

# frontrow™ pro

Specialised **sound**  
distribution system  
Classroom or meeting room

August 2006



## Frontrow™ Pro sound field system can benefit your students and teachers!

- Improve the learning environment.
- Engage students and improve attentiveness in the classroom.
- Foster control and orderliness, increase on-task behaviour.
- Boost comprehension, improve test scores.
- Reduce vocal strain and fatigue for teachers.
- Support students suffering from Otitis Media (middle ear infection).

A typical sound field system consists of an infrared emitter and a wireless microphone worn by the teacher and 4 speakers located around the 4 walls of the room which actually make the "Field" integrated with specially designed sensors. Amplifying the teacher's voice raises the signal to noise ratio which improves speech intelligibility and reduces vocal strain. An extra hand held microphone can be provided for students to pass around, so they can be amplified too.



## Kid's Corner:



(Photo taken at Hillvue Public School)

Following are some of the comments made by students after using the sound field system:

*I don't have to yell anymore and I can hear the teacher better.*

Bankstown South Infants School - Year 1-2

*I think that it is very good because we are the happiest class ever and we are lucky and I can hear the teacher better.*

Tuggerah Public School - Year 3

*What ever gave you this idea, it's great.*

Tuggerah Public School - Year 3

*The hearing thingamagig is good because you could hear clearer. I wish we could have it longer.*

Hillvue Public School (Tamworth) - Year 2- 3



2 Doig Avenue DENISTONE EAST 2112

(Ph.) 02 9809 2392 | (Fax) 02 9809 2345 | (TTY): 02 9809 1283

Email: [sales@printacall.com.au](mailto:sales@printacall.com.au) | Web: [www.printacall.com.au](http://www.printacall.com.au)



(actual system has 4 speakers, infrared sensors, emitter, body worn transmitter and mic)

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## DID YOU KNOW?

During 2005, at hearing clinics offered by community health centres in the Northern Sector of Hunter New England Health Area, it was noted that:

- 17% of the population had a conductive hearing loss.
- 32% of Aboriginal children under 5 years of age had a conductive hearing loss.
- 31% of Aboriginal children over 5 years of age had a conductive hearing loss.

The above statistics were provided by Hunter New England Health (Tamworth Community Health Centre - Hearing Services).

## THE SOUND FIELD PROJECT

We would like to thank the following schools in the New England region which have participated in the infrared sound field amplification system trial:

Narrabri Public School, Nemingha Public School, Westdale Public School, Hillvue Public School, Gunnedah Preschool, Gunnedah South Public School, Birrelli MACS Child Care Centre, Tamworth West Public School, & Peter Pan Preschool

## OUR SURVEY RESULTS

Printacall offers a 30 day trial of the Frontrow Pro™ sound field system. The results from the 20 schools surveyed\* showed that teachers and students agreed completely or agreed somewhat that:

- Students' focus and attention span improved - 94%
- Teachers experienced fewer vocal problems - 83%
- Students followed directions with fewer questions - 85%
- Students said they could hear the teacher better - 96%
- Students felt they were learning more while using the sound field system - 83%

For more information on the trial offer, visit the website below and click on the Frontrow Pro™ Trial Offer link.\*

These results in our small sample are a preliminary confirmation of much larger professionally controlled studies in the USA, see our website for detailed references or ask for more information.

[www.soundfield.com.au](http://www.soundfield.com.au)

\* Trademark of Phonic Ear Inc, USA.

# Sound Field in the New England Region

## Narrabri Public School

Narrabri Public School, a country school in the New England Region, leads the way in NSW in improving classroom acoustics and enjoying the educational benefits of an optimal learning environment. As a result of being a part of the 30 day trial, Narrabri Public School experienced first hand the benefits and saw improvements for both the students and teachers. Since the trial we have installed six Frontrow Pro™ infrared sound field amplification systems, making a grand total of seven units for this school!

With a sound field system (sometimes referred to as a sound distribution system) the teacher wears a tiny lapel microphone which emits sound to a base receiver via infra red where it is distributed to 4 wall speakers positioned around the room integrated with specially designed sensors. The result is better teacher speech intelligibility, less vocal fatigue and no more noisy classrooms. By optimizing classroom sound quality the childrens' minds are more readily engaged, inspiring participation and creating a more intimate environment conducive to learning. These benefits are more readily measured in terms of improved student attentiveness, listening and comprehension, better test scores and fewer behavioural problems within the classroom.



For further information contact Rebecca or Jodie who will be pleased to answer your questions and arrange for you to receive an information pack.