What is Message Banking?

Message banking is used by individuals who, due to a degenerative neurological disease such as ALS, are transitioning to augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) to communicate and actively engage in life.

Message banking involves the recording of a collection of their own words, phrases and sentences using natural speech that is saved, or "banked," for use when the individual may not be able to speak using their voice.

Message banking allows individuals to record, preserve and use these words or phrases on their speech-generating device (SGD). Banked messages retain intonation and convey personality.

Message banking allows communicators to bank anywhere from a handful to hundreds of unique messages.

Tip: We suggest you create a list of the messages you wish to record before you begin this process, or work with a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) to help guide you through this process. Don't forget to include sounds such as your laughter or a whistle.

Message Banking from PRC-Saltillo

Fast, flexible and free to use: Now you can bank messages and share them across multiple devices.

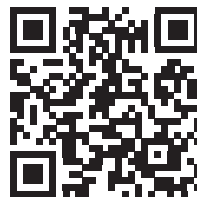Message Banking from PRC-Saltillo lets you record messages, words, phrases – whatever you want, quickly and easily.

Getting started is simple: Access the Message Banking website via your desktop, tablet or mobile phone. Simply log in with your PRC-Saltillo account and start recording – it's that easy.

Whatever you want to say, with Message Banking PRC-Saltillo you can:

- **Record them.** Long or short, it's up to you. Create messages, phrases, sentences or more – anywhere, any time.

- **Name them.** Give your recordings names you wish to identify them in use later.

- **Transcribe them.** So the text of your message appears in the message window.

- **Tag them.** Tag files so messages related to a single topic all appear on the same page such as Greetings.

- **Use them.** Download the recorded messages and import the file to your device or app. When you use the Import Message Banking Zip File feature in our Empower software, the pages are automatically created and linked in your Essence vocabulary according to your tags.

Empower and Dialogue AAC software support importing files from **myMessageBanking.com.**

Website: **messagebanking.prc-saltillo.com/login**

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What is Voice Banking?

Voice banking is a process by which large amounts of an individual's spoken speech is recorded and then uploaded into a special program which creates a synthesized voice replica of their own speaking voice. The synthesized voice replica can later be uploaded into many speech-generating devices currently on the market.

PRC-Saltillo and VoiceKeeper

VoiceKeeper is cutting-edge voice personalization software that makes personalizing your voice fun and easy. Not a recording, but a synthesized voice created by you or, by others, to create a unique voice, unlike any other.

Through an iOS app or computer interface, individuals can begin creating – and using – a voice in as little as ten minutes. VoiceKeeper also continues to refine the voice as additional recordings are made. Recording in small "batches," the user can hear new versions of the voice as the VoiceKeeper continuously processes the voice for even better definition.

In addition to a custom voice, the VoiceKeeper also offers a wide variety of created voices.

The VoiceKeeper can be purchased and integrated into PRC-Saltillo's LAMP Words for Life and TouchChat apps, and on Accent devices. Also available for Via Pro, TouchChat Express and PRiO devices. It's available free with PRC-Saltillo's Dialogue AAC app for iOS.

Website: **app.thevoicekeeper.com/prc-saltillo**

The VoiceKeeper
The fastest voice banking service

There are other voice banking websites that offer high-quality AAC voices, including:

- **ModelTalker.** The ModelTalker System speech synthesis program uses recorded speech (either from a prospective SGD user or from a voice donor chosen by or for the SGD user) to create a unique synthetic voice. Virtually unlimited, it can be used to express almost anything, including words and phrases that were not recorded. Available for Windows. Visit them at **ModelTalker.org**

- **VocalID.** VocaliD's BeSpoke voices are a unique blend of your "vocal DNA" and recordings of a matched speaker from our Human Voicebank so you can speak in a voice that fits. It integrates into PRC-Saltillo's NovaChat and Accent line of SGDs, as well as apps. Visit them at **VocalID.ai/individual**

- **Acapela.** Acapela has a long history of providing high-quality voices for AAC, and offers voice banking that uses a speaker's own voice, synthetically re-created. Or, individuals can ask a family member, a close relative or a friend to donate their voice, offering the end user the possibility to speak with a voice that sounds familiar and unique. Visit them **Acapela-Group.com/voices/voice-banking**

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