



2668 Lewisville-Clemmons Road
Clemmons, NC 27012

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Contact: Rick Ellis
rdellis@nextup.com

Angela Mitchell
admitchell@nextup.com or (904) 982-8043

B.C. Wife Circumvents Husband's Dyslexia with a Little Listening (and the Power of Text to Speech)

NextUp's TextAloud Provides the Key to Overcoming the Daily Frustrations of Visual Reading

CLEMMONS, NC – As the wife of a dyslexic living in a small community in British Columbia, Christine Shaw knew firsthand the frustrations many dyslexics can encounter simply by trying to accomplish reading tasks many others do without thought. Her husband enjoyed getting information and articles from the Internet, but his reading disability made the process challenging and disheartening. Christine took her research to the major search engines and discovered Text to Speech (TTS) tool *TextAloud*, the leading Text to Speech program from **NextUp Technologies** (<http://www.NextUp.com>).

Millions of people the world over suffer from dyslexia, which can short-circuit visual reading and make comprehension difficult. Bringing visual text into natural-sounding speech, *TextAloud* is easy to use PC software that's priced from just \$29.95. Circumventing the ways in which dyslexia can make visual text difficult to enjoy or comprehend, all *TextAloud* requires is a quick download and installation, and users like Christine and her husband are now free to listen to websites, e-mail, articles, eBooks, and more. *TextAloud* is perfect for dyslexics, as well as those with ADD, ADHD, and other reading disorders – as it also frees them up for listening to text anywhere they go, and on almost any popular portable device (and it even works with iTunes).

After installing *TextAloud* to their PC, Christine's husband was able to use the Text to Speech program within minutes to read any interesting text he found on the Internet. The process of listening to text proved far easier and less frustrating than the visual reading process, and his comprehension was improved as well. "With dyslexia, there's a huge benefit to having the ability to listen to text," comments Christine, "instead of struggling through trying to read it visually."

TextAloud quickly became the couple's primary reading tool. Soon listening to articles and website text was no longer an exotic solution, but simply the best way to enjoy their reading. "*TextAloud* definitely changed our view of Text to Speech," comments Christine, who had expected to encounter stilted computer-like speech that would be difficult to enjoy. "Instead, *TextAloud* with Acapela's 'Heather' voice was natural, flowing, and easy to understand." *TextAloud* provided the perfect alternative to reading frustrations for Christine's husband, bringing the power, entertainment and information of the world to him by ear, instead.

About *TextAloud*

Highly useful for students, scientists, writers, business people, students and people from all walks of life – *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 from \$29.95, and is compatible with systems using Windows® 98, NT, 2000, XP and Vista. *TextAloud* also works seamlessly with iTunes, for easy synching with iPod®, iPhone™, or other iTunes-compatible portable audio players. The program is available for fast, safe and secure purchase via <http://www.NextUp.com>.

NextUp.com also offers *TextAloud* with optional premium voices from **AT&T Natural Voices™**, **Nuance®**, **Acapela®** and **Cepstral®** for the most natural-sounding computer speech anywhere. Available languages include U.S. English, U.K. English, Indian Accent English, Scottish Accent English, Arabic, Cantonese Chinese, Mandarin Chinese, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Belgian Dutch, Faroese, Finnish, French, Canadian French, German, Icelandic, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Polish, Brazilian Portuguese, European Portuguese, Russian, Castilian (European) Spanish, Latin American Spanish, Mexican Spanish, Swedish, and Turkish.

About NextUp.com

NextUp.com, a division of NextUp Technologies, LLC, provides award-winning Text to Speech software for consumers, professionals, businesses, 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. 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.

Evaluation copies of *TextAloud* are available upon request. For more information on NextUp.com or *TextAloud*, or for other case studies involving users ranging from writers, editors, and teachers, to students, entrepreneurs, firefighters, doctors, lawyers, truck drivers, musicians, and more, please contact publicist Angela Mitchell at **(904) 982-8043** or via Admitchell@Nextup.com.

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Media Contact:

Angela Mitchell
Paranoid PR (for NextUp.com)
(904) 982-8043
Admitchell@Nextup.com