

RESOURCES
TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES IN REHABILITATION
AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN –
OPTIMIZING INDEPENDENCE USING ASSISTIVE AIDS
AND TECHNOLOGY

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*(This listing of resources is not an endorsement of services or products,
nor is it a complete list of available resources.)*

ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT

www.beyondbarriers.com - Catalog of innovative accessibility products to enhance independence

www.bindependent.com - Multiple resources for recovery aids to simplify life as a brain injury survivor or caregiver. Assistive technology. Aids to daily living. Items to foster recovery and encourage independence.

www.greatgrabz.com - Safety grab bars with style

www.drink-aide.com, 1-800-336-7022 – Drink-Aide is a water bottle that allows wheelchair users with little or no upper body movement to independently drink fluids

www.independentliving.com, 1-800-537-2118 - Independent Living Aids, Inc. are “Can-Do Products for Your Active Independent Life”. Catalog of daily living aids for persons with visual impairments. Many of the products can benefit those with other disabilities also.

www.myselfbelts.com - One-handed belt closure

www.rdequipment.com - Tub-Slide Shower Chair

www.clarkehealthcare.com - Tub lifts

www.housecalls-network.com - Innovative solutions for independent living including variety of adaptive aids, resources, etc. Minneapolis-Saint Paul, MN based company

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

www.abledata.com - ABLEDATA provides objective information about assistive technology products and rehabilitation equipment available from domestic and international sources. Although ABLEDATA does not sell any products, they can help locate the companies that do.

www.ataccess.org/ -Alliance for Technology Access centers, a network of community-based resource centers, developers and vendors, affiliates, and associates dedicated to providing information and support services to children and adults with disabilities,

www.aisquared.com – Magnification and reading software for the vision impaired. Free trial software for ZoomText and BigShot.

www.infogrip.com - Wide selection of computer access products, including one-hand keyboards, voice recognition software, mouse alternatives, touch screens, switches and switch access products.

www.ScanSoft.com - Dragon Naturally Speaking – speech recognition software

www.freedomofspeech.com - Freedom of Speech is a full service provider of assistive technology solutions in order to empower individuals.

www.mcil-mn.org, 1-888-630-9793 - Metropolitan Center for Independent Living, Website includes discussions about technology with people talking about how they use technology to increase their independent living skills and/or how technology benefits them. Also listed are technology workshops.

www.ilusa.com/links/ilcenters.htm - Independent Living Centers are typically non-residential, private, non-profit, consumer-controlled, community-based organizations providing services and advocacy by and for persons with all types of disabilities. Their goal is to assist individuals with disabilities to achieve their maximum potential within their families and communities. National listing of centers.

www.pacer.org - PACER, Patient Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights – A national center based in Minnesota. Through its ALLIANCE and other national projects, PACER, a national center, responds to thousands of parents and professionals each year.

www.resna.org - RESNA, Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America. Interdisciplinary association of people with a common interest in technology and disability. Credentialed AT service provider directory available.

www.orin.com - Origin Instruments, resource for HeadMouse Extreme and SofType on-screen keyboard

www.magitek.com – Human interface driver concepts – power wheelchair controller

www.prentrom.com - Prentke-Romich, Manufacturer of communication aids and computer access devices. HeadMaster Plus and SofType on-screen keyboard

www.contactassist.com/amdialrc - Dialogue RC Speaker Phone

www.closingthegap.com - Closing the Gap, resource directory for hardware, software and organizations for special education and rehabilitation

www.smarthome.com - Smart Home – technology for modern homes

www.magicwandkeyboard.com - A miniature computer keyboard with a built-in mouse for people with disabilities. Full computer access with just the slightest hand or head movement ; works with the touch of a wand (either hand-held or mouthstick) and requires no strength.

Expander 5:1

Atec, Inc. – Assistive Technology Engineering & Consultation, Inc.

Martin W. Stone

1983 Edgewater Ave

Arden Hills, MN 55112

http://www.blueskydesigns.us/resumes/resume_marty.pdf

ARM SUPPORTS

www.alimed.com - AliMed catalog of patient care and rehabilitation products and resource articulating arm support

www.zoncoarm.com - Mobile arm support

ACCESSIBILITY ONLINE

<http://www.microsoft.com/enable/> - Accessible technology enables opportunity for people of all abilities—including those with difficulties, impairments, and disabilities.

<http://www.microsoft.com/enable/centers> - Network of Microsoft Accessibility Resource Centers that are located throughout the U.S. to show what's possible with accessible technology solutions available on today's computers.

<http://www.microsoft.com/enable/news/subscribe> - The Accessibility Update is a free e-mail newsletter providing information about resources to help make the computer easier to use with accessible technology solutions. Newsletter is sent through e-mail the first Thursday of each month.

DRIVING

www.AOTA.org - The American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), with funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, has expanded and updated its searchable database of national driving rehabilitation programs.

www.driver-ed.org - The Association for Driver Rehabilitation Specialists was established in 1977 to support professionals working in the field of driver education / driver training and transportation equipment modifications for persons with disabilities through education and information dissemination

www.granddriver.net - GrandDriver is an educational resource designed to provide Virginians with information and resources about staying safe and mobile as they age

HOME ACCESS

www.wheelchairramp.com - Wheelchair ramps and low-rise, long-tread steps

www.opensesame.com - Open Sesame remote-controlled door systems

www.power-access.com - Power Access Corporation, automatic door opener

LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY ACCOMODATIONS

Some local libraries have incorporated software that improves access for people with vision, hearing and mobility impairments. The following listing includes accommodations available at the Hennepin County Library system in Minnesota (Hclib.org). *This list was compiled from "Gadgets and Gear: Get more out of your library with assistive technology" by Elizabeth Jones Wolf, Minnesota Good Age, Feb. 2006.*

- MAGic Pro – magnifies items on screen from 2 to 16 times their original size and also reads the screen out loud and prompts the user with commands
- Open Book, Optical Character Recognition allows a user to scan printed materials to an application that then reads it aloud
- JAWS for Windows is a computer screen reader that's also known as Voice Output Technology allowing blind users to access web content
- Adaptive equipment that may also be available
- Trackball

- Magnifying devices
- Amplification systems
- Close-captioned televisions
- Audio tapes
- Large print books and periodicals

READING

http://lists.webjunction.org/libweb/Public_main.html - (note: this website address has an underline symbol between the words “Public” and “main”) – Directory of U.S. Public Libraries

The following lists of free and pay for service Internet web sites were compiled and graciously shared by Linda Lorentzen, OTR/L, Minneapolis, MN.

Free Internet web sites:

- www.promo.net – Project Gutenberg offers famous and freely available important texts; established 30 years ago with over 10,000 books currently available.
- www.ipl.org – The Internet Public Library is a public service organization of the University of Michigan School of Information. Subject collections, reading reference, reading room, kid space, teen space, and an “ask a question” opportunity, are part of the web site.
- www.magickeys.com/books - Children’s Storybooks offers illustrated stories for children of all ages.
- www.classicbookshelf.com – Classic Bookshelf offers free classic books with the ability to change the color and font of the reading material. Many people have trouble reading electronically but with this web site you can set the font and the color to your unique eyesight.

Pay for service Internet web sites:

- www.audible.com – 26,000 digital audio books, radio shows and audio versions of popular magazine and daily newspapers available for a monthly or yearly fee. The items are downloaded to handheld devices or personal computers.
- www.soundsgood.com – Allows an audio book download. Once an audio file has been downloaded, a person can play it on a Windows-based PC. Cost is approximately \$19.95 per month to become a member and to download 2 titles per month. Additional cost for more than 2 per month.

RECREATION/LEISURE-TIME ACTIVITIES

Resource ideas for internet search for planning activities (credit: listing was published in a 2006 edition of “Independently Speaking” newsletter by the Metropolitan Center for Independent Living, as an example of types of sites that

may be available in other regions. This listing is for the Minneapolis-Saint Paul, MN area.):

- www.ticketmaster.com – information and purchase of tickets for concerts, sporting events, etc; tickets can even be printed at home
- www.twincities.sidewalk.com – provides reviews, menus, directions, and prices at various restaurants
- www.twincities.com – restaurant information and other local entertainment resources
- www.metrotransit.org – public transportation information with “Trip Planner” tool to figure out routes to specific locations
- www.citypages.com – newspaper listing local events, movie listings, theater reviews, etc.
- www.orbitz.com – travel information
- www.travelocity.com – travel information
- www.expedia.com – travel information
- www.accessminnesota.org – Minnesota Travel Guide for Persons with Disabilities and information on accessible accommodations

www.nytimes.com/pages/crosswords - The New York Times Crossword Puzzle

www.aarp.org/fun/puzzles - AARP website with a variety of daily games puzzles to sharpen your brain.

Free game websites:

- www.jgpuzzles.com
- www.zone.msn.com
- www.pogo.com
- www.acegames.com

TRAVEL

<http://www.thebathroomdiaries.com/> - Search for clean, accessible restrooms around the world.

www.emerginghorizons.com - Emerging Horizons Accessible Travel News

“Barrier-Free Travel – A Nuts and Bolts Guide for Wheelers and Slow Walkers”, by Candy Harrington. Resource contains detailed information about the logistics of planning accessible travel by plane, train, bus and ship. Filled with resources, travel tips and updated information about accessible travel options.

MISCELLANEOUS

www.accesspress.org – Publication with disability related news and information. Located in St. Paul, MN, it is one of only twelve disability-focused newspapers published in the U.S.

