KnowBrainer Review of
[DPI (Dragon Pro Ver. 14)](#)
(available from Nuance Certified Resellers,
including [KnowBrainer Inc.](#))
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The following review covers the Ver. 14 edition of Dragon Pro which is now referred to as [DPI 14](#) (Dragon Personal Individual). Nuance has now released [DPG 14](#) (Dragon Professional Group), [DLI 14](#) (Dragon Legal Individual) and [DLG 14](#) (Dragon Legal Group). The primary difference between Group and Individual is that Group adds Network Roaming and is available in OLP pricing (multiple license discounts). This review will be subject to revisions/updates as we continue working with the application, or in the event that Nuance releases a service release patch. Whenever we edit this review, we will note it at the top of the page.

Note: DMPE 3 (which will be referenced in a different naming convention) is not likely to be released, if at all, until 2017. At that time, we will create a separate review.

Introduction:

[DPI 14](#) is a mid-season release (1 year rather than the usual 2 years) introducing some new features, including Windows 10 and Office 2016 compatibility, while removing some features.

What's New in Dragon 14

This topic describes enhancements and new features in Dragon version 14.

Command enhancements

Auto-text commands

Auto-text is a block of content that you specify - including text, graphics, or both - for which you create a custom voice command. In your dictation, when you say the command, Dragon enters your content. You can create auto-text commands using the New Auto-Text Command dialog box. From the DragonBar, select **Tools > Add New Auto-Text**.

For more information, see [Creating auto-text commands](#).

Manage your custom commands in one place

The Manage Custom Commands dialog lists all commands you have created, along with links to edit or delete them, or to create new ones. To access the dialog box, select **Tools > Manage Custom Commands** from the DragonBar.

For more information, see Managing your custom commands dialog box.

Windows 10 commands

There are new commands for the Action Center, Settings screen, and Start button for Windows 10.

For more information, see Working with Windows 8 and 10.

Dictation enhancements (such as removing the Save option when closing)

Enhanced Dictation Box

The following enhancements have been made to the Dictation Box:

- The user interface design is now simpler and easier to use.
- There is a new **Use automatic Dictation Box for this application** check box. This check box allows you to turn the Dictation Box on or off for specific applications.
- Dragon no longer prompts you to save text when you click the **Cancel** button.
- The Dictation Box is now resizable.
- There is now a minimum size. You cannot make the Dictation Box smaller than the minimum size.
- The **Show character count** setting is now deselected by default.

For more information, see Using the Dictation Box.

General enhancements

- When you close the Administrative Settings dialog box, Dragon now re-opens your user profile automatically.
- Dragon no longer prompts you to save your user profile when you make changes to it.
- DragonBar usability is now optimized for touchscreen use.
- You can now link your desktop version of Dragon to your Dragon Anywhere account and share words and commands with your desktop version.

    For more information, see Using Dragon Anywhere

Installation and upgrade enhancements

Region selection

During the Dragon DVD installation, you can now choose to install only the files for your region, or all regions. This allows you to use less disk space when installing Dragon, and reduces the installation time required.

User profile upgrade

Dragon now opens user profiles in the version 14 directory without upgrading them.

Software versions

Dragon can now support Microsoft Windows 10 and Office 2016.

For more information, see Working with Windows 8 and 10.

Transcription enhancements

Improvements to the transcription source

Improvements to the transcription process produce more accurate transcription results for recorded dictation. You can now create a transcription source separate from your live dictation source.

Streamlined transcription of recorded dictation

The steps required to transcribe a recording have been streamlined to make the process faster and easier. Note that you must create a transcription source before you can transcribe your recordings. Advantages include being able to transcribe on your existing profile, after creating a new sound source; as opposed to having to create and maintain a digital recorder profile. On the downside, the ability to Drag-&-Drop recordings onto the DragonBar have been removed. You now have to go through 7 steps, instead of 1, and wait for for the digital recorder sound source to be loaded (typically 45 seconds).

For more information, see Transcribing recorded dictation.

Usability enhancements

Help redesign and optimization

The following enhancements have been made to the Dragon Help:

- Help content was rewritten and made simpler to more clearly explain Dragon's functionality, and to make information easier to find.
- The Search capability is now optimized to return more accurate search results relevant to search key words.
- Interactive video tutorials are now available. These address commonly asked questions and several key Dragon features.
- The Help user interface was redesigned and is now modern and easy-to-use.
- The Help system is now on the Web.

For more information, see [Getting help](#).

What Can I Say?

You can now say "What Can I Say?" at any time to open a short list of Dragon commands appropriate for your current activity. Dragon reminds you to use this command; you'll see the reminder when you first log in.

You can use "What Can I Say?" when you're in:

- Applications, like Microsoft Word
- Web browsers (Internet Explorer, Chrome, and Firefox)
- Windows Desktop

The commands are grouped by function, like navigation, correction, punctuation and formatting.

The What Can I Say command replaces the Learning Center. For more information, see [Getting help](#). On the downside, the previous DragonBar could display as many as 20 or 30 commands for each application. This appears to be a step backwards.

The following is a list of DPI 14 Pros and Cons

Pros:

● Nuance has reduced the SRP to $300 (1/2 off) but the new release no longer includes an OEM [microphone](#).

● Dictation enhancement including being able to lock the [Dictation Box](#) to a specific application

● Improved DragonBar usability [Dragon Anywhere](#) which allows you to use your Dragon vocabulay in a limited cloud version of Dragon that works on your smart phone and tablet.

● Fine-tune your installation by choosing specific files

● Full [Windows 10](#) and Office 2016 support (unlike all previous versions of Dragon)

● Streamlined transcription of [recorded dictation](#)

● New Optimization resulting in less freezing

● Improve sidebar features and elimination of the Learning Center [Inscreased Help/Assistance](#)

Cons:

● No longer bundles an OEM [microphone](#) which, from our point of view, is a good idea because it requires customers to choose an appropriate sound system to fit their specific needs.

● Nuance has removed the ability to network Roam your user profile but also subtracted $300 from the SRP. This is really a good deal for most Dragon Pro end-users. Note that Nuance will be releasing DPG (Digital Pro Group), due to be released in the 4th quarter of this year which will add Roaming and networking back into what is now Pro 13 with new features. No doubt the price will also be a bit higher and likely take the place of the current Pro 13.

● Pro advanced scripting commands had a number of issues in Dragon Pro 12 through 13 where, when attempting to deploy an advanced scripting command in Outlook or Word 2013, the commands would freeze the entire computer until you unlock the mouse by pressing {Alt+Ctrl+Del} to unlock Windows. Nuance's current workaround is to change the behavior of SendDragonKeys to run as slow as SendSystemKeys which, is not what we would call a realistic fix. This change slows our commands down to molasses. If you need advanced scripting commands to type text, you will need to substitute VB or DVC command architecture over Dragon's legacy scripting.

● DPI 14 was released to take the place of Dragon Home Edition, Premium and Professional. For professionals/business and users who require network support, Nuance has released DPG 14. DPI 14 is a professional version of Dragon that replaces the

consumer line (Home Edition and Premium). While DPI 14 is a little more expensive, it's only half the price of Dragon Professional 13 and perfect for most end-users.

Nuance System Requirements:

4 Gb of RAM recommended (2 Gb Minimum) *At KnowBrainer, we recommend a minimum of 8 Gb of Ram and prefer 16 Gb.*

CPU: 2.2 GHz Intel® dual core or equivalent AMD processor. (Minimum 1 GHz Intel® Pentium® or equivalent AMD processor or 1.66 GHz Intel® Atom® processor). *At KnowBrainer, we recommend a 2.6 GHz Intel® quad core i5 or i7 CPU (Minimum 2.4 GHz dual core i5 processor).*

Processor Cache: 2 MB L2 cache. (Minimum: 512 KB L2 cache). *At KnowBrainer, we recommend 6 MB L2 cache.*

Free hard disk space: 4 GB

At KnowBrainer, we also recommend a KnowBrainer Tested and Approved USB External Soundcard

Supported Operating Systems:

•Microsoft Windows 10 64-bit

•Microsoft Windows 8 32-bit and 64-bit

•Microsoft Windows 7 32-bit and 64-bit

•Windows Server 2008 R2, SP2 and R2 64-bit

•Windows Server 2012 R2, SP2 Standard Edition 64-bit

Note: An Internet connection is required for automatic product activation (a quick, anonymous process).

*This edition of Dragon does not support dictation directly into Electronic Medical Record (EMR) Systems. For EMR support, please use Dragon Medical Practice Edition 2.

General Recommendations:

● WSR (Windows speech recognition) is faster than Dragon 14 but it can't compete with Dragon's features, flexibility, Vocabulary Builder, Vocabulary Editor, transcription capabilities, and most importantly, DNS Ver. 14's **accuracy**. Anyone who is serious about speech recognition should consider using Dragon 14, because comparing WSR to Dragon 14 would be equivalent to comparing WordPad to Microsoft Word.

● Dragon 13/14 will not run on Windows XP/Vista. Considering that Microsoft has removed their support for Windows XP, we recommend upgrading to Windows 7 or higher.

*Note: Our customers will also be receiving a complimentary copy of our **KnowBrainer Training Guide**. This includes step-by-step, pictorial installation instructions as well as NaturallySpeaking basic, intermediate and advanced training.*

● Nuance has increased the accuracy in DNS Ver. 14, but we recommend against using integrated soundcards and/or the manufacturer's OEM microphone. It seems that Nuance agrees and no longer includes an OEM microphone. If speech recognition is going to play an important role in your workflow, consider a professional KnowBrainer Tested and Approved Microphone and if KnowBrainer Tested and Approved USB External Soundcard

Purchasing Note: *We recommend purchasing Dragon NaturallySpeaking and speech recognition peripherals (microphones, digital recorders, etc.) only from a Nuance certified/licensed VAR (value added reseller). When you purchase all of your speech recognition tools from a single Nuance certified source, you're typically dealing with an expert whose combined knowledge of Dragon NaturallySpeaking, microphones, soundcards, digital recorders, etc. is unparalleled. Purchasing from multiple sources often means ending up with items that either aren't optimally compatible or aren't knowledgably supported. When you purchase from a Nuance certified reseller, you not only maintain your right to manufacturer support but additionally obtain an extra layer of technical support from a qualified Dragon reseller/trainer. This often includes various other amenities, ranging from step-by-step installation guides **(all but a requirement for Ver. 14)** to virtual on-site assistance. It is simply in your best interest to support your Nuance certified reseller.*

Reasons for Purchasing KnowBrainer Professional 2016:

KnowBrainer Professional is a third-party command utility that adds thousands of commands and numerous capabilities to Dragon, simplifies the learning curve and substantially increases your efficiency. The KnowBrainer DISPLAY Numbers command numbers every possible mouse click position so that you can left click, right click or double click on any position with a single command. By comparison, the Dragon's MouseGrid command only works on 1 monitor and can require up to 5 additional commands. From a command point of view, KnowBrainer is notably superior to Dragon which utilizes an slower, older and more limited command technology. KnowBrainer also includes a dynamic sidebar which displays all KnowBrainer commands and doubles as an interactive Command Browser. You can find or open any KnowBrainer command by saying FIND COMMAND <dictation> or EDIT COMMAND <dictation>. Example: Say Edit Command <Paragraph> to open the KnowBrainer Paragraph command for editing.

KnowBrainer includes over 100 open ended vocabulary commands (utilizing any vocabulary word/s), for Dragon 13 and higher, such as Google For <antique cars>, Search Contacts for <taxi>, Spanish Translation for <can you give me directions to the zoo> and Search for <letterhead> (searches your computer).

Direct Dragon dictation is only available in approximately 2% of applications. Non-Dragon friendly applications typically require opening the Dictation Box, dictating and then transferring your dictation to the target application. The KnowBrainer Insert <dictation> command enables direct dictation in any field or application that accepts typing. Example: Say Insert <my dog has fleas> to type "my dog has fleas" ANYWHERE! KnowBrainer includes our patented ability to verbally create VB, DVC & .Net commands which is 10 times faster than typing but we didn't stop there. KnowBrainer 2016 introduces 3 groundbreaking automatic commands which create VB scripting and boilerplate text commands. You can now create Advanced-Scripting commands without scripting or programming knowledge. For example, if you want to create a command to click on a button or menu called, for example, Widget, simply hover the mouse over any button or menu and say something like New Mouse Command <widget>. KnowBrainer will record X & Y coordinates, create, name and save your VB command in 2 seconds. KnowBrainer includes a similar command based on the previously mentioned DISPLAY Numbers macro (detailed in our KnowBrainer Manual). You can voice automate

any application within a few minutes. To create a fast boilerplate text command highlight a paragraph and say New Text Command <dictation>.

Previous Reviews:

If you would like to see some of our previous reviews check out the following:

KnowBrainer TableMike Face-Off
KnowBrainer Handheld Microphone Face-Off
KnowBrainer Headset Microphone Face-Off
KnowBrainer Telephone Microphone Face-Off
KnowBrainer Digital Recorder Face-Off
KnowBrainer Wireless Microphone Face-Off
KnowBrainer USB Soundcard Face-Off

Current Gold Standards:

The following is a list of speech recognition add-ons that we consider to be #1 in their microphone categories we:

Best Wireless Microphone = Samson Airline 77
Best Combo Telephone Wireless Microphone = Sennheiser SD Pro1
Best Handheld USB Microphone = Philips SpeechMike Premium USB Handheld/TableMike
Best USB TableMike = SpeechWare 3-in-1 / SpeechWare 6-in-1 / SpeechWare 9-in-1
Best Mobile USB TableMike = SpeechWare TravelMike
Best Wired Headset Microphone = SpeechWare FlexyMike DEC
Best Bluetooth Microphone = VXi VoxStar UC
Best Digital Recorder = Philips DPM-8000
Best speech recognition application = Dragon NaturallySpeaking
Best Third-Party Command Utility = KnowBrainer 2014

Lunis Orcutt - Developer of KnowBrainer 2014 and founder of KnowBrainer Speech Recognition Forums (the world's largest speech recognition forum)
Chat Live w/a Nuance Gold Certified Speech Recognition Solutions Provider