
For immediate release

Media Contacts:

ATIA: Jennifer Kasowicz, 877-687-2842, marketing@atia.org

ISAAC: Heather Stonehouse, 905-850-6848 x229 heather.stonehouse@isaac-online.org

ATIA and ISAAC announced a cooperative agreement to work together to expand communication and education programs providing information and resources on Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) to users, practitioners, family members, and assistive technology manufacturers.

Toronto, Canada, and Chicago, Ill., January 17, 2020 – The International Society for Augmentative Alternative Communication (ISAAC) and the Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA) have partnered to promote resources and the benefits of assistive technology and AAC for individuals with complex communication needs and the service professionals, family members and communication technology providers who serve them. Through their individual missions, both organizations work to ensure that the best conference education programs and online education services are available to all users, communication needs specialists and speech language pathologists in the fields of AAC and education.

"ISAAC is excited to be partnering with ATIA, whose work is closely linked to ISAAC's mission: to promote the best possible communication for people with complex communication needs," said Franklin Smith, Executive Director, ISAAC. "Our goals are closely aligned with those of ATIA, with the end result that AAC will be recognized, valued and used throughout the world."

"We are excited to enter into this new partnership with ISAAC. Our two organizations have complimentary goals and share a focus on high quality professional development programs and communications for the betterment of our field. We have found a meaningful way to advance both our goals as organizations with this new partnership," said David Dikter, Chief Executive Officer, ATIA.

Dikter continued, "ISAAC and ATIA look forward to working together to promote the importance of AAC and assistive technology while supporting all users and practitioners in the field to ensure the success of children and adults with disabilities. There is an ever-growing critical need for professional development around AAC; and, in the coming months, ATIA and ISAAC will announce collaborative efforts to further address AAC needs."

About ISAAC

The International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC) is a membership organization working to improve the lives of children and adults who use AAC. With Chapters in 15 countries and regions around the globe, ISAAC’s goal is to create worldwide awareness about how AAC can support individuals with complex communication needs. ISAAC accomplishes this by sharing information and promoting innovative approaches to research, technology and literacy through AAC. Activities include hosting the ISAAC biennial conference, sponsoring projects, and offering awards, grants, and scholarships. ISAAC is a United Nations NGO in Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Learn more about the International Society for Alternative and Augmentative Communication at www.isaac-online.org.

About ATIA

The Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA) is a not-for-profit association of manufacturers, sellers and providers of assistive technology (AT) products, equipment and systems that enhance learning, working and daily living for persons with disabilities. ATIA represents the interests of its members to business, government, education, and the many agencies that serve people with disabilities. Its mission is to serve as the collective voice of the Assistive Technology industry so that the best products and services are delivered to people with disabilities.

For more information about our assistive technology education and research, please visit www.atia.org.

=====

ISAAC | Tel: +1 905-850-6848 | Fax: +1 905-850-6852 |

Email: heather.stonehouse@isaac-online.org | Website: www.isaac-online.org

ISAAC, 312 Dolomite Drive, Suite 216, Toronto, ON, Canada M3J 2N2

=====

ATIA | +1 877-687-2842 | +1 312-321-5172 |

Email: marketing@atia.org | Website: www.atia.org

Assistive Technology Industry Association, 330 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60611