

# Tech Update

An Interactive & User-Focused Event Highlighting Technologies to Enhance Independence.



24 September 2010,  
D4Berkeley Hotel, Ballsbridge, Dublin

**Try-It.ie: short-term trials, for long-term gain....** Try-It.ie is an award-winning initiative enabling individuals to trial the latest technologies and make informed decisions – supporting independent living and improving quality of life. This Tech Update event is designed to raise awareness of assistive technology in an interactive and user-focused forum. The event will be of particular interest to individuals with disabilities, their families and supporting professionals.

For full details visit [www.try-it.ie](http://www.try-it.ie) or contact 01-2355339/[admin@try-it.ie](mailto:admin@try-it.ie).

## Format

This event has a strong user-focus. The individuals profiled below will be present on the day. Their assistive technology priorities will be discussed and suppliers and attendees invited to propose solutions.

### Case A

**Age & Gender:** 5, female (starting school in September 2010)

**Primary Disability:** Cerebral Palsy – spastic quadriplegia

**Relevant Capabilities:** Experiences significant difficulty accessing computers/AT via switches/ mice/ joysticks etc. Has had some success with eye gaze systems. Communication skills are challenged.

**Attitudes and experiences with technology:** Early stages in her engagement with technology. Eye gaze systems have proven most positive to-date. Negative aspect is that she fatigues after 15/20 mins of eye gaze work. Device selection yet to be made. Interested in exploring alternative options.

**Key priorities:**

- Hardware options to facilitate computer access and communication skills.
- Software options to facilitate play skills, educational and communication skills.
- Solutions to facilitate participation in school.

### Case B

**Age & Gender:** 30's, male

**Primary Disability:** Spinal Cord Injury (C5-6, quadriplegic)

**Relevant Capabilities:** Strong voice, good communication skills, biceps & wrist extensors, reliable head and shoulder control.

**Attitudes and experiences with technology:** An engineer. Technically savvy & well-informed. Computer access primarily through Dragon naturally speaking, but also tapping at touch screens/keyboard with knuckle of little finger (both hands). Occasionally uses nose to control touch screen on iPad.

**Key priorities:**

- Integrated system for computer, phone & environmental controls, e.g. iPad-based automation.
- Wants to be able to use combination of touch screen and voice commands for control.

### Case C

**Age & Gender:** 30's, male

**Primary Disability:** Central Pontine Myelinosi

**Relevant Capabilities:** Some trunk control, limited movement in right upper limb and range of movement in neck. Limited vocalisation; primarily relies on assistive technology to communicate.

**Attitudes and experiences with technology:** Currently using a chin-controlled 'leaf switch' and a senior pilot to control TV. He communicates via The Grid communication software on a laptop. Previously trialled a thumb-controlled switch, but proved inconsistent.

**Key priorities:**

- To be able to interact with family and staff.
- To have additional control over his environment.

**Registration Form**  
**Tech Update**  
**24 September 2010, D4Berkeley Hotel, Dublin**

**Contact Details**

Organisation (if applicable):

Address:

Contact Name(s):

Telephone:

Email Address:

**Registration Fees**

(Registration includes refreshments and a light lunch)

	Early Registration (on or before 17/09/2010)	Late Registration (on or after 20/09/2010)
Try-it.ie members	<b>Free</b>	€20
Non-members	€25	€45
Individuals with disabilities	Please note, there is a limited amount of funding to contribute to travel and attendance costs for individuals with disabilities. Please contact Jennifer Ward for more information. This funding will be allotted on a first-come-first-served basis.	
Student Special	Students of Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy or related disciplines may avail of a <b>3 for 2 offer</b> on the above rates.	
Number of places		
Total Cost	€	
Special Requirements (please specify)		

**Payment Details**

Electronic Fund Transfer:  
Bank: Bank of Ireland, 101 Upper Georges Street, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.  
Account Number: 63284362  
Bank Sort Code: 90-11-16  
IBAN no.: IE28 BOFI 9011 1663 2843 62  
Swift: BOFI IE 2D

For late registration, cash payment will be accepted on the day.

Receipt address if different from above: \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Terms**

We will issue a confirmation email and receipt upon receipt of your booking & payment. To avoid disappointment, please confirm your attendance and booking details by **17 September 2010**.

Please return form to: Jennifer Ward  
email: [admin@try-it.ie](mailto:admin@try-it.ie), Ph: +353 1 2355339

Parking is available on the premises at a reduced rate of €5 /day for attendees of this event.