

TECHNICAL NOTE

Choosing Peripheral Devices for AuraLink

With its support for USB based record and playback devices, the AuraLinkDesktop affords tremendous flexibility in terms of the camera, microphone and speakers you can choose from. However, not all devices provide the same level of performance. This technical note provides the information you'll need to determine which webcams and speaker phones or headsets to consider and which to avoid.

Please note that the following is not intended to be a comprehensive list or review of available devices, but rather a sampling of devices that we have sufficient experience with to provide a qualified recommendation in the context of AuraLinkConferencing™ only. If you have a device that is not on this list, please feel free to experiment, but if you are looking for a sure thing, try one of the devices that we highly recommend.

Webcams

Manufacturer	Model	Platform Tested On	Notes
RECOMMENDED			
Logitech	Webcam Pro 9000	Windows	HD version of the Quickcam 9000 Pro. AuraLink can encode up to 720p with this camera.
Logitech	Quickcam® 9000 Pro	Windows	Install the latest Logitech drivers without the QuickCam application. AuraLink can encode up to 960x540 with this camera.
Logitech	Webcam Pro C905	Windows	HD version of the Quickcam for Notebooks Pro.
Logitech	Quickcam® for Notebooks Pro	Windows	Similar to Quickcam 9000 Pro but more portable.
Logitech	Webcam C600	Windows	Lower cost HD webcam in spherical form factor supporting less than 30 fps at HD.
Logitech	QuickCam® Sphere AF	Windows	Same as 9000 Pro but with PTZ (Pan, Tilt, Zoom) (<i>note that this device is not supported from the AuraLinkDesktop User Interface</i>)
Logitech	Quickcam® Vision Pro	Windows Mac	Best for MACs with older ISite or no camera. Better CMOS than 9000 and has AutoFocus and RightLight built in (UVC Camera = driverless) Great for Windows too.
Apple	ISite (Built in Webcam)	Windows Mac	Best camera with MACs produced after March 2008. On Windows make sure you install the Apple Boot Camp Drivers.
Phillips	Webcam PRO PC1330NC	Windows	

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Webcams

Manufacturer	Model	Platform Tested On	Notes
GOOD			
Gigaware	2.0-Megapixel PC Camera	Windows	Good frame rate and resolution but slightly blurry image (not great optics)
HP	Elite	Windows	not great optics
Globalmedia	K2r Webcam	Windows	
Microsoft	MS Lifecam NX-6000	Windows	Best of the Microsoft cameras
Hercules	Dualpix Infinite	Windows	Autofocus is a bit jumpy
Liquid Digital Solutions	Agent V4 HD	Windows Mac	
MARGINAL			
CreativeLabs	Ultra HD	Windows	
HP	Embedded Notebook	Windows	
Logitech	Quickcam® Pro 4000 Quickcam® Pro 5000	Windows	
Logitech	Quickcam® Fusion	Windows	
Logitech	Quickcam® Ultra	Windows	
Microsoft	LifeCam Cinema	Windows	
Microsoft	MS Lifecam VX-3000	Windows	
Microsoft	MS Lifecam VX-6000	Windows	
U-Eye	U-Eye	Windows	No plug and play support
V-Gear	V-Gear	Windows	Very poor low light performance
POOR			
CreativeLabs	Live! Cam Optia	Windows	After a period of time, the preview gets skewed
CreativeLabs	Live! Cam Optia AF 2.0MP	Windows	After a period of time, the preview gets skewed
Sony	Embedded Notebook	Windows	Huge preview delays (may be Vista related – not tested on Windows XP)

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Headsets

Manufacturer	Model	Platform Tested On	Notes
RECOMMENDED			
Microsoft	Lifechat LX-3000	Windows	Works very well.
Plantronics	MX500i 3 in-1 VoIP Headset W/USB adapter	Windows Mac	Allows any 3.5 mm analog headset to work well. Great performance with Microphone and Audio reproduction.
Cyber Acoustics	AC-850	Windows Mac	
Plantronics	DSP-400	Windows Mac	
Plantronics	DSP-500	Windows Mac	
GOOD			
Microsoft	Lifechat ZX-6000	Windows	Wireless device with USB dongle - works well.
Logitech	ClearChat® Comfort USB	Windows	
Logitech	ClearChat® PC Wireless	Windows	Wireless headset with USB dongle – works well.
Cyber Acoustics	AC-840	Windows	
POOR			
Logitech	ClearChat Pro USB	Windows	

Speaker Phones

Manufacturer	Model	Platform Tested On	Notes
RECOMMENDED			
ClearOne	Chat-50	Windows	Suitable for: Personal System Only. Mic Pickup: 30 cms. Supported by: AuraLinkDesktop, AuraLinkRoom HD-50, HD-100. Good for Windows, but not recommended for Mac.
ClearOne	Chat-60	Windows	Same as Chat-50, just packaging and documentation change to support use with Skype.

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Speaker Phones

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RECOMMENDED			
Konftel	Konftel 300	Windows	Suitable for: Personal system: Great, if you need the base unit only. The Konftel 300 can be connected to an external PA system for even more impressive audio sound. There is also a Konftel 300IP but does not have the USB Port we need to connect it to our Codecs.
Phoenix	Duet	Mac	Best for Mac.
Yamaha	PJP-25UR	Windows Mac	Best for Small to Medium Conference Rooms, or Executive office.
GOOD			
ClearOne	Chat-150	Windows	Primary usage is for a conference room.
POOR			
Polycom	Communicator	Windows	Limited Software based AEC (Acoustic Echo Canceller) that is supported on Windows XP only. Not Recommended for AuraLink.
Revolabs	Solo - USB	Windows	Wireless microphone with charger base. No echo cancellation or noise suppression.
ClearOne	Chat 170, Chat-70	Windows	Designed for Microsoft OCS Only.

Conclusion

We hope this information has helped you to choose devices that create the experience you desire in your AuraLink conferences. For more information or additional ideas on how to get the most out of your AuraLinkDesktop system, please contact your local AuraLink sales engineer.

For more information: <http://www.auralink.com/> 1 (888) 454-6863

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Highly Recommended Devices

Devices that **we highly recommend**.

HD Camera

Logitech - Webcam Pro 9000



Speaker Phone

ClearOne - Chat 50



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Highly Recommended Devices

Devices that **we highly recommend**.

Wired Headset

Plantronics – MX500i #-in-1 VoIP Headset

With a USB adapter.

