

Comparing Microsoft Translator™ to Streamer™

Advantages for Microsoft Translator™

- It's free, whereas an unlimited use Streamer™ subscription costs about a dollar a day.

Advantages for Streamer™

Private and Secure:

- **Fully compliant with COPPA and SIIA Student Data Privacy Requirements.** All data is completely encrypted in both directions and, unlike Microsoft (and Google's Live Translate), the data is not saved nor sold to advertisers or third-party groups. Your data is yours alone, and it is not used or accessed by anyone else.
- **Private User Accounts and a private and secure room.** Streamer™ is even approved for use in military classified facilities.
- **Microsoft is Listening and Collecting your User Data.** When you use Microsoft Translate (or Google's Live Caption), you have given them permission to listen, record, and use all your data, which is of course why they let you use their software for free. With Streamer™, your conversations are yours alone. You alone control who can access and use your Streamer™ account and any data associated with that account.

Easy to Get Started and Use:

- **No apps to install or software modules to download.** Just go to www.streamer.center and login.¹
- **Saved User Accounts** – With Streamer™, you do not have to reset your preferences each time you use the system. All these settings are saved and can be used on any device. Create one account, save your preferences, and you can use it anywhere on any device.
- **Same interface on all devices** – Laptops, Chromebooks, Android phones, iPhone and iPad all use the same interface. This makes it easy to use Streamer™ on any device at any time.
- **Shared User Accounts** – You can even set up shared accounts, making it very easy for guests to log in and use Streamer to communicate with you (they don't have to download an app, scan a barcode, or register – they just go to the website and log in).
- **Auto Login** – Just a double-click on the Streamer™ icon automatically logs you into your personal Streamer account, and all your usage preferences and settings are automatically loaded.

Real-Time Accurate Captioning:

- **Faster captioning** - Microsoft Translate has difficulty keeping up with continuous rapid speech.
- **Better accuracy** – forward and reverse contextual corrections allow dynamic speech recognition (contrasted with Microsoft's static recognition).

Easier to Read Captioning:

- **Continuous recognition in complete paragraphs** versus separate segmented sentence fragments.
- **Automated complete punctuation.** This is complete contextual-based deep learning punctuation that is based on a neural net, not a simple rule-set.
- **Unlimited font size adjustment.** This makes it easier for students to read the captioning.
- **Superior color contrast layout options** including layouts for daylight and evening settings.



Better Support of Student's Needs:

- **Students choose where the captioning is displayed** - such as at the bottom, top, right or left side of their screen. Plus, the captioning can be superimposed on top of another window. This is very important if the teacher is currently using the device to provide learning materials to all the classroom students such as a PowerPoint presentation or when viewing a video.¹¹
- **Students choose how many lines of captioning to display** – just a few or a complete session.¹
- **Note Taking Features** - Students can create their own tags, such as *Study This*, and with a click categorize the transcript in real-time.
- **Personalization.** Students can add their own avatar, customized labels and notes.
- **Speaker Identification.** With Streamer™, students know who is speaking at any given time.
- **Private Messaging.** Students can send a note to the teacher, without everyone else in the class knowing. These notes are saved in the student's *Notification* page.
- **Document and Picture Sharing.** Students can send documents and/or pictures, such as a homework assignment, to friends and/or teachers. This includes complete integration with a smartphone's built-in camera.
- **Speech Generation.** Students (and others) can type, write or use the PhraseBuilder™ features to quickly enter phrases that are spoken aloud in a personalized voice.

Better Support for Teachers:

- **Streamer Admin Account** – This gives the teacher complete control over the school's Streamer™ rooms. You decide which people can enter the room, if they can view captioning, if they can add to the conversation (versus just viewing it), and/or if they can save transcripts.
- **Private Messaging** – Teachers can send private notes to a specific student or to a group of students, such as *Are you paying attention?* or *Do you have a question?*
- **Document and Picture Sharing** – Teachers can send documents, such as a reading assignment, to students. Just drag-n-drop the document into the Streamer™ window and it is shared with all the students (or you can send the item to selected students).

Easier for IT Department

- **Streamer is a secure website** – this means there are no district wide version control issues to manage, nor apps to configure and install, nor system CPU, Operating System, or RAM requirements to worry about. There never is a need to transfer a license from one platform to another or worry about losing a license if a student breaks or loses a computer. And because all data is fully encrypted in all directions, there's no worry about *locking down* a system to prevent misuse. In short, as an IT department, with Streamer™ you don't have to worry.

Complete Classroom Support:

- **Simultaneous captioning of multiple speakers.** Use to support team teaching situations and student participation in classroom discussions.
- **Automatic Speaker Identification.** Streamer can even display a picture of the person that is speaking.
- **Document and Picture Sharing.** Drag-n-drop a document into the captioning room and it's shared with everyone.
- **Video Captioning.** Use Streamer to caption videos as they are being played, or to create timestamped transcripts for video production.



Complete Campus-Wide Support:

- **Complete Admin Support.** You alone control all access and permissions to all the Streamer™ rooms being used throughout your campus or school district. Because this is a website interface, you can do this from anywhere at anytime using any computer. You can monitor usage, send private notes to individual students, and/or broadcast messages to all users.
- **Shared Captioning Rooms.** It's easy for all your students to share just a few Streamer™ subscriptions. We'll set up a Streamer website just for your school where all of your school's captioning and translation rooms are displayed in your school's secure Streamer Lobby. Only your students and school employees can see and access these rooms. When a student or school employee wants to use a captioning room, they log into your school's Streamer webpage and select one that's open and available for use. While they are using the room they "lock the door" to ensure all discussions are kept confidential. When they leave the room at the end of the lecture or discussion, the transcript is then automatically cleared and the room is unlocked making it available for others.
- **Morning Announcements and Messages.** Each student throughout your entire campus can view a captioning of any school wide message and do so in their language of choice.
- **All School Assemblies.** A single Streamer™ subscription supports every student that wants to view a captioning and/or translation of your all school assemblies.
- **System Status Display.** Your *Lobby* view gives you instant data on which rooms are being used at any given time, and how many people are using each room.
- **Simultaneous Connection to Multiple Rooms.** You can simultaneously log into every room for which you have permission to enter.
- **Single Click Navigation.** With your Streamer™ Admin account, you can navigate between rooms with a single click (provided of course that the room owner has given you permission to do so).
- **System Wide Broadcast.** With a single command, you can send a message to every Streamer™ room being used throughout your entire school.

Complete Off-Campus Support:

- **Home-Bound Students.** All Streamer™ functions are available for every student, no matter where they are located. Students can view a captioning of classroom conversations from anywhere, be it in at home or in a healthcare facility.
- **On-Line Students.** If you are working at an on-line school or a virtual-campus, Streamer™ supports every student that would like to see a captioning and/or translation of teacher instructions.

Wireless FM Support:

- **Integrate with an Existing FM System.** For example, add a MyLink™ receiver to your Phonak Touchsreen Mic™, and you're all set to use Streamer™.
- **Optional Wireless FM Systems.** If you do not already have an FM system, then consider purchasing a low-cost unit from Auditory Sciences. The Nano system is a USB thumb drive receiver that supports wireless handheld, lapel or headset microphones, and the Dual system extends the capabilities to also support wireless connection to a student's hearing aid or CI.

Superior Features when Saving Transcripts:

- **Session Retention.** Transcriptions are preserved in your private Streamer™ room for as long as you want, and cleared when you want them cleared.
- **Auto Summarizer.** Streamer automatically reviews the contents of your transcript, summarizes them into a few short paragraphs, and inserts this summary into the header of your saved transcripts.



- **Auto Dates and Time Stamps.** Each entry on your transcript is persevered with a date and timestamp, so you can always see when a particular transcript was created.
- **Named Participants.** Transcripts include the name of the person speaking, so you know who said what (and when).
- **Private Note Insertion.** Notes that you add to your transcript are only seen by you and only included in your saved copy of the transcript.
- **Continuous Auto Save.** Streamer™ auto saves the transcript every time a new word is added – you’ll never lose any data. If you accidentally logout of Streamer, or the batteries on your device lose their charge, or your network goes down; your transcript is always saved.
- **Choose Your Format.** You can save transcripts in multiple formats including Google Docs and Word Documents.
- **Choose Your Time Frame.** Save the last hour of transcripts, the last hour, day, week, etc.
- **Choose Where Transcripts are Stored.** With Streamer™, you can choose where transcripts are saved, such as separate folders for each class period and/or directly to a Google Docs folder.

Superior Language Translation Features:

- **Complete multi-lingual support of conversations.** Translate conversations from one language into dozens of others. This isn’t just bi-lingual translation, but rather complete “United Nations” simultaneous translation from any language into every other language.
- **Complete Voice-to-Voice Translation.** Anything said, typed or written is captioned and, if desired, spoken aloud in each person’s preferred language.
- **Personalized Voices.** Your preferred voice is used in all languages. Select a personal voice in English, and that same voice is used when your speech is being translated and spoken aloud in a second language. This makes it much easier for participants to recognize the voice of who is speaking in multi-lingual conversations.
- **Superior Voice Synthesis.** Microsoft Translate™ only uses Microsoft voice synthesis engines, which simply are not very good.
- **Language Identification** – Each User Account displays that person’s preferred language, so you know which participant is speaking which given language.
- **Saved User Accounts** – With Streamer™ you do not have to reset your language(s) each time you use the system.

Automated Updates:

- **Always the Latest Version.** Because Streamer™ is web-based, you never have to worry about updating your software. Every time you go to the website, you’ll be using the latest version of the code. New features are automatically added and security features (there’s always some new threat out there) are immediately implemented. If you’re an IT Manager, this is utopia. There’s never any concern about some user somewhere using an outdated and insecure version of the code. Take that coffee break and relax. We’ve got you covered.

Coming Soon:

New features are always being added to Streamer™. Because it’s a web-based system, you immediately get access to these new features as they are launched – there’s no need to download and install a new app, just go the Streamer site, and your new features are there. Here’s a few of the new features that will be added soon:

- **Composer™** - Add Custom Words to Your Captioning systems.
- **WristWatch** – Soon you can view the captioning on a wrist watch.

¹Apple limits these features for iPad and iPhone users