**2668 Lewisville-Clemmons Road
Clemmons, NC 27012**

TextAloud Adds New Acapela 9 Premium Voices

New Acapela 9 Premium Voices include realistic children's voices in U.S. and U.K. accents, Acapela's first Asian voices, and also Emotive Variations

CLEMMONS, NC – The optional premium voices for **TextAloud** software users ensure that anyone can find an excellent, highly realistic voice to read aloud in the gender, accent and language they prefer. Now **NextUp.com** has added exciting new **Acapela**® voices, including Asian as well as children's voices (American and British accents) sure to appeal to young students who use the program for schoolwork. Also, a select few **Acapela**® voices can now be purchased in special emotive versions with multiple variations for different moods or perspectives.

Priced from $29.95, *TextAloud* also offers a broad assortment of other useful optional varied premium voices. The popular PC software can turn text from websites, articles, PDFs, documents, and more, into pleasant, natural-sounding computer speech. It can also export text to spoken audio files for listening via any number of popular portable devices. *TextAloud* even works seamlessly with iTunes® for easy synchronizing with Apple® devices.

"*TextAloud* is already highly popular as a study tool, and as an assistive technology option that helps those with learning and reading disabilities such as dyslexia," comments NextUp.com President **Rick Ellis**. "The availability of these new children's voices from Acapela® means that kids can now listen to their reading in voices that sound like their own, making them even more accessible and relatable for listening."

The collection also includes new Japanese and Chinese (Mandarin) voices – the first Asian voices available from Acapela® to *TextAloud* users – that are sure to be of interest to many in today's diverse global economy, as well.

Children who listen to their text while reading have been shown to better understand and absorb that reading. Until now, authentic and realistic children's voices have been a rarity in the

world of Text to Speech. The new Acapela™ children's voices were carefully created and developed from the actual voices of children. The resulting natural-sounding young voices (in both male and female, U.S. and U.K. English accents) mean that children can now find a richer emotional connection with their reading by hearing it in voices they connect with themselves. These voices are also available for purchase by users of NextUp's acclaimed *NextUp Talker* software, which gives voice to the voiceless – and in this case, which will now enable children who cannot speak to have a more age appropriate substitute voice.

Sample the new voices by visiting the Acapela® premium voices page at the NextUp.com website, at **http://www.nextup.com/acapela.html**.
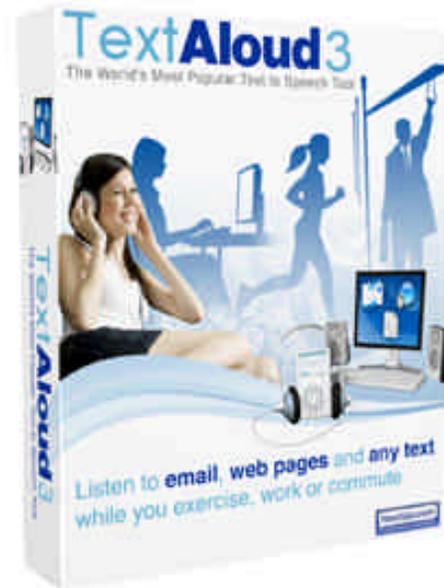
About *TextAloud*

With more personalization options than ever before, *TextAloud* is the highly useful PC program for students, scientists, writers, business users, students and people from all walks of life. *TextAloud* enables anyone to experience their reading by listening, and has been featured in *The New York Times, PC Magazine,* on CNN, and more. In 2011, *TextAloud* was honored with a da Vinci award® nomination for its uses as a valuable assistive technology.

Get the latest news on *TextAloud* at **http://www.Facebook.com/*TextAloud*** and also discover helpful video tutorials on our YouTube Channel (**http://www.YouTube.com/NextUpcom**).

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

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Photos and Captions, *TextAloud*

TextAloud is the highly useful PC program that turns text into natural-sounding speech, for listening on the computer, or exported to sound files for listening anywhere, and its optional new Acapela® premium voices help to enrich that listening experience.