Neurologist (nervous system specialist)
- Rheumatologist (doctor specializing in diseases affecting joints and their supporting structures)
- Orthopedist (specializes in disorders of body parts related to “movement,” e.g., limbs, bones, joints, muscles, tendons, etc.)

Next, the device must be a product that “appropriately” meets the medical/functional needs of the person for whom it is prescribed. This is where an informed, well written justification for the equipment is crucial. The Medicaid claims review team gives primary consideration to prescriptions/certificates of medical necessity (CMNs) and letters of justifi-

fication that are **signed by the physician**. Documentation provided by therapists or other health care professionals may support the doctor’s prescription, but the team’s decision is based primarily on the documents that bear the doctor’s signature. This may present a problem when communication is lacking between the prescribing doctor and the therapist. In many cases, the therapist is the actual source of the equipment recommendation, and is often more familiar with the device and its appropriate use than the doctor who is charged with prescribing it. Ideally, doctors and therapists should collaborate in developing the necessary documentation. In practice, however, it may be simpler for the therapist to compose the letter/statement of medical necessity for doctor’s review, comment and signature. Delaware Medicaid’s current claims processing policies permit (that is, do not prohibit) this approach. In any event, Medicaid will only purchase (or rent) a PWMD for a Medicaid beneficiary if the appropriate specialist certifies in writing that the patient is “nonambulatory” (unable to walk) and unable to propel a standard wheelchair manually due to a related medical condition.

Assuming the doctor provides a proper prescription/letter of medical necessity, the patient takes it to an equipment dealer who is (must be) a Medicaid DME provider. The dealer copies the pertinent information from the doctor’s prescription, and forwards it to the doctor for signature. Once the signed CMN is returned to the dealer, it is forwarded to Medicaid for an authorization number, which permits the dealer to bill Medicaid for

the PWMD. Depending on the amount and type of information the doctor provides on the original prescription, the dealer may forward a copy of it along with the CMN.

Once the patient has been using the device for awhile, it may need to be repaired or replaced. Medicaid has different coverage policies depending on whether the chair was originally purchased or rented. If Medicaid originally *purchased* a chair which now requires repair, the doctor must certify on a CMN that the repair is necessary in order for the cost to be covered. The equipment supplier may then effect repairs and bill Medicaid under code E1350¹.

The Medicaid policy “caps” PWMD *rentals* at 15 months. That is, Medicaid will pay the supplier a set rental fee for a maximum of 15 months. After that, the beneficiary may continue using the chair as needed at no personal cost, and the supplier may only bill Medicaid the equivalent of 1 month’s rental once every 6 months for routine repair and maintenance. When such a device actually requires repair, the supplier is responsible for doing so at no additional cost to the beneficiary or to Medicaid.

Finally, if the PWMD needs to be replaced, Delaware Medicaid will provide a replacement regardless of the amount of time that has elapsed since the device was originally provided—but only if the doctor certifies in writing that the current chair no longer meets the needs for which it was originally prescribed, and/or that the chair is damaged beyond repair.

1. If the chair is not a type that appears on the provider listings, the supplier must use code E1399 and provide the manufacturer’s name and the product or model number.

More Information Resources...

ABLEDATA-REHAB DATA

National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC)
8455 Colesville Rd., Suite 935
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301)588-9284 or (800)322-0956

ABLEDATA database contains descriptions of more than 17,000 commercially available products for rehabilitation and independent living.

Apple Computer Inc., Worldwide Disability Solutions Group (WDSG)

Apple Computer, Inc.
20525 Mariani Ave., MS25E
Cupertino, CA 95014
(408)974-7910

The Worldwide Disability Solutions Group at Apple works with key education, rehabilitation, and advocacy organizations nationwide to identify the computer-related needs of individuals with disabilities and to assist in the development of responsive systems.

IBM Special Needs Information Referral Center

IBM Educational Systems
P.O. Box 1328, Internal Zip 5432
Boca Raton, FL 33432,
(407)982-9099 or (800)426-2133

The Center responds to requests for information on how IBM products can help people with a wide range of disabilities use personal computers.

Information provided by HEATH Resource Center, One Dupont Circle, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036, (202)939-9320, (800)544-3284.

IBM PCs at Factory Outlet Prices!

IBM has opened a PC Factory Outlet Store in Raleigh, NC, where refurbished and surplus computers, software, and peripherals can be purchased at discount prices. For a list of the store's current inventory, call (800)426-3395, where an automated system will request information from you and fax a complete list within minutes. If you have further questions or would like to place an order using cash, check, money order, purchase order, or credit card, call (800)426-7015. Purchases can be shipped anywhere in the U.S. and all equipment comes with the original warranty intact.

New Assistive Tech Newsletter Available

The Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital's Assistive Technology Center has begun publishing *Assistive Tech Talk*, a quarterly newsletter devoted to AT information. To be placed on their mailing list for future issues, contact:

Bryn Mawr Rehab
414 Paoli Pike
P.O. Box 3007
Malvern, PA 19355-3300
(610)251-5400

How 'bout a round of golf?

The Middle Atlantic Blind Golf Association was formed in 1950 as an all-volunteer, non-profit association whose mission is to spread the word to blind and visually-impaired individuals that golf truly is a game for everyone. MABGA has initiated a Junior Golf Program in the Delaware Valley, the first in the country, which allows teenage visually-impaired students the chance to learn the game and to improve their skills. For information about clinics or seminars for therapists and rehabilitation professionals, contact the MABGA office in Philadelphia at (215)824-0890.

Toll-Free Technical Assistance for Removing Barriers

The Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board has added a toll-free text telephone line for people seeking technical assistance on removing barriers. The number is (800)993-2822. The number for voice telephones is (800)USA-ABLE. A bulletin board service also is available. It operates 24 hours/day and can be reached at (202)272-5448. Technical assistance on using the bulletin board and downloading documents is available from noon to 4 pm (Eastern), Tuesdays and Thursdays, at (202)272-5434, ext. 736.

Partners in Policymaking Recruiting New Applicants

The Developmental Disabilities Planning Council is currently recruiting parents of children with developmental disabilities or adults with a disability for their 1995 Partners in Policymaking class. Partners is a unique training program that includes current issues affecting people with disabilities, role playing, and policymaking at the local, state, and federal levels. The goal is to achieve a productive partnership between people needing services and those in a position to make policy and law.

Participants attend eight 2-day training sessions between January and September. They are reimbursed for respite, child and personal care services while they are at each training. Sessions are held in Dover at the Sheraton Inn. For an application or more information, call Gail Launay in Seaford, Delaware at 628-9308.

Have an idea for an assistive device but don't know how to make it?

The Consumer Innovation Lab at the Applied Science & Engineering Labs is looking for ideas for devices that would be helpful to individuals with disabilities. Contact Bob Piech or Jim Fee at (302)651-6830 (V) or (302)651-6834 (TDD) for information or with your design idea!



Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative

Publications List & Order Form

The following publications are available from the DATI Publications Office. All prices include shipping and handling. Please be sure to indicate the items you wish to purchase and include a complete mailing address for shipment.

<u>Funding Fact Sheets</u>						
Set of five fact sheets providing overviews of the policies and practices of five major funding streams in Delaware relative to assistive technology. Can be ordered separately or as a set.		Single Copy	2-9 Copies	10+ Copies	Qty Ordered	Total Amt
FS-1	Public Schools	<i>Free</i>	\$1.00 ea	\$.50 ea		
FS-2	Medicaid	<i>Free</i>	\$1.00 ea	\$.50 ea		
FS-3	Medicare	<i>Free</i>	\$1.00 ea	\$.50 ea		
FS-4	Voc Rehab & Independent Living	<i>Free</i>	\$1.00 ea	\$.50 ea		
FS-5	Social Security	<i>Free</i>	\$1.00 ea	\$.50 ea		
FS-6	Set of Five		\$5.00 set	\$2.50 set		

<u>Guide to Funding Resources for Assistive Technology in Delaware</u>					
Comprehensive guide to the primary resources for assistive technology funding in Delaware. The guide contains information on eligibility, coverage policies, and application procedures. The material is assembled in a binder with index tabs for convenience.		1-9 Copies	10+ Copies	Qty Ordered	Total Amt
FG-1	Funding Guide		\$5.00 ea	\$4.00 ea	

<u>Delaware Assistive Technology Resource Guide</u>					
Guide containing detailed information about the assistive technology resources for services provision and consultation in Delaware. Service providers are indexed by the types of AT in which they specialize and the types of services they provide. Consultant information contains detail on individuals' experience and training relative to different aspect of AT. The materials are assembled in a binder with index tabs for convenience.		1-9 Copies	10+ Copies	Qty Ordered	Total Amt
RG-1	AT Resource Guide		\$5.00 ea	\$4.00 ea	

<u>Independent Living Brochure Series</u>		Single Copy	2-9 Copies	10+ Copies	Qty Ordered	Total Amt
Five colorful brochures describing the benefits of assistive technology for activities of daily life.						
IL-1	You Can Get There From Here <i>(Reaching and mobility aids)</i>	<i>Free</i>	\$.40 ea	\$.20 ea		
IL-2	Zip It Up <i>(Clothing adaptations and dressing aids)</i>	<i>Free</i>	\$.40 ea	\$.20 ea		
IL-3	Around the House <i>(Housecleaning and storage)</i>	<i>Free</i>	\$.40 ea	\$.20 ea		
IL-4	Cleanliness Is Next To... <i>(Personal Care and Grooming)</i>	<i>Free</i>	\$.40 ea	\$.20 ea		
IL-5	What's For Dinner? <i>(Cooking and dining)</i>	<i>Free</i>	\$.40 ea	\$.20 ea		
IL-6	Set of Five Brochures		\$2.00 set	\$1.00 set		

<u>Independence Through Technology Video</u>		Any Quantity	Qty Ordered	Total Amt
An introduction to the many ways in which assistive technology can impact lives. The video contains information about the DATI and other AT resources in Delaware.				
IV-1	Independence Video	\$10.00 ea		

Order information

Your mailing address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number of items ordered _____ Total Amount Enclosed _____

Please make all checks payable to the **University of Delaware/DATI** and mail completed order form to:

**DATI, University of Delaware/A.I. duPont Institute,
P.O. Box 269, Wilmington, DE, USA 1989
Phone: (302)651-6790; TDD (302)651-6794; Fax: (302)651-6793**

Be sure that you don't miss a single issue of the *AT Messenger*. If you're not on the project's mailing list already, clip this form and send it in today!

DATI Mailing List Application

Name _____ Title _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

Phone: Business _____ FAX _____ Home _____

<p>I am a:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Person with a disability (please specify): _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Family member of a person with a disability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Friend/advocate/colleague of someone with a disability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Professional working with people who have disabilities (please specify) _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Interested citizen</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Accessibility Needs:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Braille</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Large print</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 15/16 Audiotape</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1-7/8 Audiotape</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ASL Interpreter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tactile Interpreter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Transportation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Spanish</p>	<p>I would like to be involved in:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Technology users peer network</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Service provider network</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Funding initiatives</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Presenters network</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project governance (boards & committees)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy activities</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer work as: _____</p> <p>_____</p>
---	---	--

Send completed application to: **Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative**
 A.I. duPont Institute
 P.O. Box 269, 1600 Rockland Rd.
 Wilmington, DE 19899
 Phone: (302)651-6790 TDD: (302)651-6794 FAX: (302)651-6793

Participants for AAC Evaluation Needed

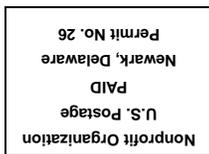
Do you use or know someone who uses a communication device? Do you use row/column scanning to access your device? Are you a relatively good speller? Would you be interested in evaluating a product that could potentially increase your communication rate?

The Augmentative & Alternative Communication (AAC) research group at the Applied Science & Engineering Laboratories is currently evaluating a new software package designed to enhance the rate at which the user of an

augmentative communication system can enter information into a computer. Needed are a few people who have interest and experience in using an AAC system, as well as experience in row/column scanning. The evaluation process will require 10-15 hours, including some familiarization training, use of the system, and computerized data collection. Feedback will be solicited from the participant during the entire process.

Participants will be paid for their time. If you are interested, please contact Denise Peischl of the Applied Science & Engineering Labs at (302)651-6830 (V), (302)651-6834 (TDD), or (302)651-6895 (Fax).

Address Correction Requested



Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative
Applied Science & Engineering Laboratories
University of Delaware/A.I. duPont Institute
P.O. Box 269
Wilmington, DE 19899



“Planning for Independence” Bound for Success!

As this edition of the *AT Messenger* goes to press, we are preparing for our annual conference in Dover on October 21 & 22. By the time you read this, many of you will have already taken advantage of the many resources for information, devices, services, and networking that the DATI Annual Conference offers. With an attendance of over 300 participants, 17 exhibitors, 24 scheduled presentations, and a keynote presentation by the Training Director of the World Institute on Disability, this year’s meeting has all the makings of a great success!

If you were there, we hope you found the conference to be both informational and inspirational! If not, mark your calendars now for next Fall’s meeting—you won’t want to miss this opportunity again!

The AT Messenger is published bi-monthly by the Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative.

Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative
Applied Science & Engineering Laboratories
University of Delaware/A.I. duPont Institute
P.O. Box 269, 1600 Rockland Rd.
Wilmington, DE 19899
Phone: (302)651-6790
TDD: (302)651-6794
FAX: (302)651-6793

Beth Mineo, Director
Ron Sibert, Funding Specialist
Bob Piech, Consumer Activities Coordinator
Donna Bacon, Education & Training Coordinator
Sonja Simowitz, Staff Assistant
Gregg Stum, Research Programmer

DATI is funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research of the U.S. Department of Education, Grant #H224A10005. This publication does not necessarily reflect the position or policy of NIDRR/ED, and no official endorsement of the materials should be inferred.

The University of Delaware is an equal opportunity employer and prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, age, national origin, marital status or disability in conformity with applicable laws.