Inclusive Tech

Live Transcribe has a new name — Live Transcribe & Sound Notifications.

It's an app that makes everyday conversations and surrounding sounds more accessible among people who are deaf and hard of hearing, using just your Android phone.Using Google's state-of-the-art automatic speech recognition and sound detection technology,Live Transcribe & Sound Notifications provides you with free, real-time transcriptions of your conversations and sends notifications based on your surrounding sounds at home. The notifications make you aware of important situations at home, such as a fire alarm or doorbell ringing, so that you can respond quickly.

On most phones, you can directly access Live Transcribe & Sound Notifications with these steps:
1. Open your device's settings app.
2. Tap 'Accessibility', then tap 'Live Transcribe' or 'Sound Notifications', depending on which app you'd like to start.
3. Tap 'Use service', then accept the permissions.
4. Use theAccessibility button or gestureto start Live Transcribe or Sound Notifications.

[New] Sound Notifications:
• Get notified of potential risky situations and personal situations based on sounds happening at home (for example, smoke alarm, siren or baby sounds).
• Get notifications with a flashing light or vibration to your mobile device or wearable.
• Timeline view lets you go back in history (currently limited to 12 hours) to see what was happening around you.

Envision AI

Envision AI is one of the newer accessibility apps for Android. It uses your camera to narrate what is happening around you. For instance, you can point your phone at your companion across the table and it'll tell you that someone is sitting there and whatever other objects they may have with them. The app can also read documents and handwriting, scan barcodes, and it has support for 60 languages. You can also teach Envision who trusted members of your family are and it'll remember. The app is a bit expensive, but it may help some people.

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.letsenvision.envisionai

https://youtu.be/tbrigsu2OiA

Spoken AAC

Spoken uses predictive technology to simplify communication for people with aphasia and other speech and language disorders. Instead of limiting users to simple phrases and icons, the app predicts the next words you're likely to use so you can quickly build complete sentences.

https://youtu.be/3GWmZtUj3ok

My Wheelchair Guide -guides users through self assessment and wheelchair selection, taking into account factors such as health considerations and wheelchair features, including backrests, footrests, wheels, handrims, cushions and accessories. In addition, the app offers:

- Wheelchair maintenance checklists
- Wheelchair skills videos
- Illustrated wheelchair parts guide
- Note-taking capabilities

The free wheelchair app is available on both Androidand iOS platforms and offers advice for both beginner and advanced wheelchair users.

https://apps.apple.com/us/app/mwg-manual/id1413608780

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=edu.pitt.shrs.mywcguide

Technology for overcoming barriers of remote working

Originally published at http://www.accessandinclusion.news

https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/02/tech-innovations-people-with-disabilities-covid/

From Zoom transcripts to smartphones that can audio-describe the world to a visually impaired person, these technological advancements can help close the disability inclusion gap.For the 1.3 billion people across the world who live with some form of disability,remote working can be particularly tough. But technology is helping to overcome the barriers that risk excluding some people from the pandemic-era world of work.

Valuable 500 is encouraging the development of digital technologies to support people with disabilities working from home during the pandemic. Here are five innovations that are tackling the barriers they face.

1. Seeing AI

This Microsoft artificial intelligence app for visually impaired people uses your smartphone's camera to audio-describe the world around you. It is capable of recognizing people you know and can even describe their appearance, including how they are feeling.

It can read images on screen, hard-copy documents and it can scan barcodes in shops to provide a description of products.

2. Google Action Blocks

For people with a cognitive disability,Google has come up with the idea of making it easier to carry out common actions such as calling a colleague or a loved one. An Action Block – literally an image or button on the home screen – can be set up on any Android phone.

Using Google Assistant technology,simply touching the Action Block triggers the action,which can include making the phone speak words for those with communication difficulties. The app is available in English, French, Italian, German, Spanish and Japanese.

3. Zoom transcripts

Zoom, one of the fastest growing virtual meeting apps last year,has followed in the footsteps of Google Hangout and Microsoft Teams by introducing live captioning to help hearing impaired users take part in online meetings. The app also allows users to obtain a transcript of a recorded meeting after it has finished.

4. Android Voice Access

Google involved people with motor disabilities in the design of its voice-activated Android smartphone app. The ability to use the phone's functions without touching the screen was an essential first step.

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