

**Ai-Media to Unveil World-First
Education Innovation for Deaf School Students
at National Deafness Sector Summit - Friday 23 April**

21 April 2010

Deafness services and captioning innovator Ai-Media will unveil a world-first education service for deaf and hearing impaired school students at the National Deafness Sector Summit this Friday in Sydney.

The new Ai-Media service enables deaf and hearing impaired students to participate fully in mainstream schools and classrooms.

The service will also create new employment and training opportunities at a local community level for people who will be recruited to provide the service.

Ai-Media will hold a media conference and demonstration of the service at the National Deafness Sector Summit:

**Venue: Grace Hotel, 77 York St, Sydney. Pinaroo Room, Level 1
Date and time: Friday 23 April. 10.30am**

The National Deafness Sector Summit on 23-24 April will turn a spotlight on the critical issue of hearing disability that affects more than 3.5 million Australians.

There are 10,000 deaf children in Australia and 160,000 Australians are out of work because they cannot hear. The number of Australians with hearing disability is expected to rise with an ageing population. Deafness costs the Australian economy more than \$12 billion (1.4% of GDP) every year.

The Summit's keynote speakers include the Hon. Bill Shorten MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Children's Services, the "white knight" for disability reform, who will address social inclusion for people with disability. The Hon. John Howard AC, Deafness Forum Ambassador, will also address the Summit.

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About Ai-Media:

Access Innovation Media (Ai-Media) is a social enterprise that develops and delivers access services for media, education, business and government clients to ensure their content is available to people with hearing and vision impairments.

The company provides the following services:

- Pre-recorded captioning and subtitling for television, DVD, online and corporate presentations
- Live captioning using re-speaking and stenographic methodologies for broadcast, conference, meetings, online and mobile
- Transcripts
- Audio description

Ai-Media introduced large-scale cost-effective captioning to subscription television in 2004 – a service that has now grown to deliver over 120,000 hours across 45 channels annually.

Ai-Media clients have won an unprecedented 21 Captioning Awards over the last 5 years.

Ai-Media is the platinum sponsor of the National Deafness Sector Summit next Friday 23 April at the Grace Hotel.