

Project Brief – Capture and Conversion of Printed Materials

Overview

It is easy to take for granted printed materials such as newspapers, magazine and correspondence but for blind and partially sighted people such mediums can be inaccessible.

With improvements in OCR software such materials can be scanned and converted to digitised speech but this relies on having scanning hardware with high quality image capture and several pieces of software.

A more ideal solution would utilise more ubiquitous technology such as digital cameras or webcams with processing of captured images and conversion taking place in one application. The software itself must be accessible and could have digitised speech and conversion to braille or other accessible formats integrated.

Considerations

- Hardware used to capture images will vary and therefore so will image quality, processing must be accurate and consistent.
- Hardware itself may not be that accessible leading to unfocussed images.

About RNIB

Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) is the UK's leading charity offering information, support and advice to over two million people with sight loss.