

# *LSVT<sup>®</sup> Companion, Clinician Edition*

## **User Guide**



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## LSVT<sup>®</sup> Companion User Guide – Clinician Edition

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### **Manufactured by:**

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U.S.A.

### **Included in the LSVT Companion Kit:**

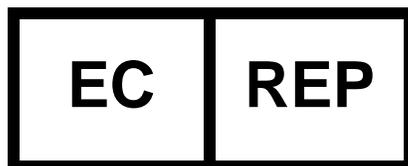
- LSVT Companion Installation USB Drive
- LSVT Companion Calibrated USB Microphone
- LSVT Companion Measuring Tape
- LSVT Companion USB Drive Installation Instructions

The LSVT<sup>®</sup> Companion is designed for the following uses:

- As a technical aid complementing person-to-person speech therapy to improve the vocal loudness of persons with Parkinson's disease.
- For adults with speech/voice impairments that result in inadequate loudness or control of loudness due to other neurological disorders or injury including stroke, traumatic brain injury, multiple sclerosis, ataxia, vocal fold paralysis or other causes.
- For voice/speech and/or hearing impaired adults who are able to follow the directions of a speech therapist.

This product has been cleared by the  
FDA for marketing and sales.

Caution: Federal Law restricts this device to sale  
by or on the order of a licensed practitioner.



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## Introduction

Welcome to the LSVT® Companion. We are very excited to introduce you to this revolutionary software tool. The Companion is designed to assist you in assessing and treating clients using the LSVT® LOUD treatment protocol. The Companion has been cleared by the FDA for your use as a medical device.

This guide will help you install and operate the Companion. In addition to this guide, please check our website, [www.lsvtglobal.com](http://www.lsvtglobal.com), for additional information relevant to this software tool and related LSVT® products and services. You may contact the LSVT Global Customer Service team if you have any Companion-related questions at [lsvtc@lsvtglobal.com](mailto:lsvtc@lsvtglobal.com), or from links on our web site.

We strongly suggest that you install the Companion with the assistance of your information technology (IT) personnel, particularly if you have limited experience in installing and running computer software on your personal or work computer.

Prior to using the Companion with your clients, you should become familiar with the software. Practicing the Companion exercises with your own voice and becoming comfortable navigating the Companion's features will improve your confidence in using the Companion with your clients. In order to optimize your treatment sessions with the Companion, it is important that you be well versed in this software before using it with your client.

## System Requirements

Before beginning the installation process, it is important to confirm that the specific computer you intend to use for the Companion meets the necessary requirements for operation. The video, memory, and hard-disc space requirements to run the Companion are very low. If your computer is running a supported operating system and you do not have trouble running other Windows programs, the Companion will likely work well. Most Windows-based personal computers meet these minimal requirements.

The Companion System Requirements:

- Microsoft® Compatible 1GHz Pentium Class Computer
- 512 Mb RAM
- Windows® 2000 SP4, XP SP2, XP Professional SP3/SP4, VISTA, or Windows® 7 operating systems
- Microsoft® Excel
  
- Your computer will also require a sound card with speakers or headphones so you can hear the instructions and feedback when you use the program (this is particularly important for the client exercises in the clinician version of the Companion). If you can hear music and sounds when you use your computer you have a sound card.
- You will need one available USB port on your computer for the calibrated microphone, which is included in this kit.

NOTE: Your information technology (IT) person at your facility can help you determine if your system requirements are adequate.

To determine if your computer meets the requirements to run the Companion:

- Click on the Start button in the bottom left corner of your screen
- Click on Control Panel
- Click on System

A general system properties page will pop up, showing the system information about your computer.

## Important Guidelines for Using the LSVT Companion

Your LSVT LOUD training combined with instructions within this User Guide provide you with the knowledge you need to use the Companion with your clients. Please review this User Guide for important information on using the Companion to support your treatment objectives.

For the best results treating clients with the Companion, please follow these guidelines:

- **ALWAYS** make sure that the LSVT Calibrated Microphone is connected to your computer and the selector switch is set to the cardioid position (top position - ) before opening the Companion application.
  - If you open the application before connecting the microphone, close the application and connect the microphone before re-opening the application.
- **ALWAYS** close other applications before opening the Companion.
- **ALWAYS** leave the LSVT Calibrated Microphone connected while the Companion application is open.
  - Disconnecting the microphone while the application is open may cause the Companion to stop working and require re-booting your computer.
- **ALWAYS** close the Companion application when you have completed a treatment session.
- **ALWAYS** make sure that Laptop and Netbook computers are plugged in during treatment sessions and that system Sleep/Standby is set to Never.
  - To save power while running on battery, many Laptop and Netbook computers reduce or eliminate power to USB ports which can result in losing the microphone connection causing the Companion to stop working until the computer is re-started. This can be prevented by disabling USB-Hub power management. Instructions can be found at [http://www.ehow.com/how\\_6791680\\_disable-power-management-windows-xp.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_6791680_disable-power-management-windows-xp.html).

## Installing and Configuring the LSVT Companion

The LSVT Companion and the calibrated microphone are very easy to install and use. However, if you are not experienced installing computer software, we suggest that you enlist the help of an information technology (IT) person at your facility. This may be particularly important if you are installing the system on a networked computer and if there are firewalls in your facility's computer system. Your IT person will also be valuable when other questions come up regarding the Companion.

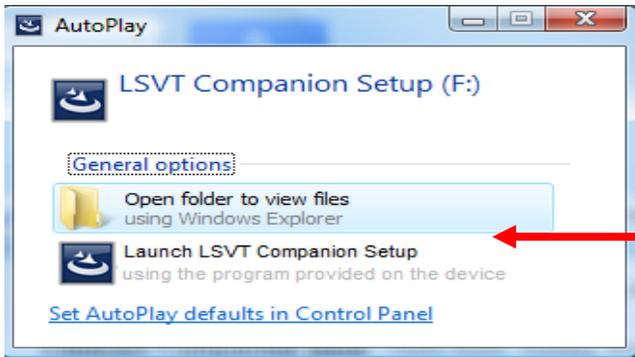
### A. *Installing the Companion Software*

Shortly after purchasing the software you will receive an email confirming your order and providing a download link. Click this link and save the setup.exe file to your desktop. Instead of a download link, you may receive an LSVT Companion USB flash drive with the setup.exe installation file included in your microphone package.

If you do not have administrator privileges on the machine which will run the Companion, see Installation by an Administrator Instructions below in A. 2.

You should receive your microphone within approximately 7-10 days after order confirmation. Before beginning the installation process, locate your microphone calibration codes on the box of your LSVT Companion Calibrated Microphone. You will need the code which corresponds to your operating system during installation. Once your Companion Calibrated Microphone is received, double click the setup.exe file on your desktop or on your LSVT Companion USB flash drive to begin the Companion installation.

If you requested a CD or USB flash drive rather than a download you will have received the calibrated microphone with the USB flash drive. Insert the Companion USB flash drive into an available USB port on your computer. **If you are a Windows Vista or XP user**, you may see an Autoplay menu automatically pop up on your screen with the option to "Launch LSVT Companion Setup". Windows Vista users will simply click "Launch LSVT Companion Setup" to automatically begin the installation process. Windows XP users will need to double-click the "Launch LSVT Companion Setup" option or select it and click "OK" (see screen shot below). You will then be taken through a series of steps to complete the installation process.



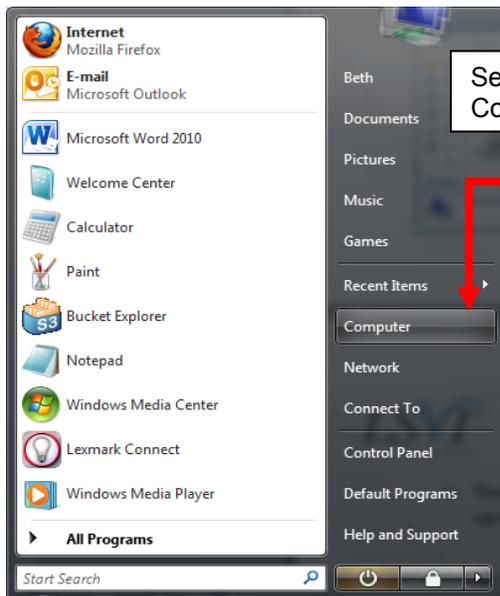
**Vista users:** Click “Launch LSVT Companion Setup” once to launch installation.

**XP users:** Double-click “Launch LSVT Companion Setup” to launch installation or select “Launch LSVT Companion Setup” and click “OK”.

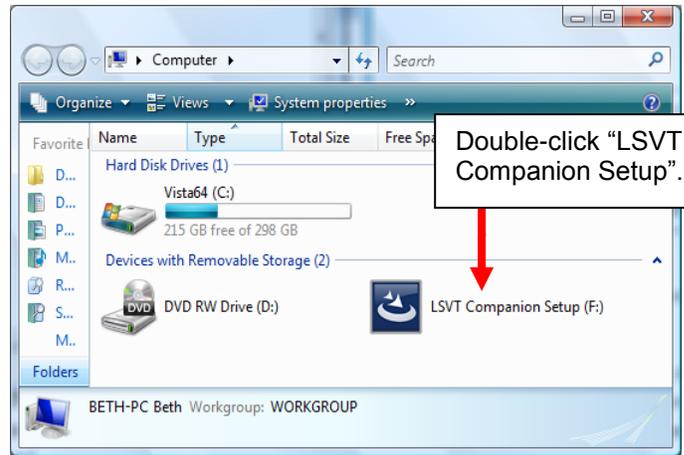
Screen shot of AutoPlay menu for Windows Vista users. The Autoplay menu for Windows XP users will include an “OK” button.

**If you are a Windows 7 user or if the Autoplay menu does not pop up on your screen** with the option to launch the LSVT Companion setup, you will need to locate the installation file by clicking on your Windows Start menu and selecting “Computer” or “My Computer” (depending on your operating system). See Panel LEFT, below.

Next, double-click the device icon labeled “LSVT Companion Setup”. See Panel RIGHT, below.



Select “Computer” or “My Computer” from the Start menu.

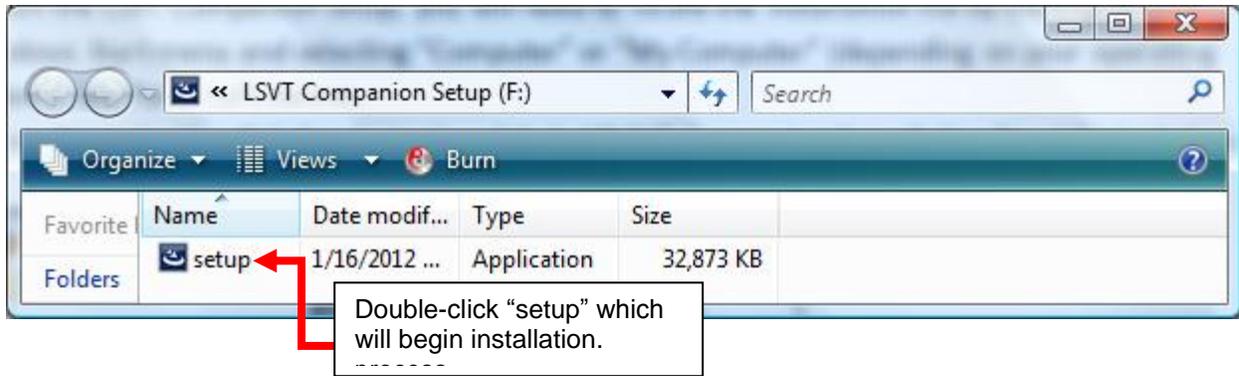


Double-click “LSVT Companion Setup”.

**Panel LEFT** – Select “Computer” or “My Computer” from the Start menu.

**Panel RIGHT**– Double-click the device icon labeled “LSVT Companion Setup”.

Lastly, double-click the “setup” icon which will begin the installation process (see screen shot below). You will be taken through a series of steps to complete the installation process.

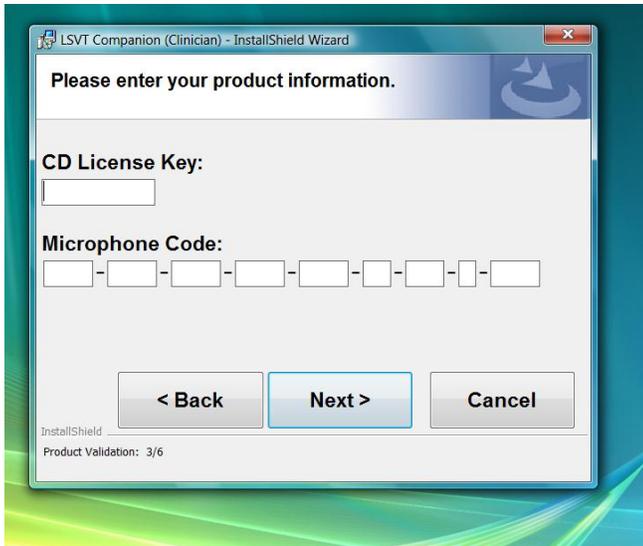


## 1. Software Installation

During installation you will be asked to enter one of the two 30 character codes found on the lid of the box of your Companion Calibrated Microphone (Samson Go Mic). **IMPORTANT:** Microphone Codes are configured specifically for different operating systems. You **MUST** enter the Microphone Code that is specific to your operating system when installing the software. If you do not use the Microphone Code specific to your operating system, you will not receive accurate SPL readings. You will find two Microphone Codes located on the lid of your calibrated microphone box. These codes identify the specific characteristics of the microphone and the Companion will not install or run successfully without this code being entered correctly. You should receive your microphone within approximately 7-10 days after order confirmation.

The Companion installation program will present you with a series of screens that will assist you with the installation process. Please follow the simple instructions on each screen.

- a. At the welcome screen, click "NEXT".
- b. Accept the end-user license, click "NEXT".
- c. You will be prompted to enter your Microphone Code (see Panel LEFT screen image below). On older CD versions you may be required to enter the CD License Key shown on the CD case.
- d. Carefully enter the Microphone Code specific to your operating system (located on the lid of your calibrated microphone box). These codes are case sensitive. The program will not install or run successfully without this code being entered correctly.
- e. Once the code is entered Click "NEXT" (see Panel RIGHT screen image below).



Panel LEFT



Panel RIGHT

- f. For the location of the installation folder on your computer, you can either accept the default location (recommended) or choose a different location for the installation folder.
- g. Click “NEXT”.
- h. Click “INSTALL” to begin installation.
- i. Once installation is complete, click the “FINISH” button.

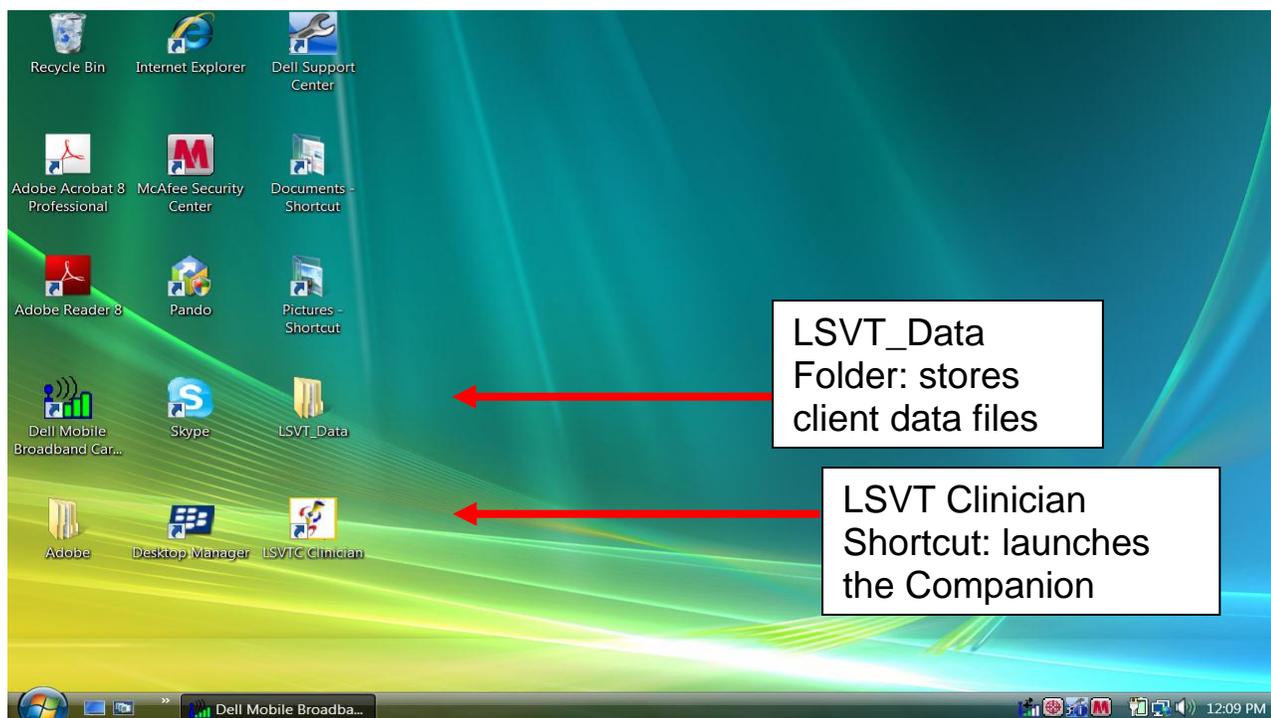
## 2. Installation by an Administrator

If the user does not have administrator privileges, and the Companion is installed by an administrator, the user will not be able to access all necessary program files and the Companion will not run. Access by the user to C:\Users\\AppData\Roaming\ directories is required and can be accomplished as follows: The administrator should temporarily provide administrator privileges to the user for installation. Once the Companion is installed by the user these privileges can be removed and the Companion will operate normally when the user signs on.

## 3. Companion Desktop Icons after Installation

After a successful installation you will have two Companion Icons on the Desktop of your computer. The Companion Clinician Icon is what you will use to open/launch the program. The LSVT\_Data Folder contains the results files with

sound pressure levels, duration and frequency for the exercises performed (see diagram below for location of these files).



#### 4. Installing the LSVT Companion on Multiple Systems

You will use the same LSVT Companion USB flash drive or download link (and CD License Key for older versions) for each system on which you install the LSVT Companion. If you have purchased additional LSVT Calibrated Microphones you must use the Microphone Code that is specific to the microphone and operating system that you will use with that system.

#### B. *Microphone Installation and Configuration*

It is extremely important that you use the microphone provided with the Companion. This microphone and the Microphone Code have been specifically calibrated for use with your Companion software. Using a non-calibrated microphone, even a different microphone of the same make and model, will invalidate the accuracy of the vocal sound pressure level measures provided by the program. **Due to differences in microphone characteristics, the validity and reliability of data collected and accuracy of feedback will be negatively affected if a different microphone is used.**

## 1. Installing the Calibrated Microphone

**IMPORTANT: Please keep your Microphone Codes in a safe place. You may need these codes again should you ever need to re-install or install the Companion on multiple computers. Should you misplace your Microphone Codes please contact us (see support and resources at the end of this user guide to provide you with your Microphone Codes).**

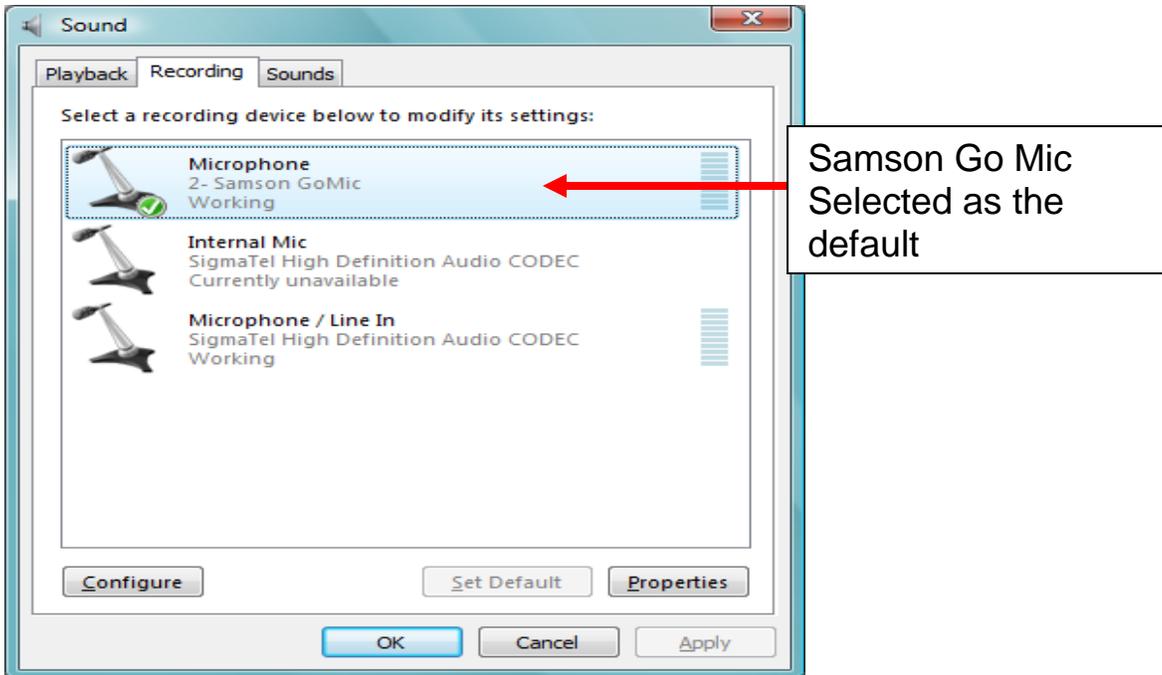
Plug the calibrated microphone (Samson Go Mic) into your computer's USB port. The first time you plug the calibrated microphone into a USB port, Windows will install the universal drivers for that port. A balloon tip will pop up, telling you it has "Found New Hardware". When it is finished installing the drivers it will say "Your new hardware is installed and ready to use". Note: This balloon will not pop up again for the same USB port.

Once the Companion program is installed and your calibrated microphone is plugged in, most computers will automatically select the calibrated microphone (Samson Go Mic) as the default microphone for collecting sound input. However, if you are a **VISTA** user, you will need to manually select the calibrated microphone as the default input device (see below).

## 2. VISTA USER Microphone Configuration

Vista users will need to manually set the calibrated microphone as the default microphone. To do this, follow the instructions below:

- a. Plug in your calibrated microphone that came with the Companion kit.
- b. Click the start menu at the bottom left hand corner of your desktop display.
- c. Select "Control Panel".
- d. Select "Classic View".
- e. Select "SOUND" from the menu choices.
- f. Select the "Recording" tab.
- g. Select the "Samson Go Mic".
- h. Select "Set Default".
- i. Click "OK".



There should be a small green check mark next to the Samson Go Mic Audio Device if it is successfully set as the default input device.

### 3. Using Multiple LSVT Calibrated Microphones

You may purchase additional LSVT Calibrated Microphones if you do not want to move a single microphone between different computers. During the installation process, you must enter the Microphone Code specific to the microphone that will be used with the system it is being installed on. The Microphone Code defines the specific sound pressure level and frequency response characteristics of a unique microphone. If you have purchased additional LSVT Calibrated Microphones you must use the Microphone Code specific to the microphone and operating system that you will use with each system. If you change the microphone in use with a system, you must uninstall and reinstall the LSVT Companion application to apply the correct Microphone Code.

### C. *Environment for Using the Companion*

To ensure accurate measurements of client voice exercises, the room in which you are using the Companion should be reasonably quiet. Background noise such as a TV or radio, or people talking loudly could interfere with the correct operation of the Companion.

The microphone is sensitive to air flow, so make sure there is no wind from fans or strong air currents directed towards it. You will know when any of the items stated

above are occurring if the Companion keeps “hearing” something even if you are not vocalizing or speaking.

For example, when performing a voice exercise, if when you stop vocalizing the program continues to run and no feedback is given, this indicates that the Companion is picking up background sound.

#### **D. *Launching the Companion for the First Time—Product Registration***

The first time that you open the Companion application you are required to register the product. You will only need to perform these steps the first time that you open the newly-installed Companion application. To do so, follow the steps below.

1. Start the main Companion application.

Double-click the Companion Clinician icon on your computer’s desktop (see picture below).

2. Enter the Companion registration information. Enter your name and the name of your clinic as indicated below.

A screenshot of a registration dialog box. The dialog box has a light blue background and a white border. At the top, it says "This product is registered to:". Below this, there are three text input fields labeled "First Name", "Last Name", and "Clinic Name". At the bottom of the dialog box, there is a green "Continue" button.

3. Set your password for the Companion.

When creating a password you will be given an opportunity to create a “hint” that can be used later if the password is forgotten. Please create a password that you can remember! If you cannot remember your password when given the “hint” you will need to uninstall and re-install the program.

The Companion supports a single password on each system. Those who have purchased Multi-User licenses will share a common password on each system. The same or a different password may be used for each system on which the Companion is installed.

**Set Your Password**

*In order to use the LSVT Companion software, you need to set a password. You will need to login with this password every time you start the software.*

**Enter Password:**

**Confirm Password:**

**Enter Password Hint:**  
(Enter a hint that will help you to remember your new password.)

**Continue**

After product registration and creating your password, you will be taken to the Home Screen. After your first use of the Companion, this is also the screen that you will automatically be taken to every time you sign in to the application.

## The Companion Home Screen

If you have not already opened the Companion application, do so now by double-clicking the Companion Clinician icon on your computer's Desktop. Log in to the Companion by entering your password and clicking on the "Login" button.

Once you have logged in to the Companion you will see the Home Screen (pictured below).



The menu choices in dark text are active; those in gray text require entering and selecting a client before being available for your use. Each Home Screen function is briefly described below.

## Home Screen Elements:

1. **Select a Client:** A drop-down list of clients with whom you use the Companion.
2. **Client Information:** Used to add new clients or change client name or/and contact information.
3. **Initial Assessment:** Used to perform a pre-treatment client assessment.
4. **Set Goals:** Used to update default settings and Functional Phrases (e.g., SPL, duration, number of repetitions, etc.) to support client-specific treatment plans.
5. **Collect Tx Data:** Used for clients to perform daily exercises with their clinician and collect daily treatment data.
6. **Editor:** Used to individualize text reading exercises for clients (e.g., words, phrases, etc., for Hierarchy Text and Conversation exercises).
7. **Set Password:** Enables you to change your Companion password. You do need to know your current password in order to change it to something new.
8. **Start Client Exercises:** For client use of the Companion without clinician supervision. Start Client Exercises walks a client through their daily exercises and collects data for clinician evaluation.
9. **Updates & Help:** When clicked you will have the option to “Check for Updates” to your current version of the Companion or be linked to the Companion’s “Online Help” website with support contact information.
10. **Exit:** Used to close out of the Companion program.
11. Select the option to **Display Data, Play Audio** or both:
  - a. Display Data allows you to see SPL, frequency (F0) and duration in real time while you are running the Companion.
  - b. Play Audio allows you and your client to hear audio instructions and feedback regarding your client’s exercises. When the Companion is used as a clinician data collection tool (during treatment and assessment), the clinician will be giving instructions and feedback, thus in these situations we recommend that the audio be turned off.

## Operating the Companion

This section will guide you through using the Companion.

### A. *Positioning the Microphone*

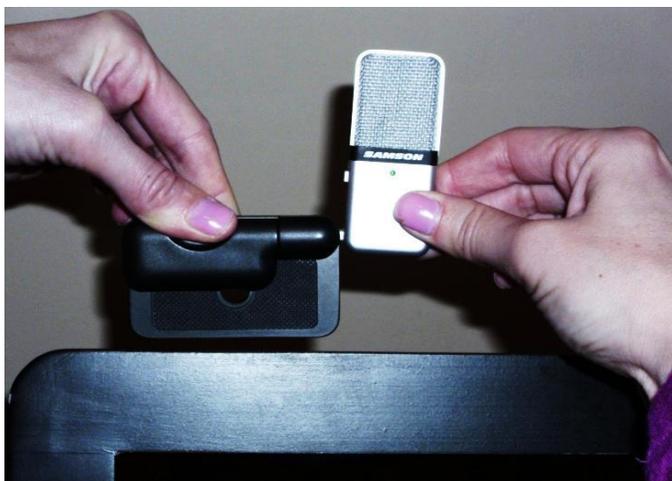
Correct microphone position is essential for capturing consistent and accurate data! Be sure to check the distance to the microphone and that the microphone is pointed directly at the client's mouth before starting each exercise and between trials.

To correctly position the microphone, follow these instructions.

1. Have your client sit in a comfortable position.
2. Clip the microphone on a laptop or typing stand facing your client (see pictures below on how to maneuver the microphone clip).

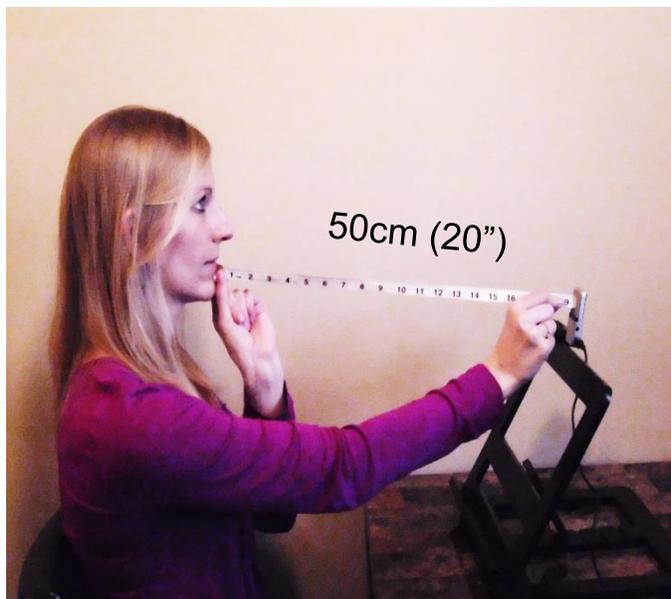
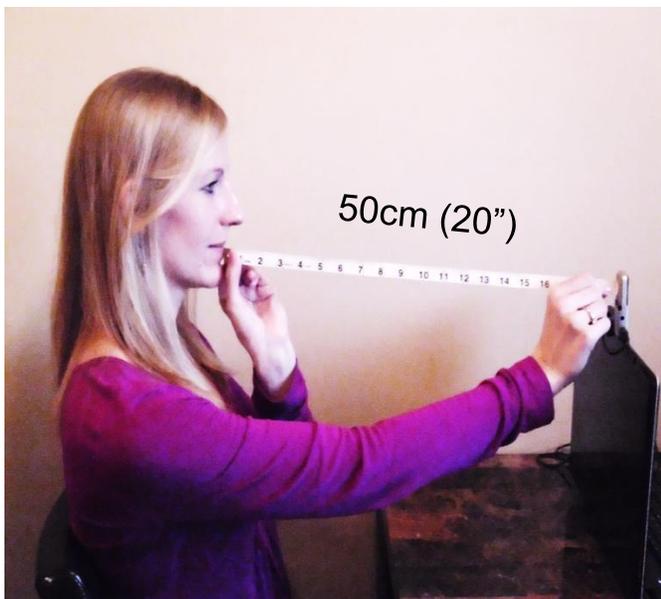


To open the microphone clip, press down on the clip with your thumb and twist open as shown.



To clip the microphone on a laptop or typing stand, continue pressing on the clip to hold it in the open position, slide the clip onto the laptop or stand and release.

3. Use the full length of the measuring tape that came in your Companion kit to place the microphone head 50cm from your client's mouth (see pictures below).



You can position the microphone on the back of a laptop or on a typing stand if you do not have a laptop or would like your laptop set to the side.

Make sure that your client does not lean forward when measuring distance and then sit back when he/she is doing the exercises. Valid data depend upon a constant 50cm microphone to mouth distance.

It is important to keep this distance constant throughout the vocal exercises so that the program can collect accurate information regarding loudness. When in

doubt, measure again. The microphone is also sensitive to its angle to the sound source. Be sure that the microphone is directed at the person being recorded, both left to right and vertically as pictured above.

### **B. Adding a New Client**

Before you can begin an Initial Assessment or record treatment data you first need to add a client to the Companion. You can use yourself, or a fictional person to become familiar with the Companion. To add a new client, follow the instructions below.

To add a new client:

1. Click on the “Client Information” button.
2. Click on “Add New”.
3. Fill in the client information (see picture below).
4. Click “Save”.

**ADD NEW CLIENT**

First Name

Last Name

Birth Date  MM/DD/YYYY

Email

### **C. Selecting a Client**

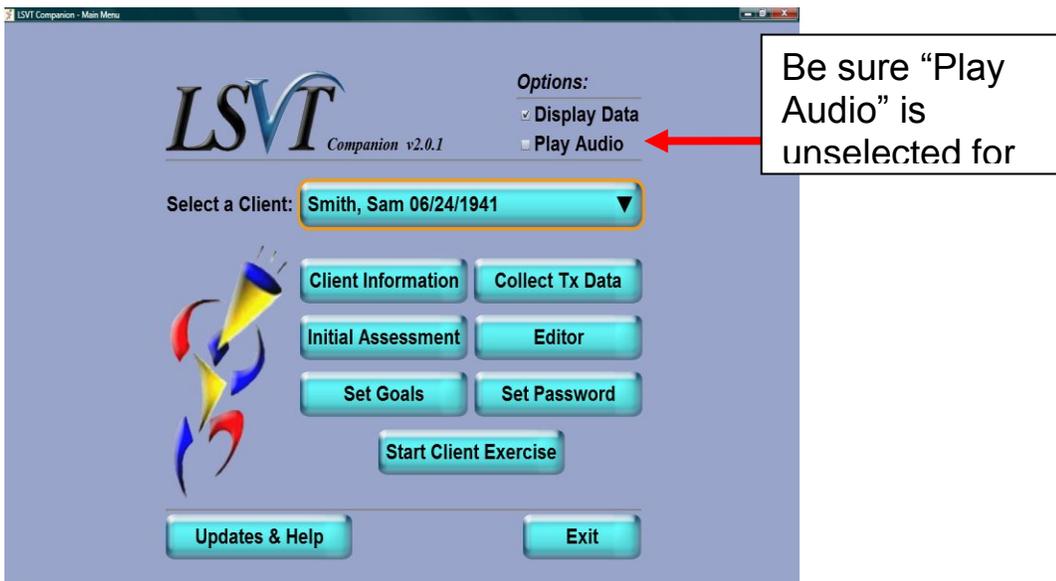
Now you're ready to select a client for treatment. Once a client has been added, his/her name will appear in the “Select a Client” drop down menu (see picture below).



Simply move your cursor over the client with whom you will be working and click when their name is highlighted. Selecting a client activates any client-specific setting that you have made in the Companion and saves the Data File from your session with that client's name and the date of your session.

#### D. *Initial Assessment*

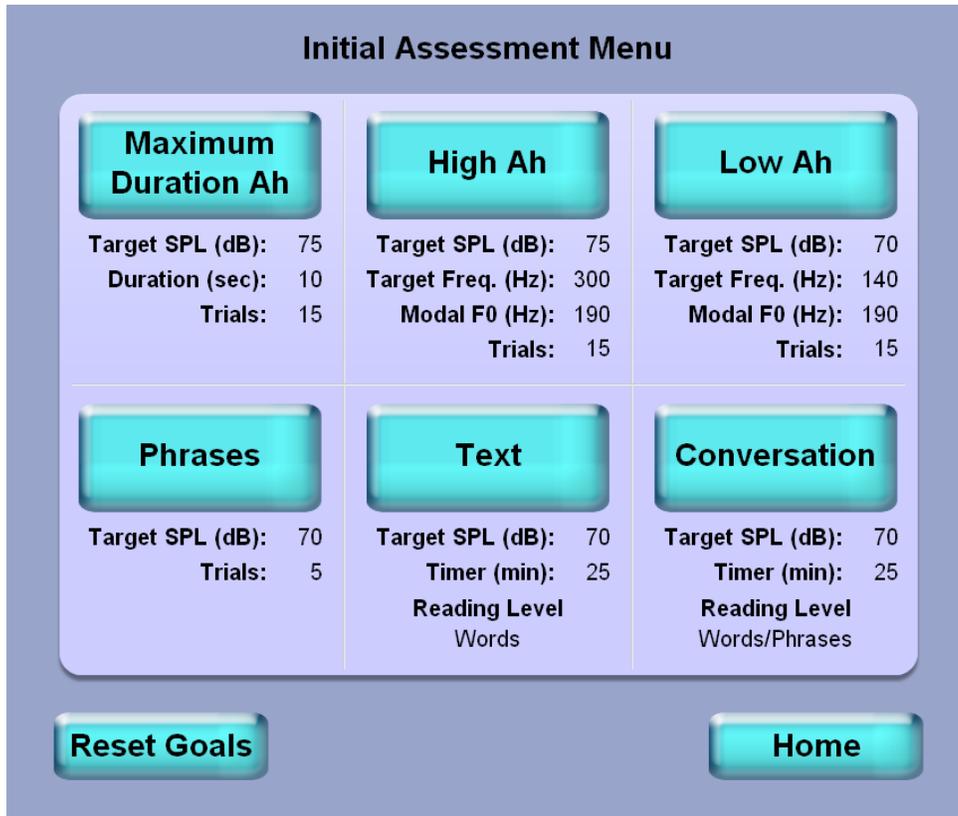
When you are ready to begin your initial assessment, ensure that the appropriate client is selected from the "Select a Client" drop down menu. The "Play Audio" option on the Home Screen should be unselected for initial assessment. Next click the "Initial Assessment" button.



Be sure "Play Audio" is unselected for

There are six tasks, or sets of exercises, for performing an Initial Assessment. As a LSVT<sup>®</sup> LOUD certified clinician these exercises will be familiar to you. When doing LSVT Companion Clinician Edition User Guide (030712)

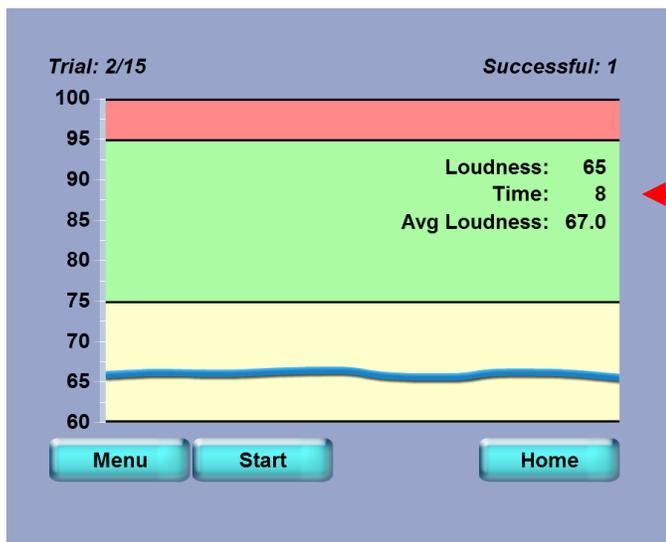
an initial assessment, the Companion will provide you with default settings for each exercise. You can change these default settings, adjusting each performance level and the number of trials for each exercise, by clicking on the “Reset Goals” button on the bottom left corner of this screen (see picture below).



1. Begin Initial Assessment by selecting a task (e.g. Maximum Duration Ah), by clicking on the “Maximum Duration Ah” button.



2. The above screen will appear.
3. You will give the client verbal instructions, “Say ‘ah’ as long as you can at a comfortable pitch and loudness.”
4. When the client starts vocalizing, begin the Companion recording by clicking on the “Start” button. When the client is finished, click on the “Stop” button (not pictured). Repeat these steps until you have collected all of your sustained vowel phonations.



Data for the Maximum Duration Ah is summarized here and in the LSVT\_DATA file.

- a. If the display data box is checked on the Home Screen, during the client’s phonation, performance measures for each exercise will be displayed in real time. At the end of each exercise, the data will appear on the screen

(as shown above) as well as being stored in the client's results file (described later).

- b. The top "loudness" value displays the most recent SPL and the average "loudness" displays SPL across the entire sustained "ah". More details are provided in the data summary file.
5. Repeat the instructions above for each of the Initial Assessment Tasks (Max ah, High ah, Low ah, Phrases, Text, and Conversation) with appropriate verbal instructions for each task.
6. You will need to provide the reading text or conversational material in paper format for clients to read or discuss during phrases, text, and stimulated conversation. You will simply be clicking the "Start" and "Stop" buttons to record data while the client reads or answers questions as per your instructions.
7. The data collected during this session can be found in the LSVT\_Data folder on your computer Desktop.
  - a. Click on the LSVT\_Data folder.
  - b. Click on the folder labeled with your client's name and birth date.
  - c. Inside this folder you will see a summary EXCEL file labeled with the date and time (in military time). Please note: If you open the EXCEL file to check your data during the session, you must close the file before resuming the Companion exercises, or the data will not be written to the file.

## E. Set Goals

Set Goals enables you to set specific task performance goals for each of your clients. These goals can be updated as frequently as needed to challenge your client and meet your treatment objectives.

1. From the Home Screen, select the client you will be treating (LEFT Panel below). These clients will have been added prior to performing their Initial Assessment. If you did not use the Companion for the Initial Assessment, see directions for adding new clients (above).



LEFT (Select a Client)



RIGHT (Select Set Goals)

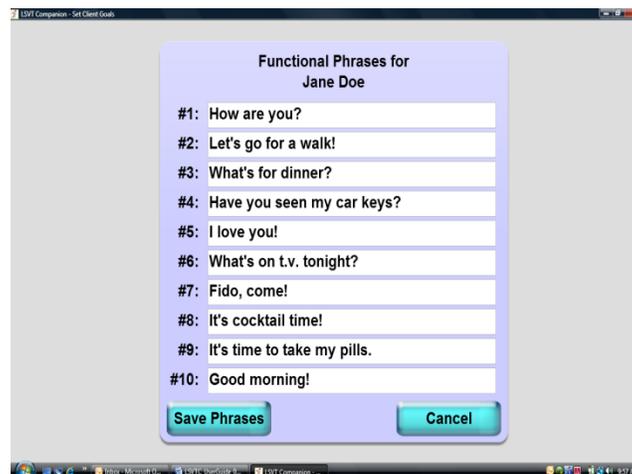
### 2. Set Goals:

- a. Based upon your initial assessment, you can change the Companion default settings for each client by clicking on the “Set Goals” button on the bottom left corner (see Right Panel above).
- b. To set new goals, adjust any of performance measures for each exercise to meet your treatment objectives.



Set Goals for SPL, Duration, Frequency

- c. In addition, you will insert each individual client’s functional phrases and specific text for the hierarchy practice across the words, phrases, paragraphs and conversation (see picture below).
- d. To enter your client’s personalized functional phrases click on the “Set Phrases” button in the “Functional Phrases” box and type in your client’s phrases. Click “Save”. Up to 40 characters are allowed although only the first 37 will show up on a single line. If the return key is pressed (↵) before the full 40 characters are filled, the initial characters will be scrolled up and a scroll bar will appear on the right side of that particular functional phrase window. The initial characters are still present but have been “rolled up” above the visible window. Scroll up to see them.



Set Phrases

- e. To select reading and conversation material appropriate to your client's level of the hierarchy, click on the drop down menu in the "Hierarchy Text" or "Conversation" boxes (e.g. if your client is in week two you would select "sentence" from the drop down menu). If you are using the Companion as a data collection tool only, and your client will not be practicing with the software on their own, you do not need to select reading or conversation material.
- f. In addition to the "Set Goals" button on the main page, there is also a "Reset Goals" button in the bottom left corner of both the "Initial Assessment" and "Collect Tx Data" pages.

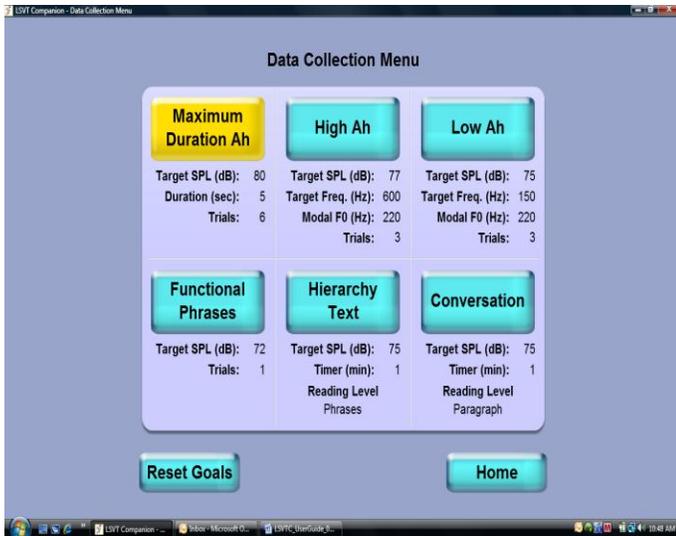
## F. **Collect Tx (Treatment) Data—Performing Daily Exercises**

1. Position the computer and microphone for data collection. You can choose to position the computer so the client sees the plot of data as they are being treated (for visual feedback as needed) or you can make the computer screen visible only to you to allow the client to focus on self-perception while they are in treatment.
2. Click the "Collect Tx Data" button to collect treatment data. You can choose "Play Audio" and have the software direct the client. Keep in mind that if you choose that option, the software will also provide feedback after each try based upon the goals you have pre-set.



For Collect Tx data you can choose to Display Data and /or Play Audio.

3. The Data Collection menu will appear after clicking "Collect Tx Data." You will begin with the "Maximum Duration Ah" task.

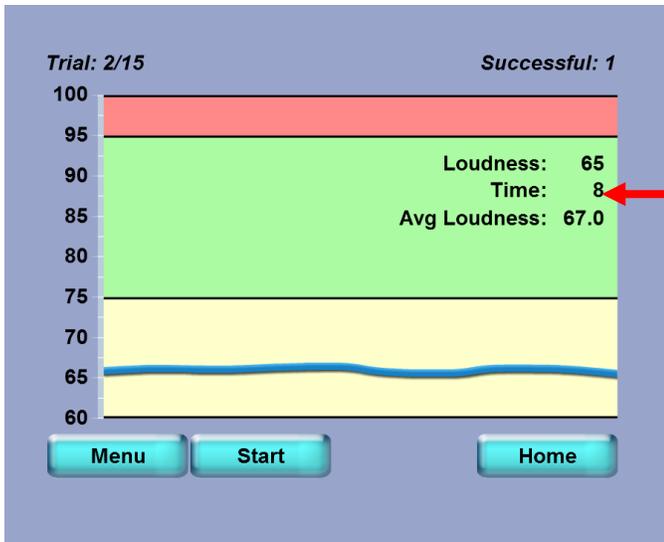


LEFT – Data Collection Menu



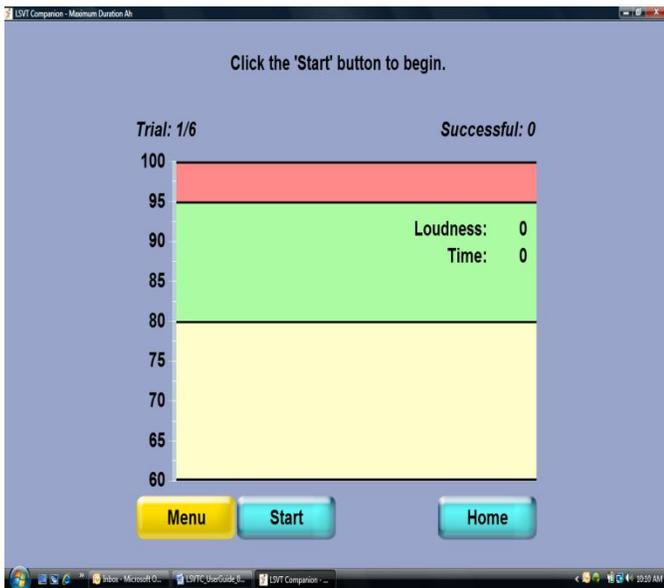
RIGHT – Opening screen for Maximum Duration Ah exercise

- a. The above screen (RIGHT) will appear when you select Maximum Duration Ah (sustained vowel phonation).
- b. You will give the client verbal instructions (or allow the computer program to provide directions if the Play Audio button is selected).
- c. The client will be instructed to do their loud “ah”.
- d. When the client starts vocalizing, the clinician will click the start button. When the client is finished, the clinician will click stop. Repeat these steps until you have collected all of the maximum duration “ah”s for that treatment session (at least 15 times).
- e. Note: If you have chosen the Play Audio option, the software will provide feedback to the client after each trial.
- f. At the end of each sustained vowel, the data will appear on the screen as well as in the results file (described later).
- g. The top “loudness” value displays most recent SPL and the average “loudness” displays SPL across the entire sustained “ah” (see picture below). More details are provided in the data summary file.

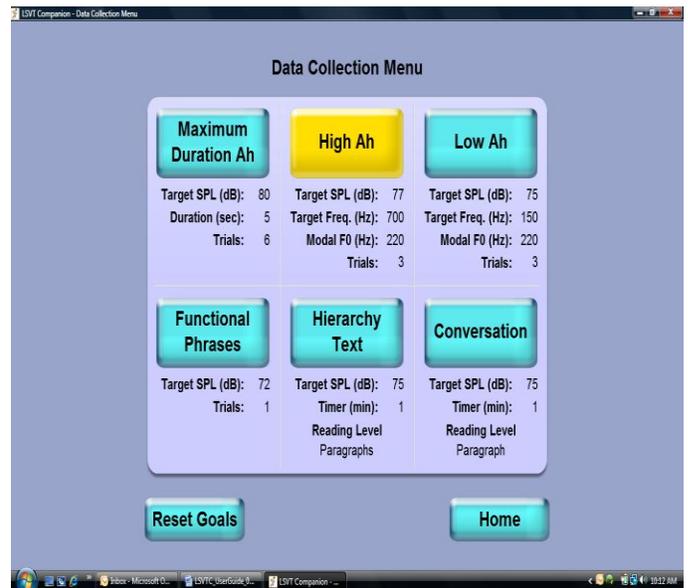


Summary data for the **Maximum Duration Ah** is summarized here and in the LSVT\_DATA file.

4. Select the “Menu” button (highlighted in yellow below on LEFT) to return to the Data Collection Menu.
5. Select the next task (“High Ah”). Repeat the instructions above for the High and Low AH treatment tasks with appropriate verbal instructions for each task.



LEFT “Menu” button



RIGHT – Select next treatment task

- a. For the “High Ah” task, the client will be asked to go as high in pitch as possible and hold it five seconds. This will be repeated 15 times unless you have personalized your client’s goals. The client must start at their modal pitch and progress to a higher pitch.

- b. For the “Low Ah” task, the client will be asked to go as low as possible and hold it five seconds. The client must start at their modal pitch and progress to a lower pitch.



LEFT – Arrow is at modal (starting pitch).

RIGHT – Arrow moves to target pitch.

6. Select the Menu button to return to the Data Collection Menu and select the next task (Phrases). Repeat the instructions above for each of the treatment tasks.



Data will be displayed graphically and numerically (if Display Data is selected). The program will go through all 10 functional phrases as one trial. This will be repeated 5

times. Summary data will be displayed in the Excel spreadsheet located in the LSVT\_Data folder.

7. Select the Menu button to return to the Data Collection Menu and select the next task Hierarchy Text.
  - a. During the Set Goals process, you can set the level of the Hierarchy for the Client (Words, Phrases, Sentences, and Paragraphs) as shown in the LEFT panel below.
  - b. During treatment the clinician will be providing the reading material for the client. The Companion will be used to collect SPL data during the client's readings. If the clinician chooses, he/she can turn the computer screen to allow the client to view real time visual feedback as the client reads (Right panel below).
  - c. The client will be asked to read at the level of heirarchy (i.e., words, phrases, paragraphs) using the healthy loud voice.



LEFT – Select the level/type of Hierarchy Text



RIGHT – Feedback displayed while client is reading

8. Select the “Menu” button to return to the Data Collection Menu and select the next task (Conversation).



Data are collected continuously during the Conversation task. The Clinician can click the Start/Stop button as needed. The clinician can choose to allow the client to see the visual feedback or not. The client will be asked to participate in conversation (question and answer) using their healthy loud voice

At the end of the treatment session, all of the data will be available on the desktop in the LSVT\_Data folder in a file labeled with the client name and the date of the treatment session.

### G. **Start Client Exercise**

“Start Client Exercise” is designed for your clients to perform their daily Companion exercises independently using your computer. This option should only be used when your client is comfortable performing the LOUD exercises while using the Companion and you are confident in their ability to complete the exercises successfully. When “Start Client Exercise” is selected, the Companion software walks a client through a complete treatment session and collects treatment data that you can evaluate and compare with your in-person treatment sessions. This function can either be run on the Clinician version of the software or independently by your patient on the Client version.

1. From the Home Screen, you can select the client you will be treating (LEFT Panel below). (NOTE – the individual Client version of the Companion will only have one client option, the registered user).
2. After you have selected your client, you can set the target performance levels by clicking the Set Goals button (RIGHT panel below). The clinician will change

the settings for each task and the number of repetitions to match the client's level of progress.



LEFT – Select a Client



RIGHT – Set Goals for client



LEFT – Select Start Client Exercises

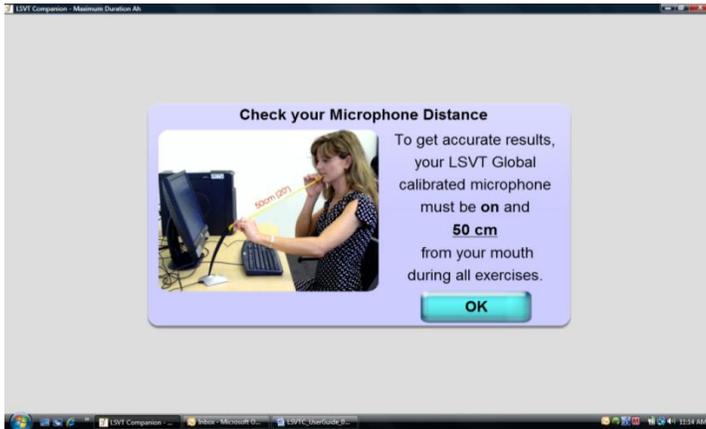


RIGHT – Select Play Audio

- a. Be sure the Play Audio is selected (Right panel above).
- b. You can choose to display data or not.
3. Click the "Start Client Exercise" button (LEFT panel above).

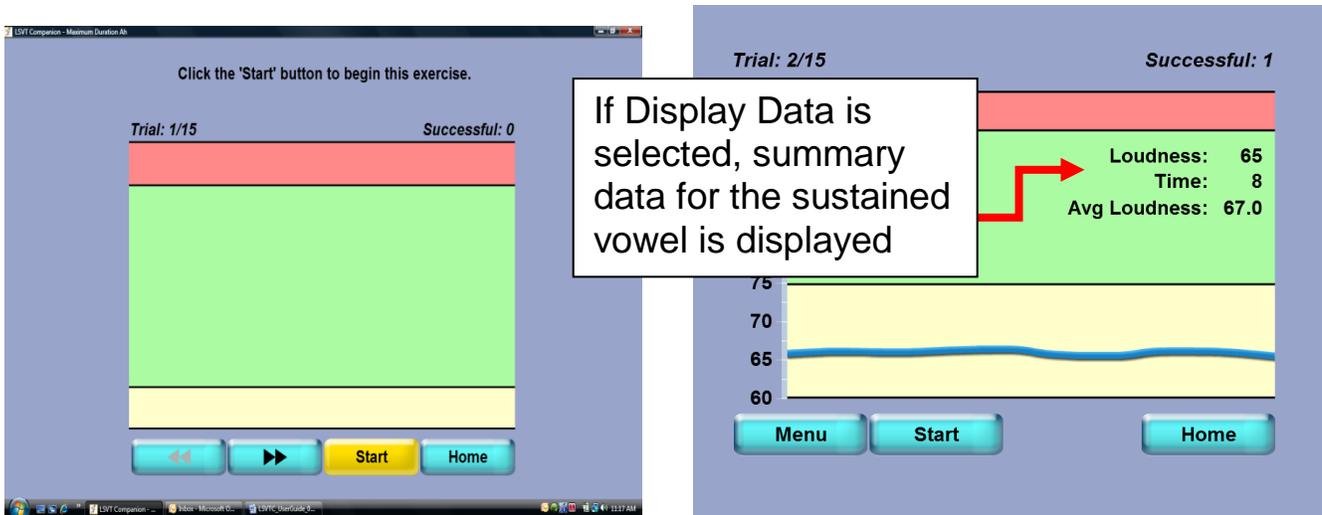
a. After selecting the “Start Exercises” button (RIGHT panel above), the Companion will take a client through an entire Companion treatment session.

4. The client will see a screen to remind them of the proper mouth to microphone distance



Note: The above picture displayed in the Companion program shows a previous version of the calibrated microphone. Your client will use the Samson Go Mic that came with your LSVT Companion kit and clip on as shown earlier in this User Guide.

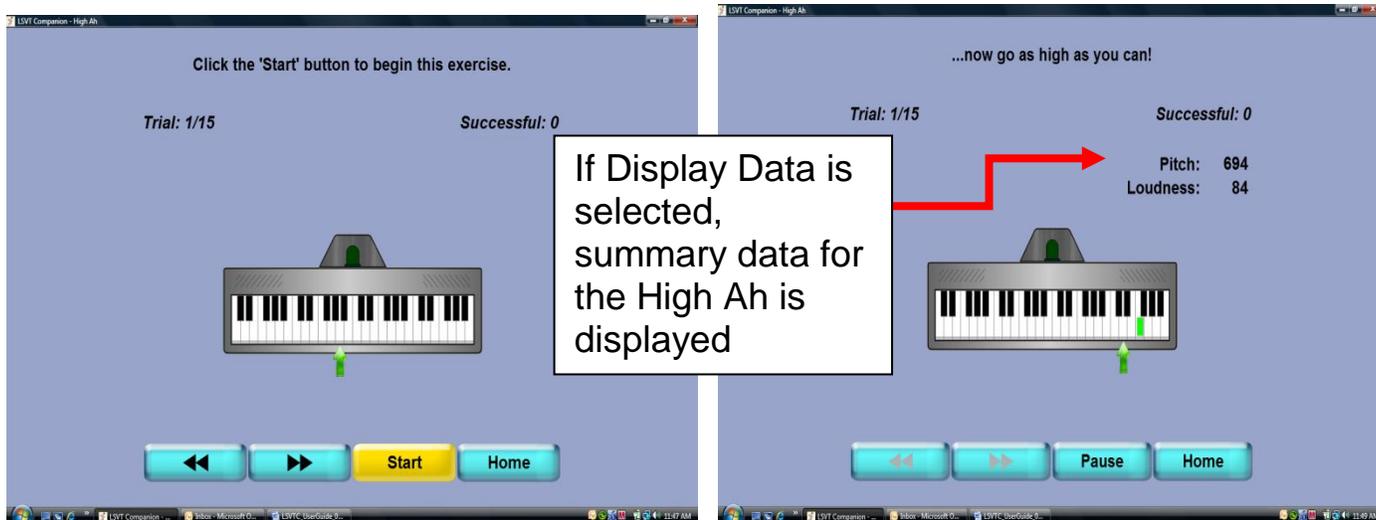
5. The client will then see the starting screen for the Maximum Duration Ah exercise. The client will simply need to click the “Start” button to begin the exercises. Within the treatment session, the “Start” button is clicked to start each task which then runs for the number of repetitions/trials previously set by the clinician.



a. The software will give the client verbal instructions such as: “Say your loud “ah” as long as you can.” The client will be instructed not to begin

phonating until they see a visible “GO” on the screen. They will also be instructed to keep their voice (indicated by the blue line) within the target green zone.

- b. The software will give automatic auditory feedback at the end of each trial by the client.
  - c. At the end of each trial, the SPL and duration data will appear on the screen if the Display Data option is selected (upper right hand corner). This data will also be recorded in the results file (which appears in the LSVT\_Data folder on your computer’s desktop).
  - d. The top “loudness” value displays the most recent SPL and the average “loudness” displays SPL across the entire trial. More details on client performance are provided in the data summary file.
6. The software automatically moves to the next treatment task (High Ah). When the client clicks “Start” the software walks the client through multiple repetitions of this task.
7. The client will then see the starting screen for the High Ah exercise. The client will simply need to click the Start button to begin the exercises (LEFT Panel below).

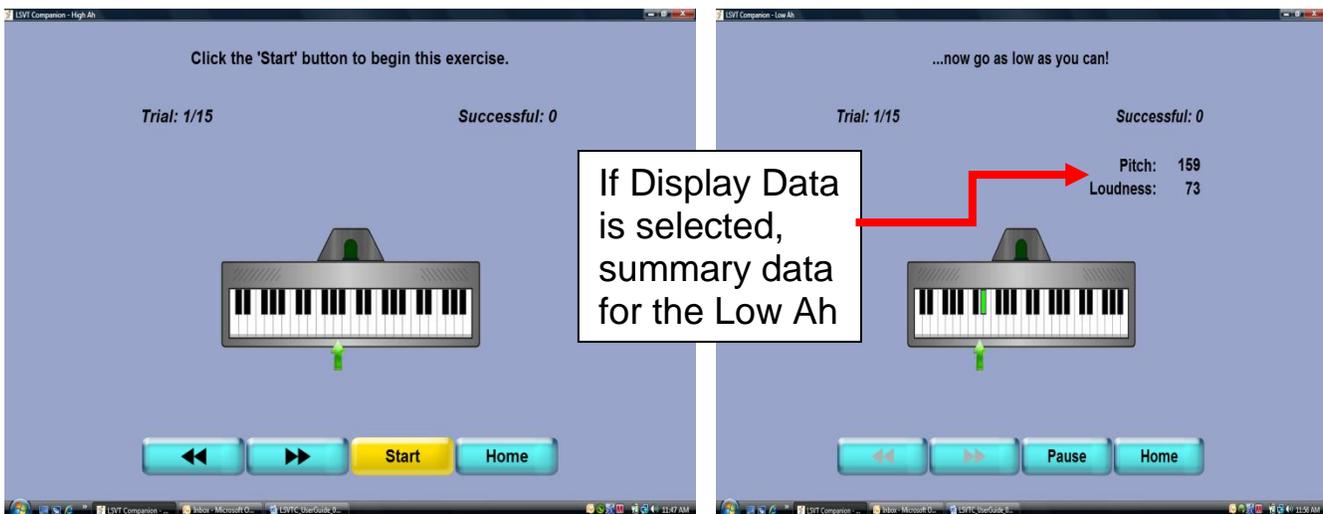


LEFT – Start button

RIGHT – Screen during exercise

- a. The software will give the client verbal instructions, “Say “ah” going as high as you can.”
- b. The software will give automatic auditory feedback at the end of each trial by the client.

- c. At the end of each High Ah, the Loudness (SPL) and Pitch (Frequency) data will appear on the screen (upper right hand corner) as well as in the results file (which appears on the desk top).
  - d. The top “Pitch” value is for the pitch and loudness achieved during the exercise. More details are provided in the data summary file.
8. The software automatically moves to the next treatment task (Low Ah). When the client clicks “Start” the software walks the client through multiple repetitions of this task.
- a. The client will then see the starting screen for the “Low Ah” exercise. The client will simply need to click the Start button to begin the exercises (LEFT Panel).

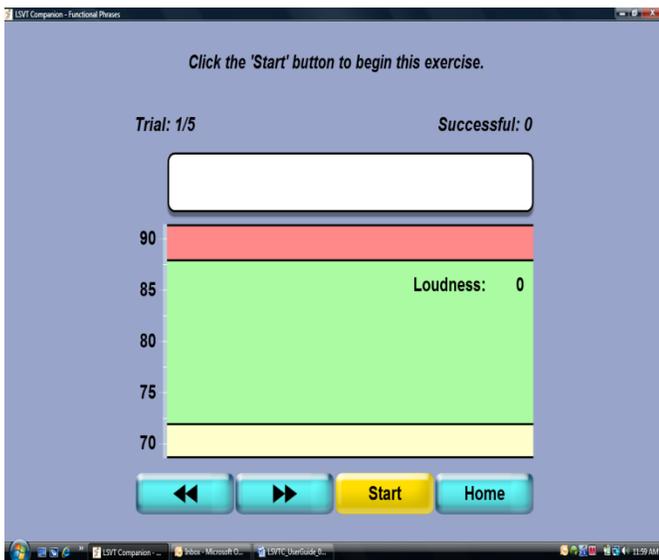


LEFT – Start button

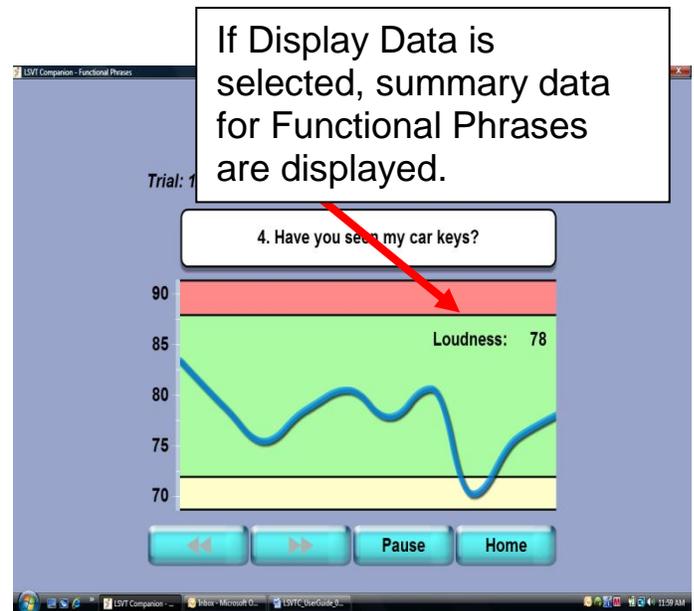
RIGHT – Screen during exercise

- b. The software will give the client verbal instructions, “Say ah going as low as you can.”
- c. The software will give automatic auditory feedback at the end of each trial by the client.
- d. At the end of each Low Ah, the Loudness (SPL) and Pitch (Frequency) data will appear on the screen (upper right hand corner) as well as in the results file (which appears on the desktop).

- e. The top “Pitch” value and the bottom “Loudness” value display the pitch and loudness achieved during the exercise. More details are provided in the data summary file.
  - f. In addition to tracking pitch on the keyboard, there is a light above the middle of the keyboard that turns red when a client exceeds the target range for their SPL.
9. The software automatically moves to the next treatment task (Functional Phrases). When the client clicks “Start” the software walks the client through multiple repetitions of this task.
10. The client will then see the starting screen for the Functional Phrases exercise. The client will simply need to click the “Start” button to begin the exercises (LEFT Panel).



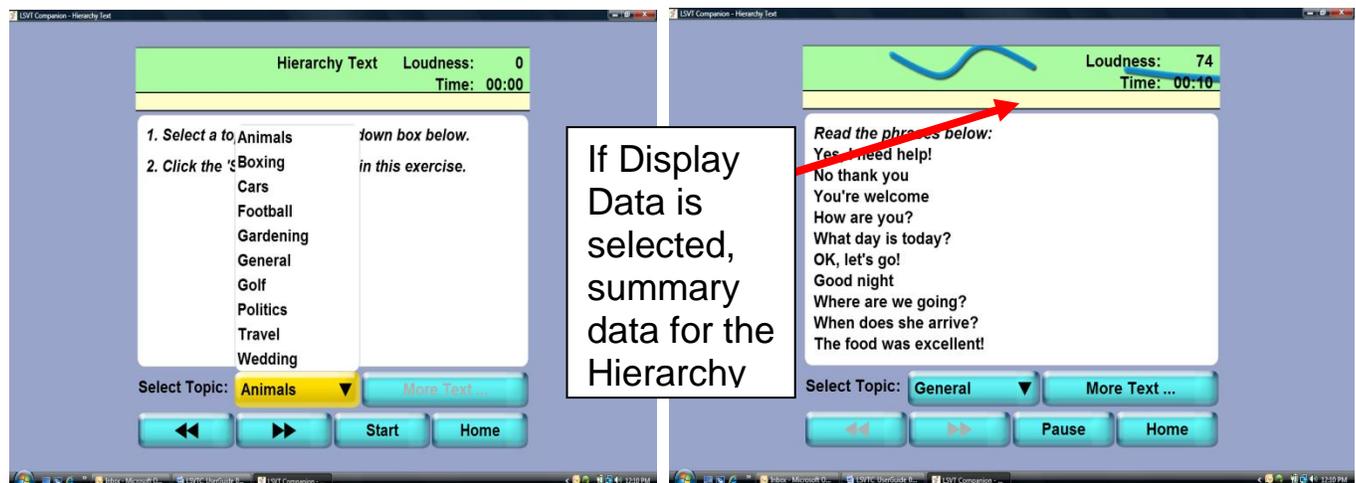
LEFT – Start button



RIGHT – Screen during exercise

- a. The software will give the client verbal instructions, “Let’s read your phrases using your great “ah” voice”.
  - b. The software will give automatic auditory feedback at the end of each reading of the 10 phrases by the client.
11. The software automatically moves to the next treatment task (additional Hierarchy Text). When the client clicks “Start” the software walks the client through the prescribed number of repetitions of this task.

12. The client will then see the starting screen for Hierarchy Text exercise. The client will simply need to click the “Start” button to begin the exercises. After clicking “Start”, the client will select the topic of reading materials (LEFT panel below).



If Display Data is selected, summary data for the Hierarchy

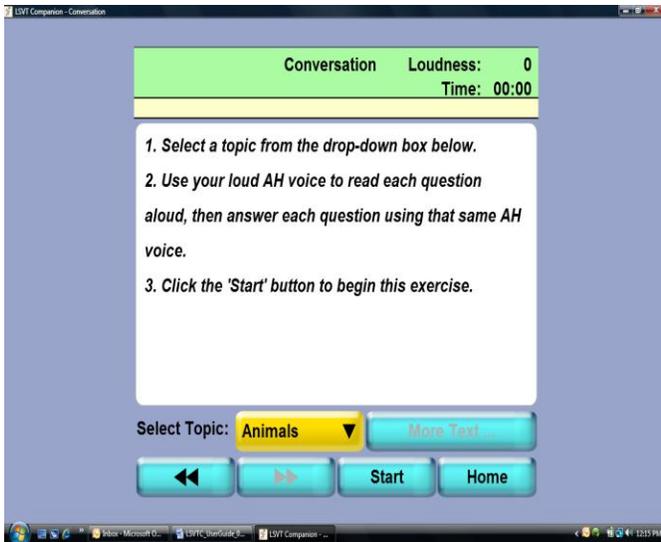
LEFT – Start button

RIGHT – Screen during exercise

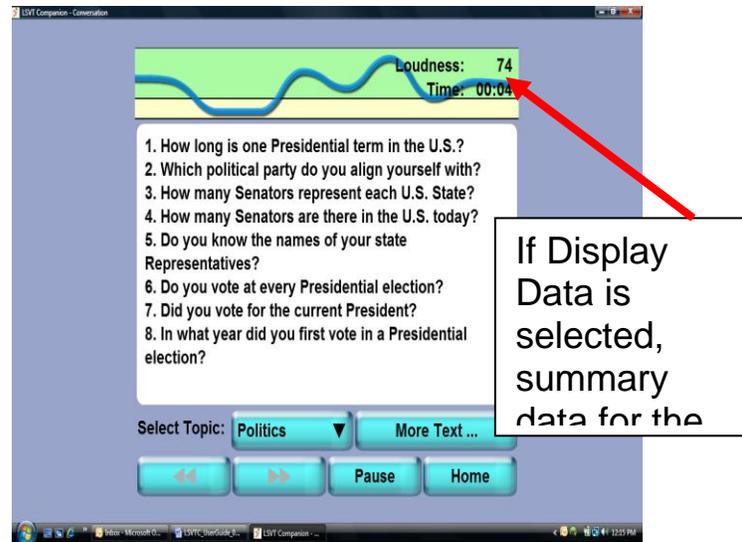
- a. The software will give the client verbal instructions, “Let’s talk using your great “ah” voice”.
- b. The software will give automatic auditory feedback at the end of each reading trial by the client (the duration of reading is set by the clinician in “Set Goals”).

13. The software automatically moves to the next treatment task (Conversation), the client clicks “Start” and the software walks the client through multiple repetitions of this task.

14. The client will then see the starting screen for the Conversation exercises. The client will simply need to click the “Start” button to begin the exercises. After clicking “Start”, the client will select the topic of conversation (LEFT panel below).



LEFT – Start button



RIGHT – Screen during exercise

If Display Data is selected, summary data for the

- a. The software will give the client verbal instructions, “Let’s talk and think Loud”.
- b. The software will give automatic auditory feedback at the end of each conversation segment (duration of reading set by clinician in targets) by the client.

15. Because this is the final exercise, the software automatically ends the treatment session.

Throughout the treatment session the client is asked to rate their effort for each task and is encouraged to drink water through a visual cue.

16. At the end of the session, a summary of the treatment data is available in the LSVT\_Data folder on the desktop.

## **Treating Clients Using Multiple LSVT Companion Systems**

The Companion saves client data files on the computer system used for their treatment. Clinicians treating clients using the Companion on multiple computer systems will need to copy files from one system to another to avoid re-entering client information, personalized goals and exercise content (Hierarchy Text, Conversation and Functional Phrases). Similarly, the results of client exercises are stored on the system that they used while being treated, and it is often valuable to have all client treatment data (results files) in a single location. Therefore, if clients are treated on multiple systems, results files should be consolidated to a common location.

### **A. *Client-Specific Folders and Files***

The Companion stores client-specific data in a personal data folder for that client that is created when a client is added to the application. Client personal data folders are named using a client's name and birthday in the format:

LastName\_FirstName\_Birthdate(year\_month\_day).

Within the client data folder are the following files and folders:

- Targets file (targets.xml) —includes client-specific goals and Functional Phrases;
- Text folder—stores Hierarchy Text exercise content saved for the client. If no Hierarchy Text has been saved for a client this folder will not appear;
- Conversation folder—stores Conversation exercise content saved for the client. If no Conversation content has been saved for a client this folder will not appear;
- Results files (results.xml)—records client goals and performance for each treatment session in a separate file. Each results file includes a date in the file name to prevent duplication; however, if a client is treated on the same date using multiple systems one of the results files should be re-named to prevent overwriting files when copying them between systems.

### **B. *Moving Personalized Client Content Between Systems***

Once you have added a client to the Companion on one system, simply copying the entire personal data folder onto a different system will automatically add that client to the new system, including any changes you have made to their goals, Functional Phrases, Hierarchy Text, and any results files generated during treatment sessions. After a client's file exists on the system that you are using, if a client's goals or personalized exercises have changed you should update those files/folders by

copying the entire personal data folder from the system on which the changes were made to the system that will be used for treatment.

If you do copy the entire personal data folder for a client from one system (source system) to another (target system) when a personal data folder for that client already exists on the target system that you are updating, the target system's existing personal data folder for that client will be overwritten, including all results files! Be sure that you first copy any results files for your client on that system to a new location!

## **Working with Clients Using the Companion Client/Home Edition**

Your clients may purchase the LSVT Companion Client/Home Edition to practice their voice exercises outside of the clinical setting. This enables your client to do “homework” during your course of treatment and continue to practice their LOUD voice independently after their clinical treatment is complete.

Only clients working with an LSVT LOUD-certified speech clinician who uses the Companion Clinician Edition may purchase the Companion Client/Home Edition. Personalizing your client’s exercises is done using your Companion Clinician Edition; your client is not able to independently modify the default goals or exercises in their Companion Client/Home Edition.

### **A. *Providing Clients with Personalized Goals/Exercises for Use with the Companion Client/Home Edition***

By now you are familiar with personalizing the Companion for each of your clients by setting client-specific goals, creating Functional Phrases and entering content for Hierarchy Text and Conversation voice/speech exercises. When you personalize the Companion exercises for your client, the goals and content of those exercises are saved in files and folders in your client’s personal data folder in the LSVT\_Data folder on your computer.

Personalizing exercises modifies three elements in the client’s personal data folder:

- Set Goals (changing target SPL, frequency, duration, number of trials, Functional Phrases, etc.) modifies the client’s “targets” file,
- Entering Hierarchy Text adds a “text” folder and creates files in that folder for each topic that is saved, and
- Entering Conversation content adds a “conversation” folder and files in that folder for each topic that is saved.

If you have not added Hierarchy Text exercise content for your client, no “text” folder will appear in that client’s personal data folder; similarly, if you have not added Conversation exercise content for your client, no “conversation” folder will appear in their personal data folder.

When your client copies these files into their personal data folder in the LSVT\_Data folder on their computer, the Companion Client/Home Edition will use those goals and exercises. You can provide those files to your client by email, or by copying the files on to a CD, flash drive (‘memory stick’), or disk. Be sure that your client’s

computer can use the media that you provide (e.g. that they have a CD drive if you provide the file on a CD).

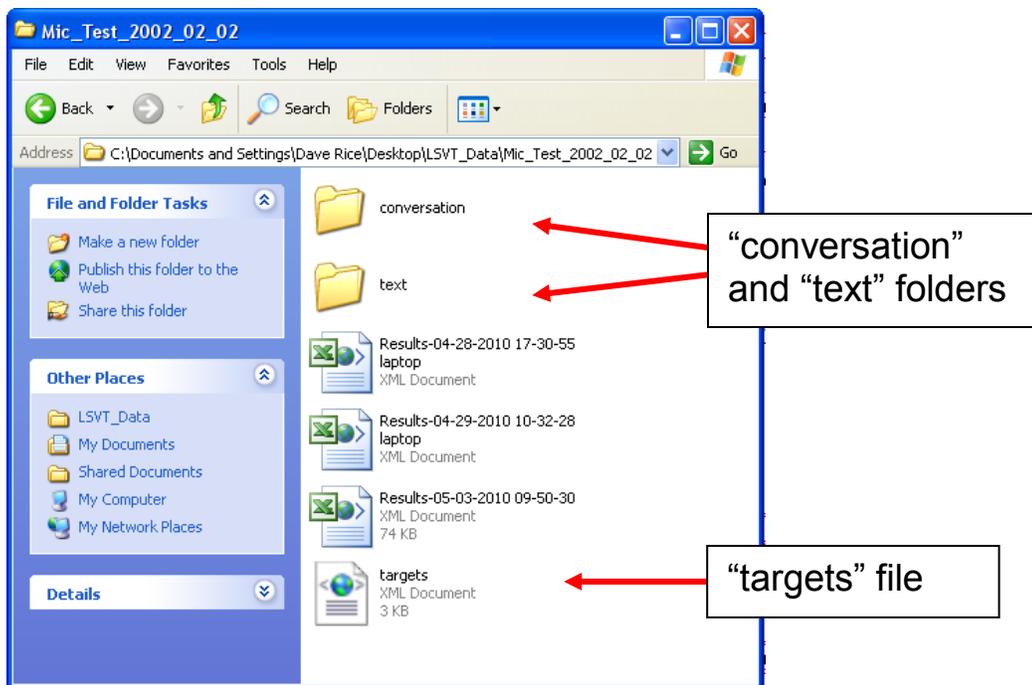
The first time that you provide these files/folders, your client will not have a “text” or “conversation” folder in their personal data folder. Therefore, your client will either need to: a) copy the entire folder into their personal data folder if you provide that folder on a CD or memory stick, or b) create those folders before copying files into the folder if they receive files by email. If your client creates the “text” and “conversation” folders themselves, the folder names must be exactly the same as those on your system. How to locate the correct files for your client is described below. Your client has instructions on how to copy those files into their system.

### 1. Locating Personalized Files and Folders

The “targets” file as well as the “text” and “conversation” folders are located in the client’s personal data folder in your LSVT\_Data folder. To locate these files/folders follow the steps below:

- a. Double click on the LSVT\_Data folder on your desktop
- b. Double click on the folder with the client’s name; their name will be in the format: LastName\_FirstName\_Birthdate(year\_month\_day), this is your client’s personal data folder.

You should now see the “targets” file as well as any “results” files generated during treatment sessions for this client, as well as “text” and “conversation” folders if you have added that content for your client (see screen image below).



Copy the “targets” file and the “conversation” and “text” folders onto media that your client’s computer can use, or attach it to an email and send it to your client. If you choose to email the files, the first time that your client copies them to their computer they will need to create “conversation” and “text” folders in their personal LSVT\_Data folder. In addition, if using email it will be easiest for your client if you send three emails, one with the “targets” file, and one each with the files in the “conversation” and “text” folders, respectively.

### **B. Receiving Client Results Files**

“Results” files are created each time that your client completes their voice/speech exercises. Your client using the Companion Client/Home Edition can send their results files to you for your evaluation. When you receive those files, you should copy them into that client’s personal data folder within the LSVT\_Data folder on your desktop. We suggest that you rename the file from “Results\_Date” to “Home\_Results\_Date” where “Date” is the original month, day and year on which your client performed the exercises. By renaming the file you will be able to compare how your client performs at home to how she/he performs during in-person treatment sessions.

## Treatment Session Data

The Companion records your client's performance in all of their speech exercises. Evaluating your client's performances for each session and comparing performances across sessions will provide valuable information for tracking progress and evolving your treatment plan.

### A. Viewing Client Data

Client data files are stored in the LSVT\_Data folder on your computer desktop. For each new client that you add to the Companion, a new folder specific to that client is created within the LSVT\_Data folder. Client folders use a naming pattern that makes it easy to find the client data you're seeking. The format is:

Last Name\_First Name\_Birthdate (year\_month\_day format)

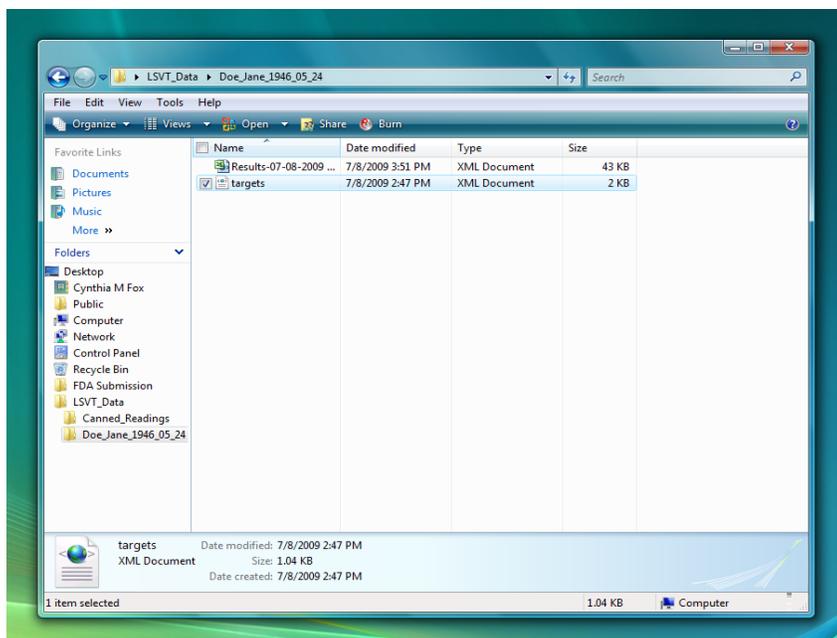
For Sam Smith born on June 24, 1941, the data folder name is:

Smith\_Sam\_1941\_06\_24

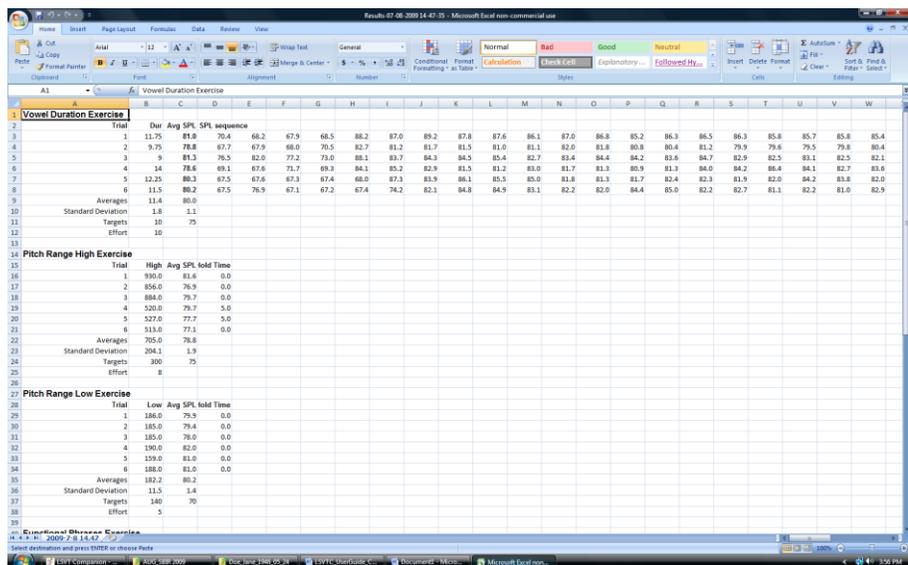
Within each client's data folder are the data files (Microsoft Excel worksheets) that the Companion has generated from each of their exercises.

To view the summary data of your client's voice exercise session:

1. Double click on the LSVT\_Data folder on your computer's desktop
2. Double click the file with your client's name
3. Double click on the Excel file that says Results with the date of your client's exercise session



#### 4. The file will open and show you the data for your client's treatment session



### B. Sending Session Data to Your Client

1. Open the email program that you use.
2. Write an email to your client.
3. Click “Add Attachment” (the mechanism for adding attachments will vary across email programs).
4. Click the browse option for selecting files.
5. Select the Desktop LSVT\_Data folder.
6. Select and attach the Excel file with the date of the session you want to send to your client.
7. Send the email.

## Support and Resources

General information about LSVT Global training, products and services:

Web site: [www.lsvtglobal.com](http://www.lsvtglobal.com)

Email: [info@lsvtglobal.com](mailto:info@lsvtglobal.com)

Phone: (888) 438-5788

### Companion Product Support

Email: [lsvtc@lsvtglobal.com](mailto:lsvtc@lsvtglobal.com)

LSVT Global adds information about the Companion and support resources to its website on a regular basis. We recommend that you periodically check [www.lsvtglobal.com](http://www.lsvtglobal.com) for current news and information.