THE HEBREW TEACHER'S MULTIMEDIA TOOL KIT

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A presentation of computerized tools for teachers and students geared to the production and teaching of new textual materials that can be automatically uploaded to the teacher's unique web page. The demonstration-lecture will present:

- Glossary Builder with expanded features
- Flash Card Assembler
- Flash Card Drills for עירונית מילה and מפתות
- Recorder Program for teachers to create listening materials and drills so students can complete and submit oral exercises and oral compositions.
- Audio Play-Back Program which allows the student to vary the play-back speed, pause, resume, and "re-wind" the piece.
- Tools for making the textual complement for the audio materials.
- Vocabulary Updater for adding to the dictionary database.

The Glossary Builder is designed to aid the teacher in the tedious task of preparing glossaries for students. The software is simple to use and has been created for people who may not necessarily be confident in the use of computers. For the most part they require no special word processors or fonts. The program contains features to insure a uniformity of style and format in the glossaries. The program also automatically generates feminine and plural forms for adjectives, plural forms for nouns, and infinitive forms for verbs with fairly high accuracy, thus saving data entry time.

A major hurdle for students is learning to comprehend spoken Hebrew in authentic situations (which can be fast or ultra fast). The "Play any Audio" program is a playback program that allows the student to adjust the speed to hear the "text" at a slower speed and then to gradually increase the speed as his/her listening ability and familiarity with the material grows. Students can see the text as they listen to it or hide it (to make the listening comprehension task more challenging). The Recorder is for making audio recordings which instructors and students can send one another.

The "Flash Card Assembler" enables teachers to easily select only those vocabulary items they want students to prepare for the next quiz. The program then builds a flash card drill using just those words. The words are selected with the click of a mouse from pre-existing lists arranged by chapters from עברית המנהל or from a text that has been glossed. In the "Flash Card Drill Program" students must type in the correct answers (in Hebrew or English) to get ready to "ace the quiz".

My presentation will also include a proposal that NAPH members collaborate to create a pool of glossaries for texts we teach—a "Joint Hebrew Glossary Project." Such a task force would be made up of volunteers who would contribute their glossaries to a central location so that all might draw upon it, reducing duplication of effort.