

# Virtuoso™ Interactive Language Learning

## 21st Century Digital Language Lab Technology

### Improve How Your Students Learn a Second Language

- **Maximize Time** to develop core language skills - Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.
- **Incorporate Culture** through guided, web-based explorations to connect, understand and develop insight into the roots of the language and the people.
- **Easily Pair or Group Students** for collaborative projects that stimulate thinking and interpersonal communication.
- **Practice and Instill Confidence** in students for successful exams with listening and speaking components; AP® and IB tests, for example.
- **Create Lessons** that meaningfully incorporate audio, video, pictures, text, and web resources.
- **Guide Students** and keep them focused using screen, audio, and video monitoring tools.
- **Enable Differentiated Learning** activities considering the uniqueness of individual learners.
- **Engage Today's Digital Learners** with digital language lab technology incorporated within a smart curriculum that encourages interactivity, multi-modal learning, and self/peer review.

### Engage Today's Students

The Virtuoso™ and Soloist® Language Learning software suite is a contemporary language lab that addresses the way today's students, "digital natives," learn and are engaged. This fully digital technology adapts to many teaching and learning styles.



Language teachers easily communicate, collaborate, and guide students within a multi-modal learning platform with tools to develop interpersonal listening and speaking skills and broaden student experiences.

### Technology Integration

The Virtuoso software integrates easily within a school's technology framework. It requires no additional software or hardware other than SANS headsets to maximize sound quality, and can be installed in a multi-purpose technology lab, in a dedicated language lab space, or in a wireless environment.

Our technology is designed specifically for robust use of audio, video, text, HTML and other media files. The need for quick and easy uninterrupted access to content for language learning has always been at the forefront of our U.S.-based software development. Our technology is scalable and is continually enhanced to align with global technology changes.

**"You can never give students the one-on-one in a traditional classroom that you can in the lab."**

– Language Department Chair, NY

## Scalable Technology with Flexibility to Change as Your Needs Change

The Virtuoso suite is scalable, giving you the level and type of functionality that you need today with the ability to modify or enhance your technology as the needs of your language program change or grow.

Offered in graduated modules with varying levels of sophistication and functionality, each module is upgradeable to any of the levels above it.

At all levels, our software provides audio communication tools including monitor (listen to) and intercom (talk to a student) and all call (address the entire class).



## Virtuoso Major: Optimizing Flexible Learning

**Virtuoso Major** represents the pinnacle in digital technology for language learning. It offers students so many options for learning with other students and independently, and provides optimum flexibility for the language teacher to guide students and share their expertise and knowledge.

Flexibility in class organization and ways to group or pair students provides a real opportunity for collaboration. Text chat and text notes, as well as annotation using the built-in whiteboard further enhance the shared learning experience.

Instructional control is optimized to help teachers work with their students most effectively. Teachers may launch files and programs for students; share keyboard and mouse; as well as monitor, and model student work as an example for the class. Thumbnail views of student desktops make it easy to get a quick snapshot of student activity.

With a built-in internet browser, specific websites can be selected to keep students on task or allow flexibility for independent web exploration.

### Oral Skill Development and Testing

**Virtuoso APT**, our most basic suite, is optimized for speaking practice and all-purpose oral testing with instructor control. The simple, teacher-controlled, APT Digital Comparative Recorder is designed specifically for basic recording and saving student responses.

### Simple Control and Collaboration

**Virtuoso Apprentice** takes the next step in functionality. At this level, the Soloist Digital Comparative Recorder is used for student recordings. There are additional instructional control features and students now have the ability to work together in pairs.

### Flexible Learning

**Virtuoso Minor** adds even more flexibility to the interaction between students and teachers and provides additional classroom control to monitor and coach students as they work together or study independently.

To maximize space and time, multiple classes may be taught simultaneously with students logging in to their assigned class. Class configuration preferences may be preset to more efficiently use class time.

### Visual Language Learning

**Virtuoso ASL** has been designed specifically for American Sign Language and Interpreter Training Programs. Working with digital video and audio files, students can access assignments, record their signing or voicing, and save their work on a local area network or portable storage device. The student's recording, as well as the original stimulus, is readily available for student review or instructor assessment.



### Sharing Resources and Knowledge

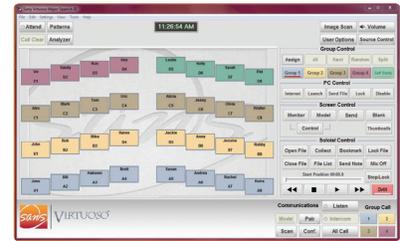
**Virtuoso DE** enables an instructor at one physical location to conduct a class using their Virtuoso digital language lab technology as well as connect to, control and interact with students in a Virtuoso lab at a separate location. Optimize and share teaching resources to expand your language program offering across a campus, district, or anywhere!

"The digital language lab has dramatically improved language abilities – primarily in students' oral production."

– Language Center Director, GA

## Integrated and Interactive Instructor and Student Components

**Virtuoso™ Instructional Control Software** is the teacher's interface and control panel. The classroom layout and students are graphically represented. Intuitive on-screen instructor controls make it easy to manage class activity and work with students as a whole class, in pairs or groups, or individually.



**Soloist® Digital Comparative Recorder** is the student digital recorder and media player. Although primarily used by students, the Soloist software includes a background toolset for teachers to create lesson materials with audio, video, images, text, and web-based content.

## Teaching Tools that are Easy to Use

All of the key functions are readily accessible on-screen so that the teacher's focus remains on teaching, while the Virtuoso software easily delivers the content, enables interactivity, and provides classroom control.

Each student is visually represented.

Select students to work together or independently.

Open a web browser, manage files for students, share keyboard and mouse, and more.

Monitor and model student screens.

View student activity with thumbnails of their screens.

Teacher/Student Voice Communications - All Call, Intercom, Monitoring, Model, and Conference. (video communication option available)

Control student recorders for guided activities; open and close files for students; set bookmarks; collect work for evaluation and assessment.

## Even More Flexibility

Every school and language program has different needs. With this in mind, we continue to add more ways to use the Sony Virtuoso digital language lab software.

### Teaching Multiple Classes

- Multi-teacher option enables any number of teachers to conduct classes simultaneously maximizing use of the digital language lab. A good option when teaching smaller multi-level classes.

### Using your Library of Resources

- While digital content is widely used, many schools have a library of analog audio/video materials with relevant content. We provide an option to easily use these materials in a digital language lab environment.



## Smart Technology Maximizing IT Assets

The Virtuoso instructional suite for language learning uses smart technology to maximize sound quality, network resources, and overall system performance.

- Connects directly to your local area network without any system hardware.
- Installs easily in a general computer lab or dedicated language lab space.
- SANSTalk™ and SANSMedia™ provide HD VOIP sound quality.
- SANS and SONY core technology components to maximize performance.
- Built-in advanced system diagnostics and self-maintenance capability.
- Hundreds of administrator-selectable feature choices.
- Design, development, and support in the U.S. with continued feature and technology updates.
- SANS headsets tested for superior sound and system compatibility.
- Continual updates to work with the latest operating systems.

