

Instruction manual Milestone 311 Speakout



Congratulations for your purchase of the add-on module Speakout for Milestone 311! Speakout is a handy solution to tag various objects in daily life with smart little labels that can speak to you. The solution is based on the modern RFID technology (Radio Frequency Identification). With RFID, objects can be marked individually and for universal purpose. Various tags are available - be it to tag drug packages, CDs and DVDs, folder maps, bottles, plants and much more.

We hope to give you a good introduction with this instruction manual, so that you can enjoy Milestone 311 Speakout in your daily life!

Bones Inc., Switzerland

1. Introduction

Speakout is one more application for the universal assistant Milestone 311. Speakout is a hardware add-on that can read electronic tags put on various objects, such as drug packages, CDs, boxes and much more.

1.1. Software conditions for proper operation of Speakout

Speakout consists of the hardware module and the according software for your Milestone 311. This software must have version 3.1 or above. If you have an earlier version of software, please consult your distributor how to get hold of an update. Of course this update is for free, since you have purchased the Speakout module already.

Finding out which software your Milestone currently is running is easy: Switch to „internal memory“ by pressing the Selector button several times. Afterwards, press the lower Mode button (the one with the big ‚X‘) for about 2 seconds, until the device starts talking. When the battery status is announced, quickly press the left arrow. Now, the software version and the serial number of your device is announced.

1.2. Hardware conditions

The electronic tags are available in different versions and sizes. Depending on the purpose different tags could be choosed. Further informations can be received from your Milestone 311 dealer.

2. Operation

Operation of Speakout is simple. With a little practice, everyone can use it.

2.1. Switching your Milestone 311 into the Speakout application

Hold Milestone upright in your left hand. Now put the Speakout module into the slot on the right side of Milestone. Do so by feeling the dots of the Speakout module at your right thumb - like this, you won't insert it upside down. When entered properly, Milestone acknowledges with a double beep „low-high“. Do not force the module to enter; it must enter easily. If you feel it is stuck somehow, remove it and try again. The module is entered properly if you feel and hear a gentle click.

Now, rotate through your Milestone by pressing the Selector button on top of Milestone, until you hear „Speakout“ as selected device.

2.2. Identify a tag in order to connect a message to it

In order to put a message to a tag, place the tag close to the Speakout module (distance 1 - 3 cm) and press the Play button of Milestone constantly. Milestone

starts searching for tags after one second. Continue pressing Play, until a tag is found. Move you Milestone closely around the tag, until you hear „New tag found“. Best finding results result when holding the biggest area of the reader in parallel to the tag, so that the two surfaces have maximum cover. Upon having found a tag, Milestone is ready to record a voice message and associate it to this tag. You make such voice records as usual, by pressing the upper Rec button constantly. Start talking after the „click“ sound.

2.3. Listening to a tag

Listening to a tag is highly similar to recording, as described above. Simply press Play continuously. Milestone reacts with a constant series of click sounds, which means it is seeking tags. As soon as it have found one, it is announced.

To listen to a message again, re-press Play. You don't have to identify the tag again to do so. Milestone remembers the last tag automatically.

To erase a recorded message that belongs to a tag, press the known Mode-Play combination from the voice recorder.

To re-record a tag just identify it once, so that the previously recorded message is played back, and afterwards record a new voice message.

3. Notes and tricks

Electronic tags can be re-recorded as many times as you want, provided you don't physically damage them.

Don't fold them and avoid making cracks when you handle them. You may, however, put them on bent surfaces, such as a bottleneck. With normal use in daily life you won't have problems with them. Just try it out! There is no way you can damage the reader while reading tags. The worst that can happen is that you damage a tag. There are no moving parts within the tag, and no battery or other energy source within. Tags already fixed could be damaged when trying to release them.

For usage on metallic surfaces you need special tags. Such tags are a bit expensive. Ask your distributor for details. The tags enclosed in the Speakout box don't work on metallic objects.

Tags put very close next to each other may cause problems in reading them, since they influence each other.

To tag CDs, put the dedicated tags with a hole in the middle directly onto a CD. Be careful to put them absolutely centric around the hole. Put them on the flat surface of the CD, not on the side with the channel around the hole. Under no

circumstances put tags on the outer side of the CD. Beside the fact that it won't work there anyway, you might damage your CD player due to the unbalanced way of turning of the CD.

Tags won't work on CD's that have metallic surfaces up to the inner loop. This limitation is based on the used technology itself. However, it concerns a minority of CD's only.

If you would like to use the velcro points to tie tags, please use the large square tags, and don't remove them from their cover foil. To cut the tags apart from each other please be very careful not to destroy the fine antenna loops.

It is possible to copy recorded tag messages from one Milestone unit to another, or copy them to a PC for post processing. To do so, connect your Milestone to the PC via USB. In internal memory, you find a folder named „Speakout“. Inside, you find the individual voice messages associated to your tags. These are regular MP3 files that you can play on your PC also. The names of the MP3 files might look a bit strange when you look at the letters and numbers. The reason for this is that they represent the serial number of the according tag.

Another interesting application for you could be to link a tag to any MP3 file - be it music, a text or a sound. In order to do so, follow these steps: Identify a tag and speak a short message to it. Then, connect Milestone to your PC and search the folder „Speakout“ for the just newly spoken message. You can do so by playing back individual MP3 files from the folder „Speakout“ through your PC. When you have found the according file, remark its file name properly and delete the file. Now, copy your desired target file into the „Speakout“ folder and rename it to the name of the tag you just deleted - done. Disconnect USB and identify your tag again: Now, the MP3 file of your choice will be played back.

Don't try to use Speakout in any other device than Milestone. It won't work and it could damage the other device or Speakout itself.

4. Further information, service and support

For service and maintenance of your Speakout module please contact your distributor.

More tags are available from your distributor. If you buy the tags somewhere else, please make sure the tags comply with the ISO Norm 15693.

The legal warranty conditions of Switzerland apply in minimum. These are: 12 months warranty upon sales. The product has to be sold to you by an official Bones distributor.

Warranty expires upon non-foreseen physical, mechanical or chemical influence on the device.

5. Technical data Speakout module

- Body made of impact resistant plastic
- RFID standard: 13.56MHz, ISO15693
- Weight: 12 grams
- Recording capacity: 120 minutes

6. Content Speakout-Box

- Speakout device
- Instructions manual
- Tags:
 - 10 tags for CD's
 - 5 round tags
 - 5 plastic cards
 - 10 square tags
- Velcro Points:
 - 10 hook points
 - 30 loop points

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