



The following excerpt has been taken from the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation Paralysis Resource Center website.

http://www.paralysis.org/site/c.erJMJUOxFmH/b.1297521/k.8F3C/Tools_Tech.htm

Assistive Technology--Computers

Technology plays a vital role in the lives of millions of people who are paralyzed. There are numerous assistive technology (AT) products on the market today that enable people with disabilities to achieve greater independence and enhance their quality of life. These products, tools and gadgets help ease people through their daily routines, and assist them in communication, education, work or recreation.

Assistive technology, including the powerful personal computer, can help improve one's physical and mental functioning, strengthen a weakness, and improve a person's capacity to learn, or even replace a missing muscle system. AT can help with using a computer, bathing, dressing, grooming, cooking, cleaning, writing and reading, etc.

Web Sites

www.abledata.com

ABLEDATA

A massive national database of assistive devices and products for people with disabilities.

Phone: 800-227-0216

Email: abledata@orcmacro.com

<http://www.usatechguide.org/links.php?catid=99>

USA-TechGuide's Assistive Technology Equipment Purchase Loans

www.trace.wisc.edu

Trace Center

Trace Center at the University of Wisconsin is working to make standard information technologies and telecommunications systems usable by people with disabilities.

Phone: 608-262-6966

Email: info@trace.wisc.edu

www.nationalmssociety.org/Sourcebook-Devices.asp

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS)

Offers a good resource for assistive devices.

www.scipilot.com/

The Spinal Cord Injury Peer Information Library on Technology (SCI PILOT)

The Spinal Cord Injury Peer Information Library on Technology describes the assistive technology experiences of individuals with quadriplegia from their own perspectives. Lots of innovation – what works, what doesn't.

Phone: 416-597-3422 ext. 6264

www.ataccess.org/

The Alliance for Technology Access

A network of community-based resource centers dedicated to providing information and support services to children and adults with disabilities, and increasing their use of standard, assistive, and information technologies.

Phone: 707-778-3011

<http://atto.buffalo.edu/>

Assistive Technology Training Online Project

Provides information on technology applications to help students with disabilities learn in elementary classrooms.

www.accessibilityisairight.org

AIR Foundation

<http://cat.buffalo.edu/>

The Center for Assistive Technology

Offers a free information service called "Link to Assistive Products." Learn about assistive products and where to get them.

www.assistivetech.net/

Assistivetech.net

An online information resource providing up-to-date information on assistive technologies, adaptive environments and community resources.

Phone: 404-894-1414

www.abilityhub.com/

AbilityHub: Assistive Technology Solutions

AbilityHub's purpose is to help you find information on adaptive equipment and alternative methods available for accessing computers. Searching the Internet for accurate information on Assistive Technology is much like "looking for a needle in a haystack". AbilityHub's web site attempts to reduce the size of the haystack and bring you the information in an organized fashion.

Phone: 802-775 -1993

www.resna.org

<http://69.89.27.238/~resnaorg/taproject/RESNA.html>

RESNA Technical Assistance Project

The Technical Assistance Project is a sponsored project of RESNA, the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America. The RESNA Technical Assistance Project (Grant No. H224B990005) is one of four technical assistance grants funded by the National Institute On Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) under the Assistive Technology Act of 1998. The state assistive technology project is designed to reduce barriers to the availability, acquisition, and use of assistive technology devices and services for individuals with disabilities within their home state, which can be located via this web link.

<http://www.gimpgear.us/>

GimpGear

<http://www.microsoft.com/enable/>

Microsoft Accessibility: Technology for Everyone

Microsoft is dedicated to developing technology that is useable and accessible to everyone, including those with disabilities. Learn about built-in accessibility features in Microsoft products that you can adjust to meet your needs and preferences.

www.techconnections.org/

Tech Connections

Welcome to your one-stop resource for information on Assistive Technology (AT) designed to accommodate people with disabilities in the workplace and in everyday life activities.

Phone: 800-726-9119

<http://www.rjcooper.com/index.html>

RJ Cooper: Software and Hardware for Persons with Special Needs

Note their power wheelchair simulation software is called **Joystick Trainer**

(<http://www.rjcooper.com/wheels/>)

<http://www.broadenedhorizons.com/mouthjoystick.htm>

Broadened Horizons: Sip & Puff Mouth Joystick Adapted Game Controllers

<http://taalliance.org>

Technical Assistance Alliance for Parents Centers

Consists of one national center and 6 regional centers. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education as part of IDEA.

Phone: 952-838-9000

Email: alliance@taalliance.org

<http://www.onlineconferencingsystems.com/at.htm>

Free Assistive Technology

an extensive, annotated list (200+ products) of free assistive technology devices and products. The list was developed with the support of The Ohio Governor's Council on People with Disabilities and the Nisonger Center at Ohio State University.

www.ucp.org/ucp_channel.doc.cfm/1/12/69/69-69/1027

UCP's Assistive Technology Checklist for Children with Disabilities in School

<http://www.atechnews.com/>
Assistive Technology News

www.fctd.info

Family Center on Technology and Disability

Academy for Educational Development

1825 Connecticut Ave., NW

Washington, DC 20009

202-884-8068

Gives away a free resource guide in print and CD on assistive technology.

Websites about Computer Donations for People with Disabilities:

Share The Technology

<http://sharetechnology.org/>

Microsoft Authorized Refurbisher Donation Program

http://www.microsoft.com/about/corporatecitizenship/citizenship/giving/programs/it_build.mspx

TechSoup- The Technology Center for Nonprofits

www.techsoup.org/stock/default.asp?visit=1

Educational CyberPlayGround: Donate, Get or Recycle Computers for Learning

http://www.edu-cyberpg.com/Technology/Computers_for_Learning_pro.html

Chat Rooms

<http://www.closingthegap.com/forums>

Closing the Gap Forums

Closing The Gap Forums is a discussion board exploring the many ways that technology is being used to enhance the lives of people with special needs. Please feel free to participate in the discussions listed below and share this valuable resource with friends and colleagues.

There is no fee to participate.

The following books and videos are available for free loan from the PRC library. For more information, please see www.paralysis.org and click the Lending Library tab.

Books

- Alliance for Technology Access. **Computer and Web Resources for People with Disabilities: A Guide to Assistive Technologies, Tools and Resources for People of All Ages.** Alameda, CA: Hunter House Publishers, 2004. 4th ed.
- Anson, Denis K. **Alternative Computer Access: A Guide to Selection.** Philadelphia: F.A. Davis, 1997.
- **Assistive Technology: Access for All Students.** Linda Johnston et al, editors. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, 2007.
- **Assistive Technology in the Workplace.** Desleigh de Jonge, Marcia J. Scherer, Sylvia Rodger, editors. St. Louis, Mo.: Mosby, 2007.
- Ballmer, Steve. **Accessible Technology in Today's Business: Case Studies for Success.** Washington, DC: Microsoft Press, 2002.
- Clark, Joe. **Building Accessible Websites.** Indianapolis, Ind.: New Riders Publisher, 2003.
- Cook, Albert M. and Jan Miller Polgar. **Cook & Hussey's Assistive Technologies: Principles and Practice. Third Edition.** St. Louis: Mosby Elsevier, 2007.
- Dell, Amy G. et al. **Assistive Technology in the Classroom: Enhancing the School Experiences of Students with Disabilities.** Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, 2008.
- **Designing and Using Assistive Technology: the Human Perspective.** Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Publishing, 1998.
- Edyburn, Dave L. **What Every Teacher Should Know About Assistive Technology.** Boston: Allyn & Bacon, 2003.
- Hawking, Stephen. **Computer and Web Resources for People with Disabilities: A guide to exploring today's assistive technology/alliance for technology access.** Alameda, CA: Hunter House Publishers, 2000.
- Horton, Sarah. **Access by Design: A Guide to Universal Usability for Web Designers.** Berkeley, CA: New Riders, 2006.

- Lazzaro, Joseph. **Adapting PCs for Disabilities**. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley, 1995.
- Paciello, Michael. **Web Accessibility for People with Disabilities**. Berkeley, CA: Group West, 2000.
- Slatin, John & Sharron Rush. **Maximum Accessibility: Making your website more usable for everyone**. Boston: Addison-Wesley, 2003.
- **Smart Technology for Aging, Disability, and Independence: The State of the Science**. Edited by William C. Mann. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2005.
- Thatcher, Jim et al. **Construction Accessible Web Sites**. Birmingham: Glasshaus, 2002.
- **Universal Usability: Designing Computer Interfaces for Diverse Users**. Jonathan Lazar, editor. West Sussex, England: John Wiley & Sons, 2007.
- **Web Accessibility: Web Standards and Regulatory Compliance**. New York: Friends Of/Springer-Verlag, 2006.

Videos

Christopher and Dana Reeve Paralysis Resource Center's streaming video on Hands-Free Computing

http://www.paralysis.org/site/c.erJMJUOxFmH/b.1353977/apps/nl/content2.asp?content_id={CF855132-C547-4298-A6B4-7E17A65BC57E}¬oc=1

- **Enable: People with Disabilities and Computers with the Flying Karamazov Brothers**. Microsoft, 1999 (45 minutes). VHS
- **Freedom Machines**. New Day Films, 2005. DVD (76 min)
- **Handicaps and Technology**. Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities and Sciences, 1987. (19 minutes)
- **Ready to Live (People in Motion series)**. Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities and Sciences, 1994. (60 minutes)
- **Tech Talk: Computer Access**. Program Development Associates. Cicero, N.Y.
- **Technology and Self-Advocacy: A Bridge to Independence**. Cicero, NY: Program Development Associates, 1998. (11 minutes)

The information contained in this message is presented for the purpose of educating and informing you about paralysis and its effects. Nothing contained in this message should be construed nor is intended to be used for medical diagnosis or treatment. It should not be used in place of the advice of your physician or other qualified health care provider. Should you have any health care related questions, please call or see your physician or other qualified health care provider promptly. Always consult with your physician or other qualified health care provider before embarking on a new treatment, diet or fitness program. You should never disregard medical advice or delay in seeking it because of something you have read in this message.