

A newspaper with sound!

# Ubiquitous Radio

A newspaper that can be read anywhere, anytime; a newspaper that can be heard anywhere anytime



NPO  
Sustainable Community Center Japan (SCCJ)

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

## - The IT revolution? - no answers for the physically handicapped

The visually impaired memorize a keyboard, memorize Windows, master a HP reader however they are still unable to read a newspaper. They must also learn the layout of each newspaper's contents and the use of a search engine before reading a newspaper becomes possible. The pace of reading in comparison to those without a visual challenge is of course considerably slower – additionally **unless in front of a PC**, the visually impaired again are unable to read – regardless of their abilities and efforts in mastering IT products.

## - Reading Troubles

For example: the use of a screen reader to read a selected news article

Read the top portion of the [top page] screen and the menu and ad banner links on the left side of the page, next read the top story and the list of article links, finally read the banner links on the right side of the page.

The actual [Article page] selected is identical to the [top page] in that it requires the reading of the banners and links surrounding the article before the actual article itself is reached and read. In particular reading pages that do not take into account accessibility result in a never ending series of irrelevant banners and links being read.

# Listening to the Newspaper

## Outline

- web based info(visual based information)
  - > audio information transcoding
- PDA etc. mobile internet device base
- visually impaired , elderly, highly mobile target
- literacy free
- news, books, event/tourist info, lifeline info etc. provided as audio (can also be viewed as text)

## Features

- Ubiquitous
  - anytime, anywhere, as necessary info can be heard
  - Wireless Internet, AirH, b-mobile allows instant realtime access
  - after download information can be listened to without connectivity
- Literacy Free
  - anyone can use it immediately
  - PDA base with specialized software
  - non-PC, simple functions, visually impaired and elderly can easily use
- Using an agent server web based contents can be easily accessed and heard
  - newspaper can be easily listened to
    - Nikkei, Sankei etc. web based info can be accessed while mobile politics, economic, cultural, sports etc. articles
- Multilingual (future)
  - English, German, Spanish etc. multilingual support

## Simplicity of Use

- Internet, Windows, PC knowledge not necessary



# Societal Impact

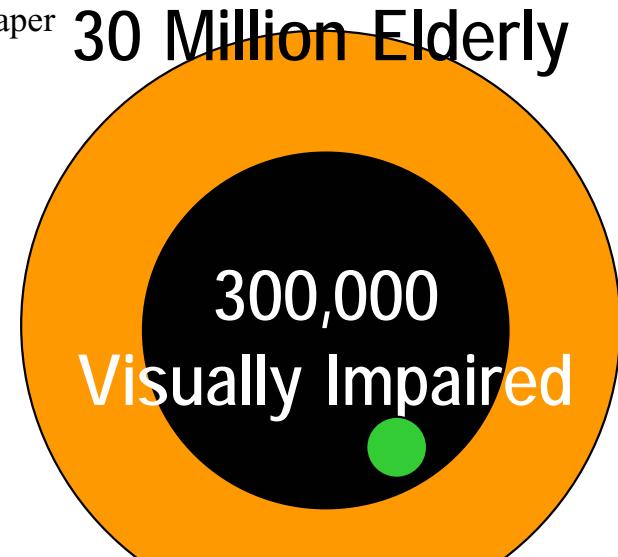
## Societal Impact

- 300,000 visually impaired Japanese given a literacy free method of reading a newspaper  
For the 300,000 visually impaired in Japan only a rare few are able to independently read a newspaper
- 30 Million elderly Japanese given a literacy free method of reading a newspaper  
For a certain percentage of the 30 Million elderly Japanese reading a newspaper becomes an increasingly difficult task

## Market

- Visually impaired and seniors – a new market creation

## Literacy free



Businessmen

17 Million elem., high, univ. students

There are very few people who can actually read a newspaper

# IPv6 allows “push” news distribution

