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## **Lawyers Find Technology Helps With Reading Workload**

*TextAloud Text to Speech Software Proves to be an Industry Asset for Legal Pros*

CLEMMONS, NC – A life in the legal profession is filled with challenges. From demanding hours and monumental workloads, to the challenges posed by constant deadlines, huge caseloads, firm and client management, and legal research – it's a notoriously tough profession. And among those challenges for law students and lawyers are the tasks of preparing and proofing a variety of legal manuscripts, letters and documents, along with maintaining an often massive reading list – from legislation changes and updates, to legal research and case preparation, industry articles, and more. Luckily, Text to Speech programs like **NextUp's** *TextAloud* ([www.NextUp.com](http://www.NextUp.com)) assist those in the law profession in proofing their work or keeping up with their reading no matter where they are, through the freedom offered by listening to the material read aloud. *TextAloud* is an award-winning program that converts text into spoken audio for listening on a PC, and that can also save text to audio files for playback on portables like the iPod®, PocketPC®, and a wide range of portable devices.

People from a wide variety of professions have already found *TextAloud* to be an indispensable everyday tool, but the program has proven particularly popular among those in the study or profession of law. Many small firms or single-attorney offices face a mountain of document preparation from deeds, wills, lawsuits, and other court documents – without the time or manpower to adequately proof those materials. *TextAloud* has proven invaluable in these instances, helping to improve reading comprehension and speed while offering the opportunity to proof work "by ear," and from anywhere. The program's ability to address formidable reading or study challenges for such users no matter where they are – out of the office, waiting for a court appearance, or even at leisure – has proven to be truly transformative.

In recent surveys of *TextAloud*'s legal industry users, several respondents noted their use of the program specifically for the pursuit or study of law – following are just a few testimonials:

- **David D. (Attorney):** "As a lawyer, *TextAloud* saves me hundreds of hours a month. If I get a contract or other document that requires a complete but only cursory inspection, *TextAloud* can be great for that. I also listen to long e-mails, articles from my favorite Web sites, and even entire books. I honestly don't know how I ever got by without it."
- **Gordon L. (Attorney):** "I use *TextAloud* to keep me updated on new case law and legislation by downloading a text or even a PDF file (my favorite feature) and then having *TextAloud* read it aloud to me over my iPod. It's a good timesaving technique, and permits me to review more law than I would otherwise. And used in combination with a portable audio device like an iPod or other MP3 player, you can make relatively productive use of time spent driving, waiting in line, grocery shopping, etc. Using *TextAloud* lets me get home to my wife and three kids sooner, rather than later."
- **Paul R. (Attorney):** "Basically, as lawyers, we live and die by our correspondence. Even if the research and analysis is excellent, typos distract and discredit the lawyer and his or her work product. I therefore use *TextAloud* to proofread my documents. I do a large number of letters a day, and it is very easy to overlook typographic errors, especially those in which you may think one word but type another, or in which you may simply type the wrong tense of the word. Even if you proofread it immediately afterwards, you may miss those types of mistakes – and most word-processing software spell-checkers will not find them, either. I would highly recommend the software to any who type their own material."
- **Francis W. (Law Student):** "I used *TextAloud* throughout my final year at University to obtain my law degree. I am now studying for my bar vocational course to become a trial lawyer. There's a lot of reading required when studying Law, and *TextAloud* makes it possible for a dyslexic like me to keep up. I am a mature student (40), and when I left school nobody thought I could secure the lowest qualifications. Personal computers were the first major step in making my achievements possible – and *TextAloud* was the second!"
- **Mike J. (Law Student):** "I'm a law student, and use *TextAloud* to listen to cases and other legal materials while I drive."

## About *TextAloud*

*TextAloud* has been featured in *The New York Times*, *PC Magazine*, *Writer's Digest*, on CNN, and more. Hailed by critics and users alike, *TextAloud* is priced at just \$29.95, and is compatible with systems using Windows® 98, NT, 2000 and XP. The program is available for fast, safe and secure purchase via <http://www.NextUp.com>.

## **About NextUp.com**

**NextUp.com**, a division of NextUp Technologies, LLC, provides award-winning Text to Speech software for consumers, business customers, educators, and those with visual or vocal impairment, or learning disabilities.

In addition to *TextAloud*, NextUp.com markets other innovative Windows software designed to save time and deliver vital information. *NewsAloud*™ is a talking personal “news agent” that finds the stories users want, and then reads them aloud or to portable audio files.

*WeatherAloud*™ is a weather application that lets users select and listen to personalized weather forecasts, while *StocksAloud*™ reads stock updates and related news headlines aloud for specific companies of interest. NextUp *Talker* is an easy and affordable program that allows people who have lost their voices to use the latest in high-quality computer voices to communicate with others. Most recently, NextUp introduced a new text reader, *AbleReader*, available with the AT&T Natural Voices™ for use on Mac computers. Information on *AbleReader* is available at <http://www.AbleReader.com>.

### **Note to Editors:**

Evaluation copies of *TextAloud* are currently available upon request. To receive a review copy, or for more information on NextUp.com or *TextAloud*, please contact publicist Angela Mitchell at **(904) 982-8043** or via [Admitchell@Nextup.com](mailto:Admitchell@Nextup.com).

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