



# NUANCE

The experience speaks for itself™

## CASE STUDY

### Helping Disabled Individuals Maintain Active Careers

Dragon NaturallySpeaking Enables Doctor to Succeed in a Report Intensive Environment Despite Partial Paralysis from Spinal Cord Injury

#### CHALLENGE

Help a disabled doctor to continue to be an active member of the medical community.

#### STRATEGY

Use speech recognition to counteract the inability to type in a report intensive environment.

#### RESULTS

Dragon NaturallySpeaking enabled the effective creation of reports and other type-written materials with positive carry-over into cost reductions in medical transcription.

Today, technology provides the tools for many people who have experienced debilitating Spinal Cord Injuries (SCIs) to maintain their previous occupations. Countless resources are now available for individuals with SCIs in order to help them quickly return to the workforce and an active lifestyle.

Dragon NaturallySpeaking® is one of those key tools.

Dr. William Sniger, M.D. from Boston, Massachusetts sustained a broken neck in a swimming pool accident when he was 18 years old that left him a quadriplegic. He was totally paralyzed from the neck down and spent several years in the hospital. Gradually he has regained partial use of all extremities and is able to walk and stand if necessary for short periods of time. He is able to write legibly, but slowly. However, typing presented a far bigger challenge.

**“Dragon NaturallySpeaking is absolutely instrumental in helping me to generate reports in an expedient and cost effective manner. Its accuracy and speed are remarkable. By using the Dragon NaturallySpeaking product I save myself about 4 hours worth of typing each workday.”**

**Dr. William Sniger M.D.,  
Victim of a Spinal Cord Injury**

According to Dr. Sniger, *“I basically used a one-finger method. It was very slow and laborious for me to type anything. As an independent medical evaluator and a consultant to the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission I am required to write a lot of medical reports as a fundamental part of my work. The time and cost to type the reports myself would be*

*prohibitive. Dragon NaturallySpeaking is absolutely instrumental in helping me to generate reports in an expedient and cost effective manner. Its accuracy and speed are remarkable. By using the Dragon NaturallySpeaking product I save myself about 4 hours worth of typing each workday. Without it I would be forced to either hire someone for my word processing needs or accomplish far less work each day.”*

When he was a resident physician specializing in patient rehabilitation he became acquainted with different assistive devices. Some worked much better than others. The occupational therapist for his patients first introduced him to Dragon NaturallySpeaking and said it was *“head and*



**NUANCE**

Dragon Dictation Solutions

*shoulders above other software solutions.” Adds Dr. Sniger, “After I completed my training and residency I decided to become a medical consultant. The occupational therapist I was working with at the time recommended Dragon NaturallySpeaking for most of my patients. He said it was a far superior product to its competitors and, in addition, was much more compatible with other software – not only with dictation within Word or WordPerfect®, but also with other Windows®-based programs. When I looked into voice recognition software for myself, it seemed that Dragon was the logical choice. The accuracy has improved dramatically since I first started using version 4.0. Voice recognition technology has finally come of age. The product works so well that my able-bodied colleagues are starting to utilize Dragon NaturallySpeaking to save money on their office transcription costs. It’s great that the purchase of a product like Dragon NaturallySpeaking is justified from a cost basis not only for individuals with disabilities but also can extend the productivity in the general office environment.”*

© 2005 Nuance Communications, Inc. All rights reserved. Nuance, the Nuance logo, ScanSoft, OmniPage, PaperPort, Dragon, NaturallySpeaking are trademarks and/or registered trademarks of Nuance Communications, Inc., and/or its subsidiaries in the United States and/or other countries. All other trademarks are properties of their respective owners.