

Partners Monthly Progress Statement

Project Code 10500

Project Acronym VISICAST

Reporting Period: 03/00 to 06/00

Report No:

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0 – Summary Expand all tables as necessary

<i>Main Achievements</i>
The face to face transaction system has been modified in accordance with the evaluation report issued by the RNID
Progress towards implementing the Description of Work
Highlights/Participated Problems for next period

1 – Issues

1.1 Objectives

Objectives	Progress towards achieving objectives
<p>Visicast will develop, evaluate and apply realistic virtual humans (avatars) to the generation of European deaf sign languages. The gesture description language and the associated real-time virtual humans will be used in the human-computer-interface of many applications. It will</p> <p>In the Applications Work Packages</p> <p>1. Enhance the status of Europe's deaf citizens by improving their access to public services and entertainment, and enable them to develop and consume their own multimedia content for communication, leisure and learning. It will build applications for the signing system for:</p> <p>1.1 Television</p> <p>WP1: Television & Broadcast Transmission</p> <p>1.2 Multimedia and the Internet</p> <p>WP2 Multimedia and WWW Applications</p> <p>1.3 Face-to-face transactions</p> <p>WP3: Face-to-Face Transactions</p>	<p>Detail progress</p> <p>A first version system has been completed and evaluated with representatives from the deaf community. The feedback suggests that specific improvements are required to increase acceptability: these amendments have been addressed.</p>

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Objectives continued	Progress towards achieving objectives
<p>It will in the Research Work Packages</p> <p>2 Develop systems for the generation, storage and transmission of virtual signing.</p> <p>3 Refine user-friendly methods for capturing signs (WP4 Animation and Modelling)</p> <p>4 Create a machine-readable notation to describe sign-language gestures (hand, face and body) which can be used to retrieve stored gestures or to build them from low-level motion components.</p> <p>5 Use this descriptive language to produce tools that can translate from both speech and text into signing. (WP5 Language and Notation)</p> <p>6 Trial and evaluate the Application prototypes (WP6 Trials and Evaluation)</p> <p>7 Ensure effective management, external communications and publicity for the project (WP7 Project Management, External Communications and Publicity)</p> <p>8 Ensure appropriate exploitation and dissemination of results (WP8 Exploitation and Dissemination)</p>	<p>An extensive programme of events has taken place, with significantly more planned in the future. These events are aimed both at deaf community and at other retailers and service providers who would benefit from the implementation of this technology. See section 4.</p>

1.2/3 Deliverable/s this period

<i>Deliverable Code & Name</i>		<i>Month Originally planned</i>	<i>Current view Revised Month (*)</i>	<i>Actual delivery</i>
Deliverable/ Milestone No	3a 1	7		
Deliverable/Milestone Name	Constrained PO sys			
Technical Achievement Description for that deliverable				
A working system has been engineered which combines domain oriented robust speech recognition techniques with simple translation functions and the avatar animation. The result was of a quality where on average 61 percent (variation of 42 to 70 percent) of signs were deemed acceptable.				
Problem / Delays Description		Corrective Action		

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1.4 Deviations from Work Package Plan. Complete for each deviation

WP No.	Deliverables effected	Action date	by
Describe Deviation from plan:			
Why are Deliverables not on schedule:			

Describe possible solutions:	
State proposed rationale for requested change:	
Give pros	cons
Recommend one solution:	

2 – Contractual Arrangements

<i>Serious problems requiring change of contract/consortium/description of work</i>

3 - Project Meetings held

<i>Title</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Comments</i>

4 - Dissemination / Promotional Information

4.1 Conferences and/or Workshops attended/foreseen

<i>Date</i>	<i>Title of conference/workshop</i>	<i>No of People</i>	<i>Title of presented Paper</i>
27/4/00	Delivering Independent Access*, Nuneaton		Stand and demonstration
15/5/00	Delivering Independent Access*, Eastbourne		
23/5/00	Delivering Independent Access*		

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	Ipswich		
6/6/00 7/6/00	PAF Annual Conference, Mount Pleasant, London (Royal Mail Event)		
15/6/00 16/6/00	Independence 2000 Exhibition, Liverpool		
2/8/00	BDA Conference, Belfast		
	* Post Office event held for other businesses to promote disability awareness		
	Forthcoming Events in Next Period		
13/9/00 14/9/00	Independent Living Exhibition 2000, Wembley		
26/9/00	Deafway 2000 Exhibition, Hove/Brighton		
12/10/00	Deaf Awareness Week Event, Caerphilly		
13/10/00 14/10/00	ViSiCAST exhibition, Islington Business Design Centre		
14/10/00 15/10/00	Nation Federation of Sub Postmasters Exhibition,		
18/10/00	Islington Council Deaf Awareness Event		

4.2 Articles Published , Press coverage etc.

<i>Date and Type</i>	<i>Details</i>

5.4 Main results: Patents, guidelines, standards, prototypes, PhDs, Specs

<i>Date and Type</i>	<i>Details</i>
July 2000	Prototype Face to Face transaction

6 – Project Effort

6.1 Make an entry for each member of staff on the project.

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Effort for the reporting period (in decimal person months)	Work Package No										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	T		
names of staff Joanne Coy Alan Kennedy Rebecca Kent			0 0.03 0.25								
Total			0.28								

6.2 Accumulated Effort

Effort for the reporting period (person hours)	Work Package No *																	
	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		Total	
names of staff	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A
Joanne Coy Alan Kennedy Rebecca Kent					0													
					5													
					3													
					7													
Total					4													4
					2													2

* Remember planned effort is for the work package not the individual

I confirm that the details entered on this form are correct

Signature

Note: The signature must match the name on the top of the form

Table 6.1 Indicative Effort for the reporting period (Decimal Person Months)

Period: July 2000

Work Packages		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	TOTAL
P No	Short Name	Staff Name								
5	UKPO	Joann Coy								
		Alan Kennedy			0.04					0.04
		Rebecca Kent			0.26					0.26
		Total Months			0.30					0.30

Table 6.2 Indicative Effort for the reporting period (Person Hours)

Work Packages		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	TOTAL
P No	Short Name	Staff Name								
5	UKPO	Joann Coy								
		Alan Kennedy			5.0					5.0
		Rebecca Kent			37.0					37.0
		Actual Hours Total			42.0					42.0
		Planned Hours Total								
		Previous Acumulated Hours			91.0				91.0	
		Total Acumulated Hours			133.0				133.0	