

NEWSLETTER SpeechEasy International, LLC June 2009

Welcome to the second edition of the SEI newsletter! We are grateful for the positive reception and comments regarding our first issue this past January. And as always, your continued support is greatly appreciated.

JANUS DEVELOPMENT: NEW FITTING PROTOCOL IN THE USA...

Based on over seven years of observation, a clear pattern has emerged...that clients with a past history of traditional therapy AND clients who incorporate therapy in conjunction with the use of SpeechEasy have better results (improved fluency) than those depending solely on SpeechEasy or traditional therapy. As a result, the decision was made to launch a new protocol beginning in May of 2009. SpeechEasy will be "re-branded" as part of a treatment for stuttering, that treatment defined as an electronic device (SpeechEasy) used in conjunction with some form of traditional therapy.

As part of this new protocol, each new SpeechEasy client will receive an instruction manual upon delivery of the SpeechEasy device. Some of you and your patients may find this manual useful or helpful as a "stand-alone" tool, whether or not the new protocol is implemented. Each of you will receive in the mail a hard copy sample of this manual for your review and evaluation. For those who are interested, Janus will make these workbooks available to you at a cost of \$20.00 USD each, plus shipping.

LATEST PRODUCT ADVANCEMENTS...

In January's newsletter, we acknowledged that the most significant product advancement since SpeechEasy was first offered in 2001 is the introduction of the Comfort Fit device. Today it accounts for 35% of international sales (and growing), and 60% of sales in the USA.

You should have recently received an email announcement detailing some improvements in the design and construction of the Comfort Fit model. These modifications do not affect the functioning of the device, and all parts, algorithm and software remain unchanged. However, the shell and tube connection have been modified in two ways. First, shell parts will be pinned together instead of glued. This will make repairs much simpler, since the casing can be easily opened and resealed. Secondly, the 'tube-to-device' connector has been changed to a brass fitting with an audible 'click' when the tube snaps on, and requires a quarter turn to remove the tube from the shell...thus reducing the possibility of the tube inadvertently separating from the device.

*All Comfort Fit orders received after June 15th
will be filled with the new version.*

RESEARCH...

Parkinson's Disease:

Shortly after SpeechEasy was launched in 2001, Dr. Emily Wang at Rush University (Chicago) began research with the use of Altered Auditory Feedback (AAF) on Parkinson's patients who experience problems with speech intelligibility. Janus Development supplied her with several SpeechEasy devices to provide the AAF necessary for her studies. Later, her research expanded into a full-blown study funded by the Michael J. Fox Foundation, and Janus supplied the SpeechEasy devices for that study. Dr. Wang has published early findings (favorable, as far as SpeechEasy is concerned) in her Parkinson's research, but anticipates completing her study this summer. Publication of the full study will follow shortly thereafter.

Parkinson's Disease is a chronic progressive neurological disease that affects approximately four million people worldwide...and one in which 89% experience some degree of difficulty with their speech, and less than 5% of those diagnosed seek treatment for their speech problems.

Stuttering and the Brain:

We have also officially committed to support a three-year study by renowned Dr. Ann Foundas (Neurologist) at Louisiana State University using SpeechEasy devices in her brain imaging work. Beyond her evaluation of SpeechEasy in the treatment of stuttering, Dr. Foundas will continue her investigation in comparing anomalies in the brains of adults and children who stutter vs. those who do not. The potential impact of this study is huge, because it can influence the classification of stuttering as a medical problem instead of a psychological problem. This could significantly impact the coverage of stuttering by the insurance industry, thereby making SpeechEasy far more affordable to potential users. Dr. Foundas has applied for an NIH grant to help fund this study.

NEWSLETTER

SpeechEasy International, LLC

June 2009, Page 2

Distributor List:

| Distributor | Location | Contact | Email | Territory |
|---|--------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| AdvantageLabs | South Africa | Colin Samson | adlab@mweb.co.za | South Africa |
| Arabian Millennium Trading | UAE | Robin Matari | info@amt.ae | Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen |
| Aurismed | Norway | Tore Wood Moe | tore.moe@aurismed.no | Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden |
| Audivox | Spain | Joaquín Prósper | prosper@audivox.es | Portugal, Spain |
| Island Hearing Services | Canada | Janet Gibson | jgibson@ihs.ca | Canada |
| MedSy | Netherlands | Eric Ezendam | eric.ezendam@medsy.eu | Austria, Belgium, Germany, France, Ireland, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom |
| Microsom | Brazil | Reginaldo Chicon | reginaldo.chicon@microsom.com.br | Brazil |
| Starkey | South Korea | Richard Shim | richard_shim@starkey.co.kr | South Korea |
| Istanbul Bilism Teknolojileri Sanayi ve Ticaret Limited Sirketi | Turkey | Kani Torun | kanitorun@hotmail.com | Turkey |

CONVENTIONS...

The International Fluency Association Convention will take place in August of this year in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Microsom (SpeechEasy Distributor for Brazil) is one of the convention's supporters, and SpeechEasy International intends to be present and support Microsom's sponsorship.

AMT (SpeechEasy Distributor for the Middle East and parts of Africa) will participate in the National Guard Symposium to be held in Saudi Arabia in November.

PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU....

We hope you'll find this information interesting and useful. Please give us your thoughts and opinions, and suggest any additions or changes you believe would be helpful. We will gladly add your thoughts, comments, and suggestions to subsequent editions of this newsletter.

Best Wishes and good luck from the staff and management of SpeechEasy International ! !