

JAWS Screen Reader And Docsoft:AV Addresses Blindness, Low Vision, and Learning Disabilities

The JAWS Screen Reader, a software program created by Freedom Scientific Inc. to assist computer users with low vision or blindness, was recently found to be able to read the captions produced from a Docsoft:AV Appliance. This is possible because Docsoft:AV appliances create text-based captions that the JAWS reader can understand and consequently read aloud.

“The key is to give the end user access to the area of the video player that shows the captions,” explains Anthony Arongay, Software Engineer of Docsoft. He adds, “one way of granting users access into the caption area of your videos on a webpage is to use NCAM’s [ccPlayer](#) in the webpage that is presenting the video. This also allows JAWS to read that area.”

There is even better way of doing this: have the Docsoft:AV appliance produce a plain text transcript along with the captions. This plain text transcript can be downloaded by the user, as well as be read by JAWS and practically any other text-to-speech reader as well.

Usually, having JAWS read aloud the caption from a video is not needed because most videos have spoken content included in its audio, and therefore will sound much better. However, in the situation where the computer user is both blind and deaf, having JAWS read the captions out makes sense. JAWS works well with refreshable Braille displays like Freedom Scientific's [Focus](#), which provides Braille output in addition to, or instead of, speech. This provides access to a user who is not able to hear the words spoken in the video and not being able to read the captions on the screen, to still read the captions created with a Docsoft:AV appliance by using JAWS and a Braille pad.

Furthermore, plain text transcript is also handy for other users as well. A popular example occurs regularly in the classroom: students will be able to download the full text transcript from their class recordings, making it a whole lot easier to take notes.

Finally, it should be noted that a person using a JAWS screen reader can also administer the Docsoft:AV appliance. Not only can JAWS users read captions produced by the Docsoft AV Appliance, but also administration of the Docsoft AV appliance itself can be administered by a person who is using JAWS. This is possible because all administration of the Docsoft appliance is done via a webpage and JAWS can read webpages.



Web references:

JAWS For Windows Screen Reading Software:

<http://www.freedomscientific.com/products/fs/JAWS-product-page.asp>

Docsoft, Inc.:

<http://www.docsoft.com/>

For More Information Please Contact:

Wade Price, Software Engineer

Docsoft Inc.

405-236-2466

wade.price@docsoft.com