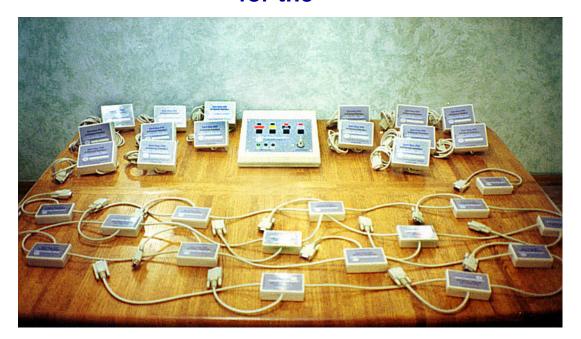


# DOCUMENTATION PACKAGE for the



Seven-Language United Nations Headquarters
Digital Recording System (DRS)

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## **System Description**



#### **Outstanding Features**

Robust, reliable operation: -Recordings continue even when the network goes down (and they will go down!)

- Operates independently of type of computer, networking used

-Computers do not depend on each other for recording

-Each computer is independently controlled by light (optical couplers) eliminating electrical co-interference, spikes, glitches, and lightning-induced transients

-Operates with ordinary computers and sound cards - no proprietary PCs needed.

-Full, continuous hardware and software built-in-test (BIT)

-Automatic, continuous monitoring of all recording computers ensures that all machines are recording reliably.

-Military aircraft-style control bus operates the recording computers reliably even under adverse conditions or partial failures.

**Universal, Open Standards:** 

-All files recorded in Microsoft(TM) .WAV and TrueSpeech(TM) .WAV formats, which are playable on any Windows computer

-Does not require the person playing the file back to have custom hardware or software



#### **Outstanding Features- continued**

Recording Compression Technology:

TrueSpeech(TM) recording compression technology requires only 1/10th the file size of a standard .WAV recording, making it practical to e-mail the recordings in real-time.

-File archiving is practical: A single inexpensive recordable CD-ROM

holds 160+ hours of recordings.

Low Life Cycle Cost: -Low initial acquisition cost

-Operates independently of type of computer and networking used

-Proprietary computers or "maintenance" contracts not required

Longevity: -Designed to operate reliably for many years

-Gold contact million-cycle switches

-No active components in Control Console

-Extremely low power consumption

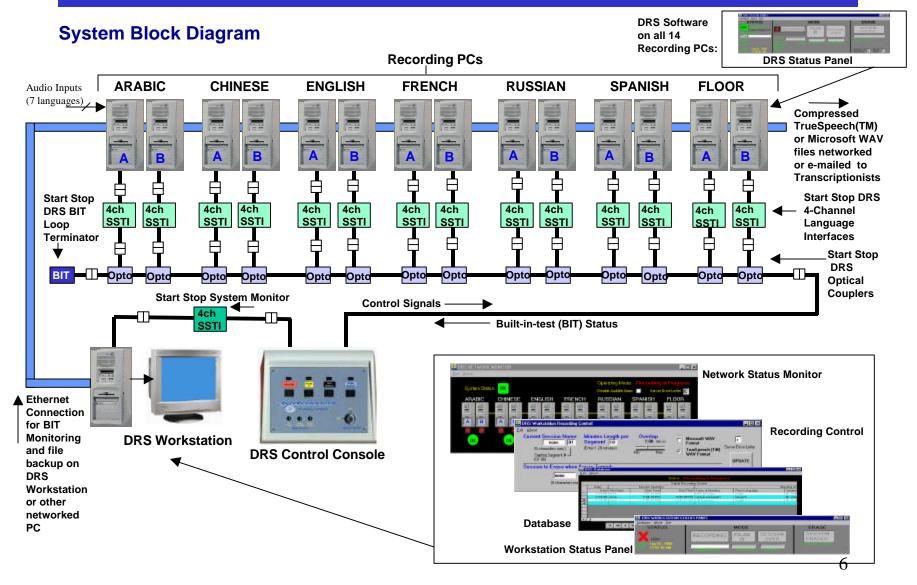
-Console control station uses an external UL-approved power module that is universally available

-Optical coupled PC interfaces ensure that the computers will never be damaged from power-company voltage induced spikes or ESD(electrostatic discharge) via the Control Console

-Optical coupled interfaces ensure that all hardware is "hot swappable"

-Optical coupled interfaces ensure that one computer cannot cause

another computer to fail



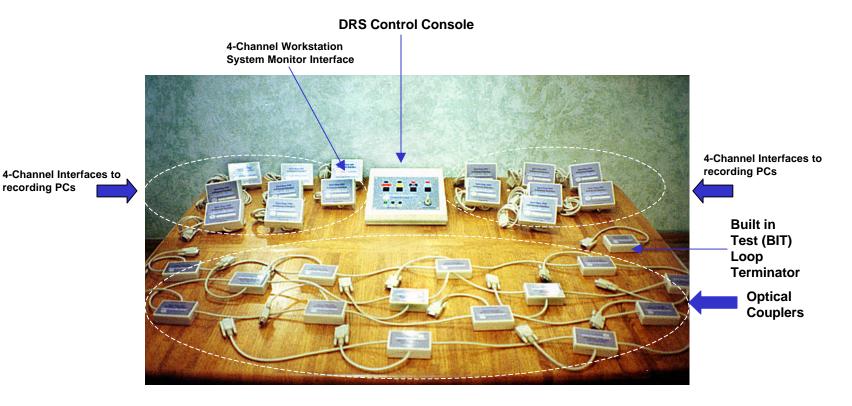


## **HARDWARE COMPONENTS**



#### **HARDWARE COMPONENTS**

recording PCs





#### **DRS Control Console**

#### **PUSHBUTTONS and INDICATORS**



#### **AC Power**

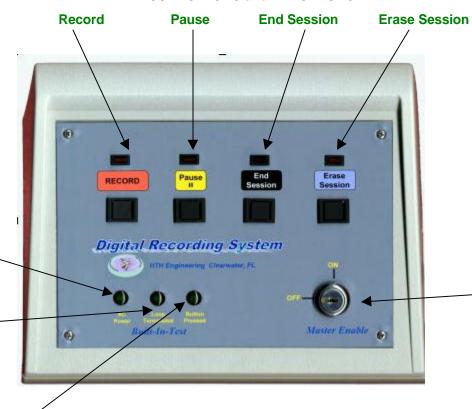
Indicator- shows that Control Console is receiving power

#### **Loop Terminated**

Indicator - shows that the control harness is properly connected \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Button Pressed**

Indicator- Validates each pushbutton press and verifies the corresponding control signals make it through to the end of the control harness



Master Enable Key Pushbuttons are disabled if key is in the "off" position



#### **Start Stop DRS 4-Channel Interface to Recording PCs**



- -One Interface required per recording computer (14 total for a seven-language system)
- -Automatically pre-configures the recording PC to the language and Machine Type (Machine "A" or Machine "B")
- -Connects to standard DB-9 Serial port on recording PC
- -Provides serial data and BIT commands to recording PC
- -Controlled via the optical coupler on the harness



#### **Start Stop DRS 4-Channel SYSTEM MONITOR**



- -One Interface required per DIGITAL RECORDING SYSTEM
- -Provides independent, real-time System Status Information (Record, Pause, Stop, and Erase) to the Workstation PC's Database and Network Monitor (BIT) applications
- -Controlled by the DRS Control Console, and connected via serial port to the Workstation PC



#### **Start Stop DRS Optical Couplers**



- -Provides reliability, electrical isolation, and hot-swappability features
- -Integral part of the control harness: 2 optical couplers required for a single-language system
- -Ensures that each recording PC connection is totally isolated from any other recording PC and from the control console
- -4 opto-coupler channels provide 1,500 volts of isolation to the control harness and 3000 volts to another recording PC
- -Each optical channel is current-limited to the control harness bus, ensuring that any shorts or failures will not cause any other optical coupler or recording PC to fail.



#### Start Stop DRS Built-In-Test (BIT) Loop Terminator



- -Provides continuous diagnostic status (built-in-test) through the harness to the Control Console:
- 1) "Listens" to Record, Pause, End Session, and Erase Session pushbutton presses, and reports status through the harness back to the Control Console
- 2) Provides a continuous monitoring of the cable harness end-to-end



## **SOFTWARE COMPONENTS**



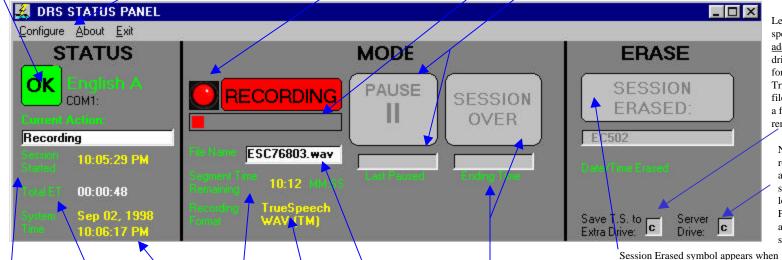
#### RECORDING PC's (Machines 1-14) - Main Recording Software

#### **DRS Status Panel Layout and Functions**

Built-in-Test listens to SSTI Controller at program start up and will show fault symbol if system is not ready Configures COM Port and Language (A, C, E, R, F, S, FL)

Large red recording symbol and flashing LED illuminates during recording for at-a-glance status Progress Bar visually shows % completion of each 12 minute (nominal) recording segment

> Pause Symbol illuminates if recording is paused. Real-time indicator appears below to show actual time the pause began



Lets you specify any additional drive path for saving TrueSpeech files, such as a floppy or remote server

New recordings are always saved to the local Recording PC's hard drive as well as to the server drive as shown here.

Time the current session began Total elapsed time since the recording session began. When paused or ended, the ET counter stops.

Current time and date, as provided by the PC's system clock Segment time remaining. Counts down each recorded segment.

nent Displays Current file
current name being
recorded.
respect format: "??"
reach TrueSpeech progresses
ded or from 00 to
ent. Microsoft 99 during a
.WAV session

Session End Symbol illuminates if operator has terminated the recording session. Real-time indicator appears below to show actual time the session was ended.

Session Erased symbol appears when operator erases a previously specified session and turns the erase key on the control panel. Status Panel will show file to be erased before erasure. When erase key is actually turned, the SESSION ERASED symbol will go from a "gray out" condition to illuminated, and the Date/Time Erased area will show when the erase key was actually turned.



#### **WORKSTATION PC - Controls all parameters for the next Recording Session**

#### **DRS Workstation Recording Control**

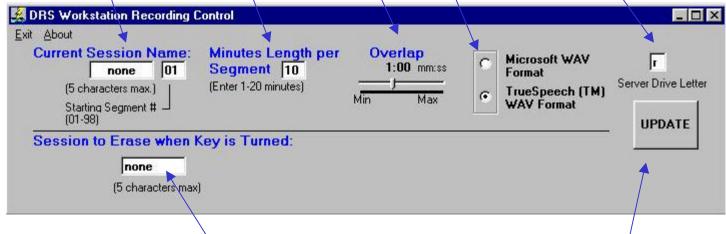
Enter the name of the Current Recording Session here. You may also specify the Starting Segment number from 01 to 98. For example, if the Current Session Name you choose is "TEST" and 01 as your starting segment, then the first file recorded will be called "TEST01.WAV", and then "TEST02.WAV", and so on. The default Starting Segment is always "01"

Enter the length of each Recording Segment here in whole minutes, from 1 minute to 20 minutes.

Default value is set to 10 minutes.

Sliding Adjustment allows you to set the amount of recording overlap between the two Recording PCs in minutes and seconds. The "Min" amount is 1 second. The "Max" limit is set in proportion to the length of the Recording time that you have set.

Selects whether the recording will be in standard Microsoft WAV format (11KHz, 8 bit, mono) or TrueSpeech(TM) compressed WAV format Nominal server drive letter = "r:". If you enter another drive letter here (e.g. "s") before clicking on UPDATE, the recording configuration file drs.cfg will be sent not only to the local hard drive root (c:\) of the machine on which you are running this Console, but also to the root of the entered drive (e.g. "s:\").

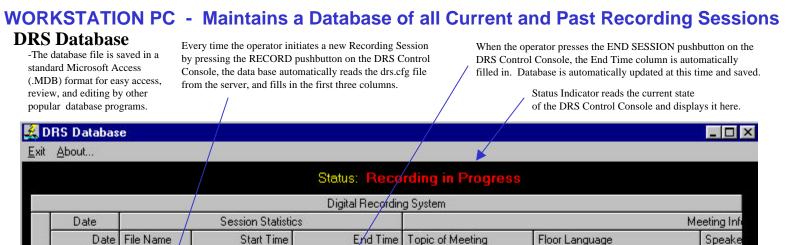


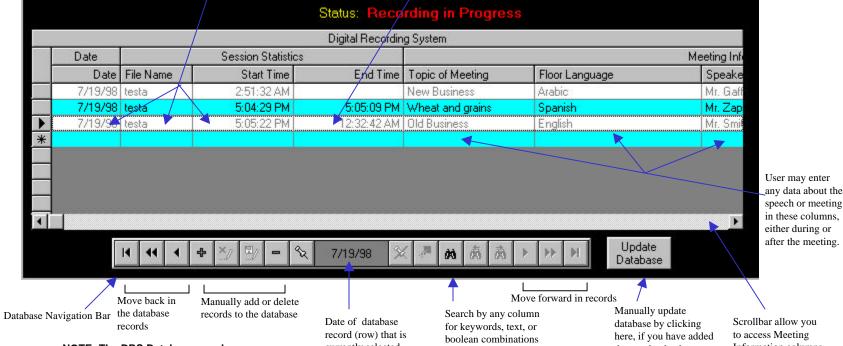
NOTE: The Recording Control may be co-located on the DRS Workstation/Server (recommended) or it may be located on a remote, independent machine if desired

Enter the name of a recording session here that you want to erase, and then click on the UPDATE button. Then, the next time the DRS Control Console ERASE pushbutton is physically pressed, all Recording PCs will simultaneously erase all file recordings in all languages that start with that particular name.

Click this button once you have everything set up the way you want it. The Recording PCs will then be able to "read" the drs.cfg file that is created on the "Server Drive"







NOTE: The DRS Database may be co-located on the DRS Workstation/Server (recommended) or it may be located on a remote, independent machine if desired

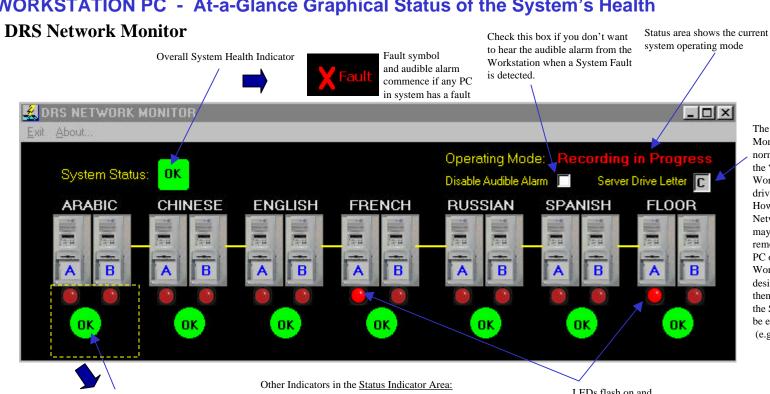
currently selected (shown by  $\triangleright$  symbol) data to the database after the recording has finished, or if you're going back later to make

corrections

Scrollbar allow you to access Meeting Information columns easily

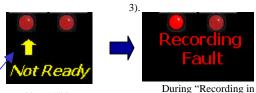


### **WORKSTATION PC** - At-a-Glance Graphical Status of the System's Health



1). Status Indicator Area for each Recording PC language pair. OK indicates that Machine "A" and "B" both are ready to record or are recording correctly. The system continuously monitors a "heartbeat" from each PC every few seconds.

> Yellow Arrow shows location of the machine that is not ready.



Machine "A" is not providing a "heartbeat" that says that it is capable of recording

Progress" Mode, neither Machine "A" or "B" is actively recording

LEDs flash on and off when recording is actually taking place on a given machine during "Recording in Progress" mode.

NOTE: The DRS Network Monitor may be co-located on the DRS Workstation/Server (recommended) or it may be located on a remote, independent machine if desired

The Network

Monitor application normally resides on

the "Server" (i.e.

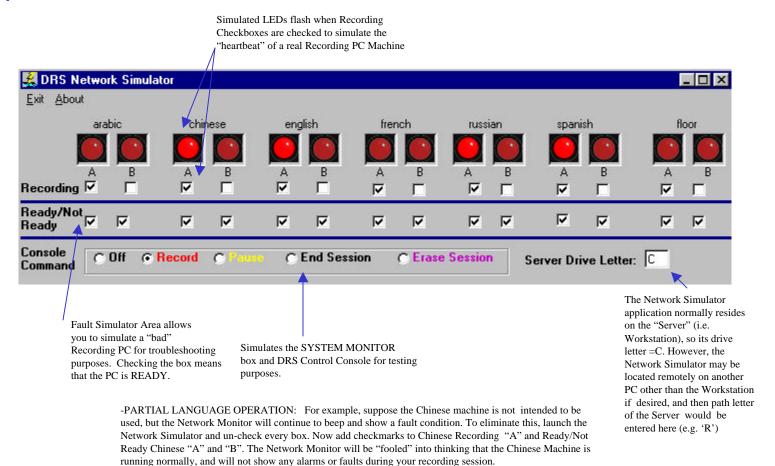
However, the Network Monitor may be located remotely on another PC other than the Workstation if desired, and then path letter of the Server would be entered here

(e.g. 'R')

Workstation), so its drive letter =C.

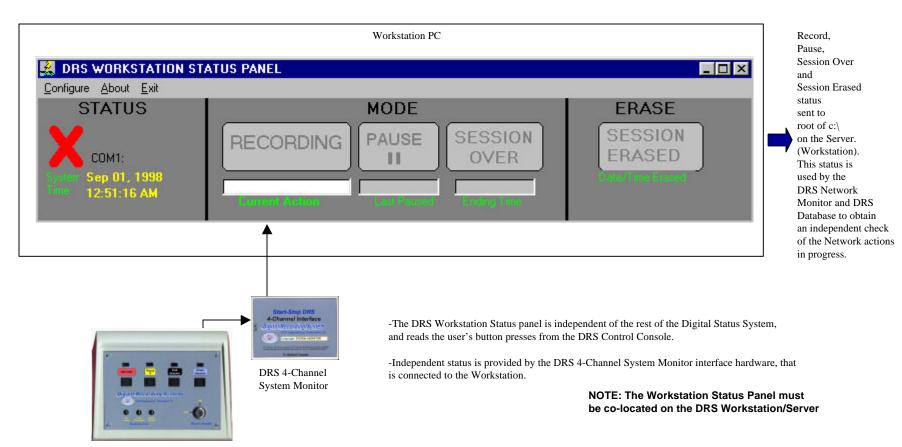


## **WORKSTATION PC** - Simulates Entire Network for Troubleshooting or Partial Language Operation





## **WORKSTATION PC** - Status Panel Shows Current State of Control Console Status Panel for Workstation





## "Super User" Features

#### **DRS Status Panel**

- To operate in Super User mode: 1). Click and drag the mouse pointer on the bottom edge of the DRS Status Panel Window to expand it vertically. 2). Check the

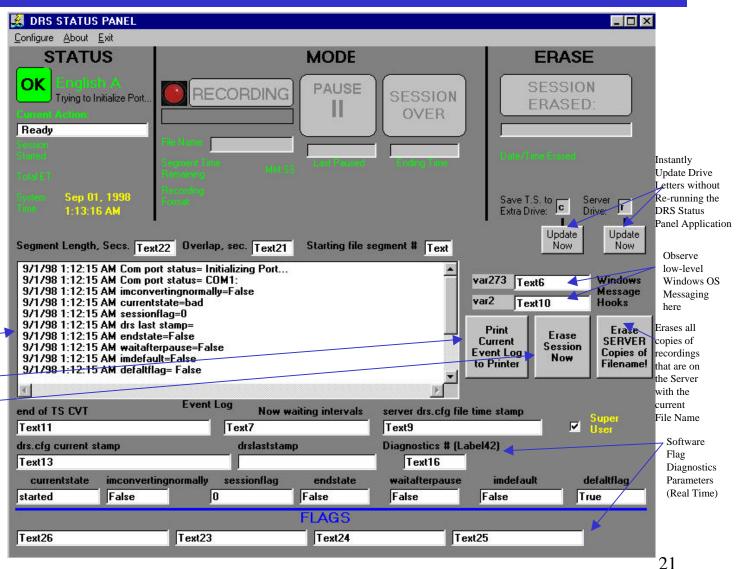
2). Check the small box next to "Super User".

Current drs.cfg
data as read
from the Server
by the DRS Status
Panel

Real-time event log can be viewed and scrolled

Print event log to printer

Erase all
Recordingsin
all languages on
this Recording PC
with the File Name
currently chosen.



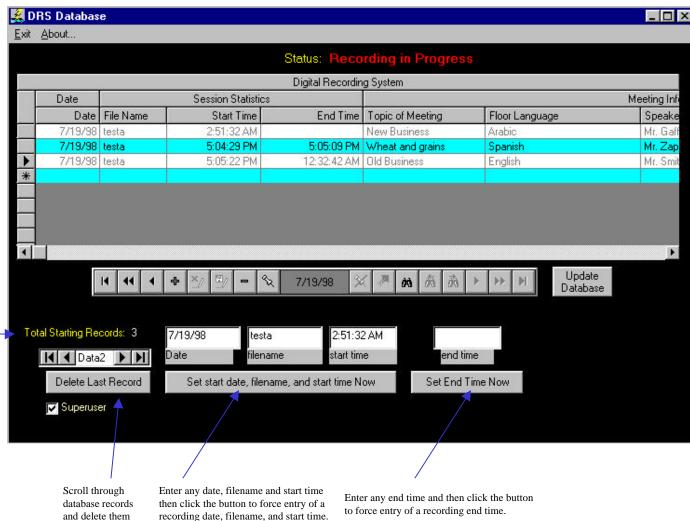


## "Super User" Features

#### **DRS** Database

- To operate in Super User mode: 1). Click and drag the mouse pointer on the bottom edge of the DRS Status Panel Window to expand it vertically. 2). Check the small box next to "Super User".

> View total number of records that are already saved to the hard drive.





#### TRANSCRIPTION STATIONS (Remotely Located on the Network, or Overseas Connected by E-Mail) **Start Stop Transcription Interface --Version 6.02**

New Features for Version 6.02

File name and path are displayed in the title bar 🎉 C:\!2pedv5\SSTI Greeting.way: Start Stop Transcription Interface (c) 1998 H... File Configure Help... About... **Pedal Mode** Action: Hour Min. Sec. Step Amount V Play / 0.0 Record Check Here to Total recording Pause length and file size add backstep File Length = 0 min., 6 sec. is displayed in feature to every play/pause File Size: 131.858 K Rwd FFwd Play Pause Step Step Stop Record **Back Fwd** New mode lets user Record Mode: Insert C Overwrite select whether recordings RealTime = will overwrite or insert into a previous recording Estimated Start Time: 7/29/98 2:03:52 AM **Two-Way Slider Control:** 1) User can position the WAV file instantly AccuStamp Start Time: 1/16/98 9:55:38 AM to any point in the recording by sliding the control handle with either mouse or left & right keyboard arrow keys **Real Time Display:** The SSTI reads the file date time stamp calculates real time based on recorded file length and position within the recording, and displays it to 2) Slider button moves from left to right as the user. the recording progresses from start to finish

- For UN Digital Recording System (DRS) use, the AccuStamp mode displays real time based on the DRS's accurate start time stamping of each recorded segment.
- For non-DRS generated WAV files, real time is an estimate, based on the assumption that the recording was saved to disk after the recording was completed.

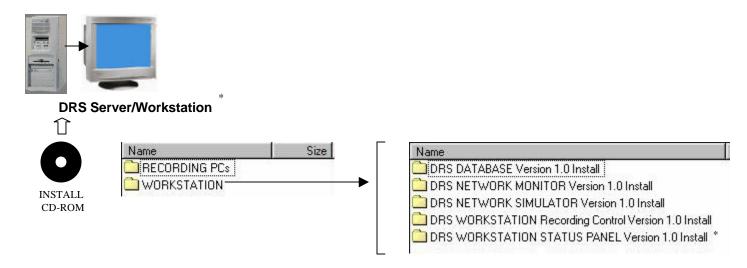


## **SOFTWARE INSTALLATION GUIDE**



#### <u>Installation Guide for 7-language DRS + Server/Workstation</u>

1) Insert the Installation CD-ROM into the Server/Workstation PC, and then double-click on the WORKSTATION subdirectory to view the installation program directories:



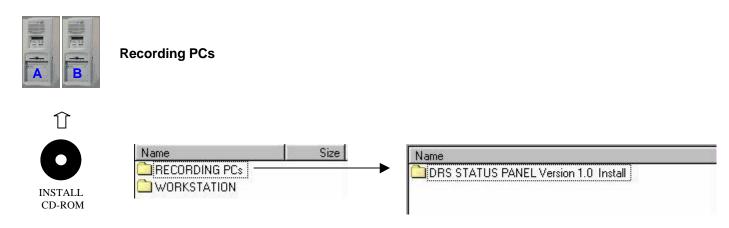
2) Run "setup.exe" for each installation program. The order of installation does not matter. Follow the on-screen instructions

The "Server" default is set up as "r:\", but may be configured by the user to another drive letter.

<sup>\* =</sup> Note: This is the only program that <u>must</u> reside on the Server. The other programs may be installed on a remotely located (but network connected) workstation, if desired, since each of these programs can be configured to point to the Server path (e.g. "R").



3) Insert the Installation CD-ROM into each of the 14 Recording PCs, and then double-click on the RECORDING PCs subdirectory to view the DRS STATUS PANEL installation program directory:

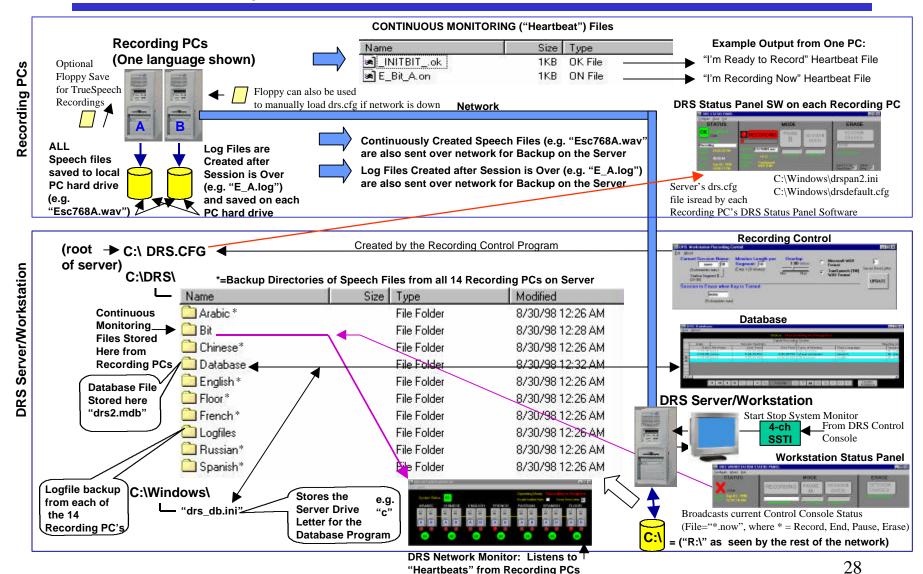


- 4) Run "setup.exe" for the installation program. Follow the on-screen instructions
- 5) Installation is now complete.

## **TECHNICAL DETAILS ON FILE I/O**



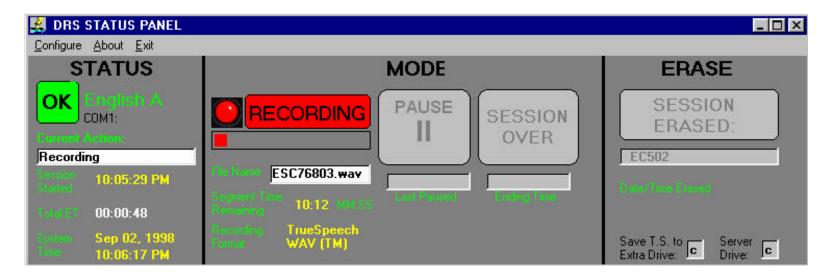
#### **Overall File Transfer Roadmap**



## DRS STATUS PANEL FILE I/O



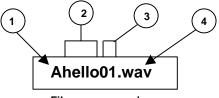
1) The DRS Status Panel executable ("DRS Status Panel.exe") when launched, will look for the server's "drs.cfg" file, and will be looking for it to be on drive "R:\" in the root level. If it can't find it, it will then give dialog boxes asking you if you want to use the default local cfg. File. The DRS Status Panel should look like this (except for the filenames, which may be different than shown):



2) When the DRS Status Panel starts running, it creates the following subdirectories on both the local recording PC under "C:\DRS", as well as on the server's hard drive, under "R:\DRS:".

Name	Size Type	Modified
Arabic	File Folder	8/30/98 12:26 AM
Bit	File Folder	8/30/98 12:28 AM
Chinese	File Folder	8/30/98 12:26 AM
Database	File Folder	8/30/98 12:32 AM
English	File Folder	8/30/98 12:26 AM
Floor	File Folder	8/30/98 12:26 AM
French	File Folder	8/30/98 12:26 AM
Logfiles	File Folder	8/30/98 12:26 AM
Russian	File Folder	8/30/98 12:26 AM
C Spanish	File Folder	8/30/98 12:26 AM

Recordings are initiated as a series of sequentially numbered file names when the user presses "RECORD" on the console. The files are automatically copied as they are created to both the local recording PC's hard drive, as well as to the Server's hard drive. The File Naming convention is as follows:



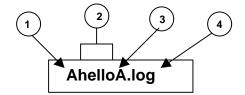
- File name example
- 1. First letter represents the language or audio source of the recording:
  A=Arabic, C=Chinese, English, "\_" (underscore) =Floor, F=French, R=Russian and S= Spanish.
- 2. Session Name entered from the DRS Workstation Console: Up to 5 alphanumeric characters long.
- 3. Sequential recording segment number. Automatically assigned by the DRS recording system.

  Odd numbers (01,03,05...) come from Machine "A", while even numbers (02, 04, 06...come from Machine "B".
- 4. File name extension: ".wav for recordings, or ".log" for Logfiles.

#### 3) LOGFILES

During a recording session, a "log file" is created. At the end of the recording session, the logfile is automatically copied to the directory "C:\DRS\Logfiles" on both the local recording PC, as well as to the server.

The file naming convention is:



- 1. First letter represents the language or audio source of the recording:
  A=Arabic, C=Chinese, English, "\_" (underscore) =Floor, F=French, R=Russian and S= Spanish.
- 2. Session Name entered from the DRS Workstation Console: Up to 5 alphanumeric characters long.
- 3. Source of the logfile: Machine "A"= "A", and Machine "B"="B"
- 4. File name extension: always ".log" for Logfiles.

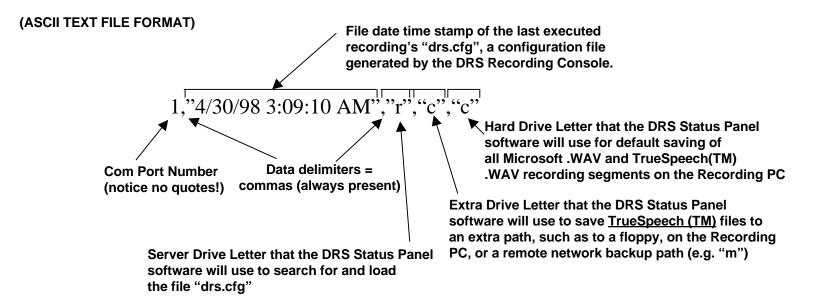
The logfiles are created in plain-text format (ASCII) and can be read with the Notepad application in Windows. The logfiles provide date-time event stamps and document every action the user or the DRS recording software generated during a recording session. The logfiles are compact, and can be viewed or e-mailed when technical support is required.



#### 4) Configuration and INI Files

#### A.) "DRSPAN2.INI" -Used by the DRS Status Panel

During installation, this file is copied to the Windows directory, normally C:\Windows. The file is automatically updated each time "DRS Status Panel.exe" runs, and is saved upon exit or shutdown with the most current configuration.



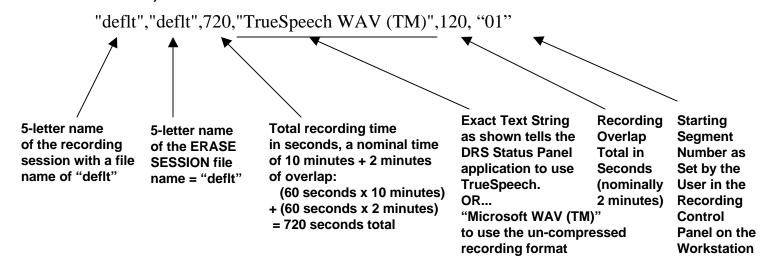


#### 4) Configuration and INI Files (continued)

#### B.) "DRSDEFAULT.CFG" -Used by the DRS Status Panel

During installation, this file is copied to the Windows directory, normally C:\Windows. It is a backup (data source) file that is copied to the local hard drive root and renamed as "drs.cfg" (c:\) and used in cases where the DRS Status Panel cannot find the server's hard drive root (e.g. "r:\) copy of the file "drs.cfg". The DRS Status Panel will alert the operator that it can't find the server file drs.cfg, and will ask if they want to load the "default" configuration for this recording, or else manually copy a "drs.cfg" file in the root of the local hard drive via floppy or otherwise.

#### (ASCII TEXT FILE FORMAT)



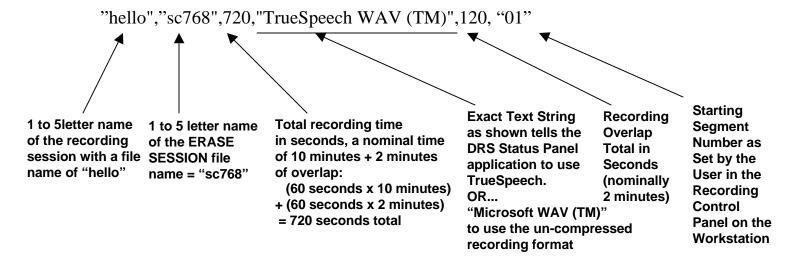


#### 4) Configuration and INI Files (continued)

#### C.) "DRS.CFG" -Generated by the DRS Recording Control Software

This file is generated whenever the operator clicks on the UPDATE button on the DRS Recording Control application. The nominal drive letters to which this generated file is sent = "r:\" and the local hard drive "c:\". If you enter another drive letter in the "Server Drive Letter" box (e.g. "s") before clicking on UPDATE, then recording configuration file drs.cfg will be sent not only to the local hard drive root (c:\) of the machine on which you are running the DRS Recording Control application, but also to the root of the entered drive (e.g. "s:\").

#### (ASCII TEXT FILE FORMAT)



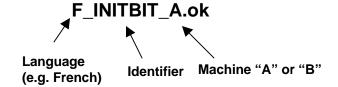


#### 4) Configuration and INI Files (continued)

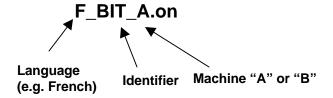
#### D.) BIT FILES -Generated by the DRS Status Panel

These 1-byte long files are automatically generated and deleted on the Server's r:/DRS/BIT subdirectory about once per second to form a "heartbeat" signal whenever the DRS Status Panel is running. This heartbeat is detected by the Network Monitor and reports the health status of each Recording PC:

#### "I'm Healthy and Ready to Record" file:



#### "I'm Actually Recording Now" file:





## DRS DATABASE FILE I/O



#### **Configuration and INI Files:**

#### A.) "drs\_db.ini" FILEGenerated and read by the DRS Database

This file normally resides in the c:\Windows directory of the PC in which the DRS Database application is stored. It tells the Database program the path where to look for the database itself, stored in the /DRS/Database subdirectory as "drs2.mdb".

File contents (ASCII): "C"

#### B.) "drs2.mdb" FILE-Read and modified by the DRS Database

This file normally resides in the (server drive:)/DRS/Database subdirectory as "drs2.mdb". It contains the entire database for all Recording Sessions. It is a standard Microsoft (TM) Access Format Database file, and may be read or edited by Microsoft Access or other applications that can read the .mdb format.

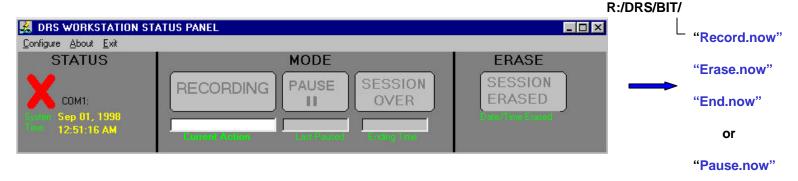


# DRS WORKSTATION STATUS PANEL FILE I/O



#### **Communication File:**

The Workstation Status Panel's function is to independently communicate the current state (last button pressed) of the DRS Control Console. This information is communicated to the DRS Network Monitor and DRS Database applications via the (server drive:)/DRS/BIT subdirectory. A single 1-byte long file is dynamically created and deleted to reflect the current state of the DRS Control Console:



One and only one of these files will appear in the (server drive:)/DRS/Bit subdirectory at a time.

## **NOTES**



#### **NOTES**

- 1). Logfiles are not erased; they accumulate until you manually erase them. If the same session name is used over again (another recording is made with the same file name as previously, using the UPDATE button to purposely record on top of the old one), the logfile will overwrite the previous logfile of the same name when the recording is over
- 2) Server Recordings will not be erased.
- 3) If a new recording session is initiated without changing the session name first, the DRS Status Panel will refuse to record over the existing session. However, if you click on the UPDATE button in the DRS Recording Control panel without changing the session name, then the DRS Status Panel will allow you to record over the existing files. If you do this, please note that currently the software overwrites the existing recordings on a one-by-one basis. It does not carte-blanche erase the previous recording session files before it begins.
- 4) Be sure that the recording PCs have had Windows (TM) installed with all multimedia options checked. To verify, go to START, SETTINGS, CONTROL PANEL, ADD/REMOVE PROGRAMS, then WINDOWS SETUP. Make sure that all MULTIMEDIA options have been installed & checked (Click on DETAILS).
- 5) Keyswitch Failure Backup- Should the key-operated switch on the DRS Control Console ever fail, there is a back-up switch located on the bottom of the DRS Control Console unit. Using a thin long object (such as a pencil), push through the small hole until a "click" is heard. The internal switch will now be in the "on" position, overriding the keyswitch, even if the keyswitch was off. Note that once this internal switch has been thrown "on", the DRS Control Console will remain "ON" continuously, and the Record, Pause, End, and Erase pushbuttons will always be active if pressed.
- 6) The Database File "drs2.mdb" is located on a floppy disk included with the Installation CD-ROM. Please copy this database sample file to the Server's c:\DRS\Database subdirectory before launching the DRS Database application.