



**PHILIPS**

Ray Hobson

10-01-2000 02:27 PM

To: gtr@pc.gov.au@SMTP  
cc: Frank Egger/SYD/PAU/PHILIPS@APAC  
Subject: Review of Australia's General Tariff Arrangements  
Classification: Restricted

**Submission to the Productivity Commission**

In January 1999 we approached the Australian Customs Service and the Department of Industry Science and Resources, over what appeared to be an anomaly in tariff item 8520. In July 1999 we were advised the most appropriate course of action would be to await the forth coming Productivity Commission, and put forward our views.

Tariff item 8520 reads:- "Magnetic Tape recorders and other sound recording apparatus, whether or not incorporating a sound reproducing device"

We currently import machines that are "Portable Dictating Machines that operate on a digital basis, recording and reproducing information from digital discs or cards".

Tariff item 8520, has specific sub headings covering portable dictating machines:-

8520.32.10 Digital Dictating Machines (using magnetic tape as the recording medium)  
8520.33.10 Other cassette type Dictating Machines.

Both of the sub headings mentioned above have a duty rate of FREE.

As the latest technology does not use cassette tape for recording/reproducing, the digital machines we are importing do not fall within the requirements of sub items 8520.32.10 or 8520.33.10, and therefore are placed in the balance item to 8520, which is 8520.90.00. This item is dutiable at 5% ad valorem, and it would seem that the new technology in this particular area is being penalised, against the old technology of cassette tape.

We would suggest a new sub item be raised to cover: "portable digital dictating machines".

We also request a review of the 3 % revenue duty placed on business input tariff concessions. Most of these concessions cover parts that are imported for the repair of current equipment, for which there is no local manufacture. This brings up the anomaly of importing a complete product duty free, but having to pay duty on parts to repair that machine.

Yours faithfully,  
PHILIPS ELECTRONICS AUSTRALIA LIMITED

R.J.HOBSON.  
Trade & Customs Manager.  
Phone 02 9925 3202  
Fax 02 9925 3203

**CUSTOMS TARIFF  
SCHEDULE 3**

Section 16  
Chapter 85/21

R.6

Reference Number	Statistical Code/Unit	Goods	Rate #
<b>8520</b>		<b>MAGNETIC TAPE RECORDERS AND OTHER SOUND RECORDING APPARATUS, WHETHER OR NOT INCORPORATING A SOUND REPRODUCING DEVICE:</b>	
8520.10.00	09 No	- Dictating machines not capable of operating without an external source of power	Free
8520.20.00	10 No	- Telephones answering machines	5%
		From 1 January 2000	Free
<b>8520.3</b>		- Other magnetic tape recorders incorporating sound reproducing apparatus:	
<b>8520.32</b>		-- Digital audio type:	
8520.32.10	59 No	--- Dictating machines	Free
8520.32.90	60 No	--- Other	5%
<b>8520.33</b>		-- Other, cassette-type:	
8520.33.10	61 No	--- Dictating machines	Free
8520.33.90	62 No	--- Other	5%
★ 8520.39.00	63 No	-- Other	Free
8520.90.00	14 No	- Other	5%
<b>8521</b>		<b>VIDEO RECORDING OR REPRODUCING APPARATUS, WHETHER OR NOT INCORPORATING A VIDEO TUNER:</b>	
8521.10.00		- Magnetic tape-type	Free
		<i>VHS video cassette players using cassettes of tape width not exceeding 15 mm:</i>	
		<i>.With recording function and video tuning:</i>	
	39 No	..With super VHS video recording	
		..Other:	
	40 No	...With 2 video heads	
	41 No	...With 3 video heads	
		...With 4 or more video heads:	
	42 No	....With Hi Fi audio recording	
	43 No	....Other	
	44 No	.With recording function, without video tuning	
	45 No	.Other	
	64 No	Other	
8521.90.00	19 No	- Other	Free

# Unless otherwise indicated NZ, PNG, FI and DC rates are Free  
DCS denotes the rate for countries and places listed in Part 2 of Schedule 1 to this Act  
DCT denotes the rate for HONG, RKOR, SING and TAIW  
If no DCT rate shown DCS rate applies. If no DCT or DCS rate shown general rate applies

★ Operative 15/12/99

Name: PHILIPS ELECTRONICS AUSTRALIA LTD    1. Heading    2. Advice No.  
 Addr: 15 BLUE ST. NORTH SYDNEY 2060    AU 8520.90.00    14555700  
 AS 3. Inst No    Version 1  
 AT 4. Source  
 Contact : RAY HOBSON    5. Sched 4 Item    1S2  
 Tel :9925 3203    Fax:9925 3341    AM 6. Date Lodged  
 AREF : SPEECHPAD    SA    13/11/98  
 Box No : 036J    I I I

IDM: YES                    SAMPLE: NO                    CONFIDENTIAL: NO

7. DESCRIPTION OF GOODS: Goods are identified as:  
 Digital speech recorder

8. CLAIMED HEADING: 8473.30.00    INST NO:                    SCHED 4 ITEM:

REASON FOR CLAIMED HEADING:  
 Portable speech recorder, stores speech digitally for downloading  
 into a PC or PC network as a speech file. Records speech on a speech  
 card as PC DOS files.  
 Transcription of speech data via specific software through a  
 Windows environment, the files can be downloaded into the local    CONT

10. PREVIOUS ADVICE NUMBER ISSUED FOR THESE GOODS FOR THIS OWNER: NONE

11. OWNER CODE : 2009662F PHILIPS BUSINESS ELECTRONICS

12. SUPPLIER CODE: 2503148X PHILIPS DICTATION SYSTEMS

13. BROKER : PHILIPS ELECTRONICS AUSTRALIA LTD

C U S T O M S   U S E   O N L Y

14. MULTIPLE OR SPLIT CLASSIFICATION:

15. REASONS FOR ADVICE (Legal Notes, ENs, etc.): Goods are identified as  
 Philips "SpeechPad" a digital sound recording device using a  
 PC-card S-RAM. A sound recording device. IR 1 TOH.

16. FILE NO : NO FILE                    17. ADVICE STATUS: F  
 DECISION OFFICER                    finalized  
 Name : RANDELL, STEPHEN            18. STATUS REASON:  
 Date : 18/11/98  
 Bay : 0                                19. CURRENT STATUS DATE  
 Telephone : 9213 2479                18/11/98

NOTE: Section 7 of the Australian Customs Tariff Guide outlines available  
 mechanisms where this decision results in a variation to the duty payable.  
 Printed on: 18NOV98 14:38:3513

**Mobile digital  
recording for  
downloading to PC.**

TA. 14555700



SpeechPad is a portable voice recorder that stores your speech digitally for downloading into a PC environment as a speech file.

Speech is stored on a solid-state memory SpeechCard - a standard, interchangeable PC-card.

SpeechDock is SpeechPad's combined downloading and recharging unit with accessory sockets.

**SpeechPad™ and SpeechDock™**



**PHILIPS**

TA 1455570-0

# SpeechPad™ and SpeechDock™ Specifications

## SpeechPad

### Main Features

- Software upgradable
- Standard/longplay mode
- Real Insert/delete
- Setup via menu-control

### Standard Features

- Voice activated recording (VAR)
- Conference/Dictation mode
- Record protection
- Skip function
- Automatic gain control
- Audible scan (Monkey chatter)
- Power via rechargeable battery or with AAA batteries
- On/off switch
- Data in/output
- Earphone and Microphone socket
- External power supply 9V 600 mA

### Technical Data

- Size: 140x65x25mm
- Weight: 200 grams
- Output power: 200 mW (d=10%)
- Acoustic frequency: 300 - 5500 Hz

### Recording Capacity

- Standard play: approx. 10 minutes on 1 MB
- Long play: approx. 20 minutes on 1 MB

### Package includes

- SpeechPad
- 4 AAA batteries
- SpeechCard 1MB formatted
- Pouch

### Accessories

- Power supply 7140
- Rechargeable battery 7153
- Earphone 131
- Lapel microphone 172
- Acoustic coupler 163
- SpeechCard Type I, SRam: 1MB 7001  
2MB 7002  
4MB 7004

## SpeechDock

### Features

- Download to PC
- Fast recharge (electronic)
- Transport case
- Direct Transcription

### Technical Data

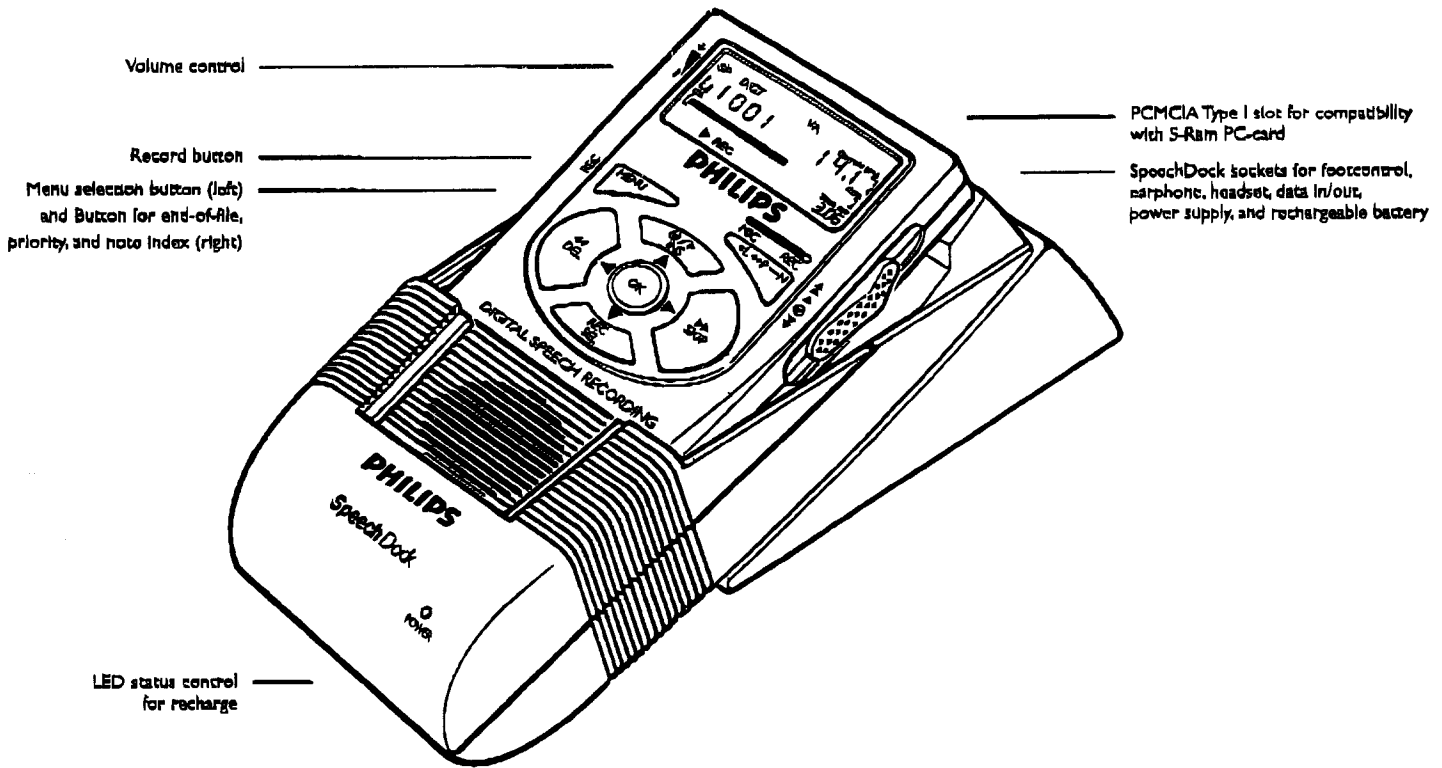
- Size: 170x77x49 mm
- Weight: 170 grams
- Power input: 9V DC 600 mA

### Package Includes

- SpeechDock
- Power supply
- Rechargeable battery

### Accessories

- Headset 232, 233, 234, 236
- Earphone 131
- Footcontrol 210
- Power supply 7140



For PC-integration Philips Speech Processing offers software packages and hardware accessories. The system complies with the Digital Speech Standard (DSS).

*Let's make things better.*



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```

=====
#Name: PHILIPS ELECTRONICS AUSTRALIA LTD # AC# 1. Heading # 2. Advice No.
#Addr: 15 BLUE ST. NORTH SYDNEY 2060 # #U# 8520.90.00 # 14555100
# # # #S# 3. Inst No # Version 2
# # # #T# 960317B # 4. Source
#Contact : RAY HOBSON # #O# 5. Sched 4 Item# 1S2
#Tel :9925 3203 Fax:9925 3341 # #M# 50 # 6. Date Lodged
#AREF : LPH7800 # #S# # 13/11/98
#Bdx No : 036J # # # #
=====

```

```

#IOM: YES SAMPLE: NO CONFIDENTIAL: NO
#

```

```

#7. DESCRIPTION OF GOODS: Goods are identified as:
# Digital memo recorder
#
#
#
#
#

```

```

#8. CLAIMED HEADING: 8473.30.00 INST NO: SCHED 4 ITEM:
#

```

REASON FOR CLAIMED HEADING:

```

# Digital recording of your voice to include it in e-mail messages.
# The entire voice tracer unit is connected to a PC or Laptop PCMCIA
# drive. The voice mail can then be sent through to the recipient as an
# attachment to e-mail.
# Unit cannot playback messages unless it is connected into a PC or CONT

```

```

#10. PREVIOUS ADVICE NUMBER ISSUED FOR THESE GOODS FOR THIS OWNER: NONE

```

```

#11. OWNER CODE : 2009662F PHILIPS BUSINESS ELECTRONICS

```

```

#12. SUPPLIER CODE: 2504352R PHILIPS SPEECH PROCESSING

```

```

#13. BROKER : PHILIPS ELECTRONICS AUSTRALIA LTD
#
#

```

C U S T O M S U S E O N L Y

```

#14. MULTIPLE OR SPLIT CLASSIFICATION:

```

```

#15. REASONS FOR ADVICE (Legal Notes, ENs, etc.): Goods are identified as
# Philips "Digital Memo Recorder 'Voice Tracer'" a digital sound
# recorder using PCMCIA flash memory. TCO applies device weighs 52g
# AA battery between 9 & 12g. IR 1 TOH.
#

```

```

#16. FILE NO : NO FILE #17. ADVICE STATUS: F
#DECISION OFFICER #Finalized
#Name : RANDELL, STEPHEN #18. STATUS REASON:
#Date : 18/11/98
#Bay : 0 #19. CURRENT STATUS DATE
#Telephone : 9213 2479 #18/11/98
-----

```

NOTE: Section 7 of the Australian Customs Tariff Guide outlines available mechanisms where this decision results in a variation to the duty payable.  
 Printed on: 18NOV98 14:33:1139

Digital Memo Recorder

**VoiceTracer**

TA14555100

## Digital Memo Recorder

- **Easy link to PC using PCMCIA drive**  
*Plug the entire VoiceTracer unit into your PC or laptop PCMCIA drive.*
- **Speak and send**  
*Digitally record voice, then send it as an attachment to an e-mail.*
- **No special software or installation required**  
*Only an e-mail programme and SoundBlaster® compatible soundcard are necessary for recipients to playback voice e-mails.*
- **Advanced edit control over your recordings**  
*Pause, rewind, record-over, etc.*
- **16 minutes recording time**



Let's make things better.



**PHILIPS**

PHILIPS AUDIT RUST 61 2 98054536 NO. 203 P. 8/5 14:45 10. JAN. 2002



TR14555 (1/0)

### Speak

- VoiceTracer digitally records your voice – speaking is 7 times faster than writing – so your message can later be sent as an attachment to an e-mail. Because it's small and lightweight, VoiceTracer provides you with the ability to create voice messages from any location, even when you're away from your PC.
- VoiceTracer increases the impact of your e-mail by allowing recipients to hear you, instead of reading your mail. VoiceTracer allows advanced edit control over your messages (pause, rewind, record-over, etc.).

### Send

- When you return to your desk, just slip the entire VoiceTracer unit into your PC or laptop PCMCIA drive – it's that simple. Send your voice as a WAV file attachment to your e-mail. Use your existing e-mail programme; no special software required to send WAV files created on the VoiceTracer.

### Listen

- Recipients receive your voice e-mail as an attachment to e-mail, which they just open to listen to the voice of the sender. Information is often better said than read. Only an e-mail programme and SoundBlaster® compatible soundcard are necessary for recipients to playback voice e-mails.

### PC hardware/software requirements

- Windows® 95 or NT® PC operating system (ability to use VoiceTracer with Windows® 98)
- E-mail (or file exchange programme)
- SoundBlaster® compatible soundcard (for playback of voice e-mail by recipient)

### Technical specifications

- PCMCIA technology (type III) with proven quality world-wide, Flash Memory and ATA Interface.
- Enough space: 4 MB = 16 minutes
- Compact: 107 x 54 x 10.5 mm
- Light weight: ca. 52 g without battery
- Battery: 1.5V (AAA/LR03)
- Uses standard battery type AAA. Battery lasts approx. 3 hours. Can also use rechargeable battery type AAA (not supplied). Rechargeable battery lasts approx. 1 hour and is recharged when the VoiceTracer is plugged into the PCMCIA slot (recharging time approx. 1 hour).
- Storage as WAV file in multimedia format with IMA ADPCM compression. Replayable with the Windows® standard Sound Recorder. VoiceTracer is designed for the PCMCIA FAT format.

### Physical specifications

- UPC Code: 609585 903555
- 12 NC Code: 8735 780 00011
- LFH: 7800
- Product dimensions: 107 x 54 x 10.5 mm
- Product weight: ca. 52 g without battery
- Carton dimensions: 170 x 185 x 31 mm
- Carton weight: 51 g
- Tray weight: 28.5 g

Product made in Austria

For further information please contact:

<http://www.speech.philips.com>

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