
Why Text-to-Speech Systems?

Text-to-Speech (TTS) conversion is a technology that enables automatic systems to convert text, to natural-sounding speech. TTS technology is useful in telephony applications, especially in reading text that changes dynamically, such as electronic mail, Internet content etc. Some typical applications of TTS technology are:

- ❑ Customer support dialog systems e.g. fully or partially automated help desks.
- ❑ Interactive voice response (IVR) systems, e.g. banking applications.
- ❑ Unified Messaging Systems, specifically email reading systems.
- ❑ Screen reader programs for the visually-impaired.

SST's Rhapsodia

- ❑ Rhapsodia – SST's Text-to-speech engine delivers natural-sounding synthesized voice with multi-channel synthesis capabilities.
- ❑ Rhapsodia can support TTS conversion on anywhere from one to hundreds of simultaneous telephony channels (processor and RAM dependent).
- ❑ Option to set the different parameters of the TTS Engine. Such parameters include pitch, speaking rate, volume and more.
- ❑ The vocabulary size is more than 150,000 words.
- ❑ Most proper nouns are articulated clearly.



SST's Text-To-Speech Engine for English



Rhapsodia specifications

Supported Languages	English
Supported Platforms	Intel architecture/Windows 95/ 98/ NT/ 2000/ XP
Hard disk space required for installation	75 MB
Minimum RAM and CPU recommended for single channel operation	64MB, Pentium-III 550 MHz or higher
Voice Quality	<ol style="list-style-type: none">8000 Hz/16bit PCM speech for Telephony Applications.22050 Hz/16bit PCM High Quality speech for Desktop Applications.
Gender	Ashish (male), Tara (female).
Multi-threaded applications	Multi-channel TTS conversion with Microsoft SAPI 4.0/4.0a compatibility. Can be integrated in to both VC++ and VB applications.
Email Preprocessor (Optional feature)	Parses HTML text, URLs, Acronyms such as BTW, ASAP, LOL :-), :- (etc
TTS Input	Rhapsodia accepts raw text data as input and HTML text when you use the optional Email Preprocessor.
TTS Output	Can be obtained as a buffer or written to a file or redirected to an audio device

User Configurable Parameters

Speaking rate	100 to 300 words per minute
Pitch	Top pitch: 50Hz to 530 Hz Mean pitch: 50-530 Hz Bottom pitch: 50-530 Hz
Volume level	Maximum allowed by the D/A converter

All the 3 parameters above are dynamically configurable at run time, to give different voice quality.

Other Related Products from SST

- CTI cards - PCTAN2/4 and PCTE1.
- TeleMail
- HelloNet



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