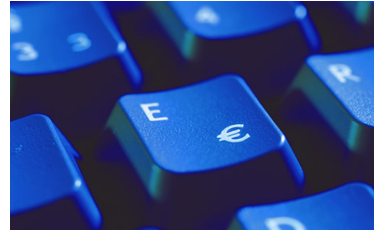




## Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh



### *At The Computer ...*

#### ... with the **Access Technology Center**

##### ***New Braille displays at ATC!***

Just in time for Teen Tech Week (August 12 - 16), the Access Technology Center recently added Freedom Scientific's Focus 14 Blue and Humanware's Brailiant BI 32 to its collection of refreshable Braille displays. The new displays are both quite portable: the Focus 14 Blue is a mere .84 lbs., while the Brailiant 32 weighs in at 1.15 lbs. And in addition to working with Windows computers, both displays will work with Apple iOS devices like the iPhone.

Although the products have many things in common, we've found that many Braille users perform differently with different Braille displays. For example, while a key layout seems intuitive to one user, another may find the controls cumbersome or confusing. That is why ATC staff recommends that Braille users evaluate a variety of Braille displays. We want to be sure that each student has the opportunity to learn about the Braille display's key layout and behavior before a device is purchased.

Teens and others new to Braille displays often neglect the maintenance of their equipment. At Teen Tech Week, students will be encouraged to develop good habits that extend the working life of their equipment. For example, instructor Art Rizzino often reminds students that clean hands will help to keep the Braille cells working properly for well into the future.

If you have questions about Teen Tech Week or refreshable Braille displays, contact Spero Pipakis at 412.368.4400 with your questions.