Applications of Virtual Human Signing

Prof John Glauert, Dr Ralph Elliott, Dr Richard Kennaway, Judy Tryggvason, Kevin Parsons, Vince Jennings
School of Computing Sciences, UEA Norwich, UK

Broadcast: Transmitting Avatar Signing

- Capture live interpreter
  Motion capture of face, hands and body
- Low bandwidth transmission of motion data
  Data for “bones” of a 3D avatar
- User can control avatar presentation
  Character, Size, Position, Orientation, Colour

Web Services: Weather Forecasts

- Full set of phrases known and recorded in advance
  Versions captured in natural sign language
- Non signer can construct forecasts
  Form-based tool selects standard weather phrases
  System generates content in three sign languages
- Avatar Web Plugin for Internet Explorer
  Sequences made by seamless blending sign phrases
  Live service online in the Netherlands
  Soon in UK via RNID

Signing Content on eGovernment Websites

- Signed commentary on eGovernment forms
  Help information in sign language
  Norfolk County Council, Viataal (NL), Hamburg (DE)
- Integrated with standard content management
  Multilingual support includes signing
  Minimal change to web services logic
  Content created by synthesis from notation, not capture

Deaf Connexions linked to Norfolk County Council
Virtual Guido avatar from Televirtual Limited
http://www.visicast.cmp.uea.ac.uk