

Service Providers Bridge Communication for Hearing-Impaired People

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Location: Colombia



360 Million

People in the world are hearing-impaired.

5 Million

Colombians are hearing-impaired

There will be **940 million** mobile-connected devices in Latin America by 2017.

Service Provider Solution:

Provide the Internet connections and mobile network necessary to bring access to video-based software programs designed to educate hearing-impaired people.



By the Numbers

360 million people in the world are hearing-impaired.¹

5 million Colombians are hearing-impaired.²

There will be **940 million** mobile-connected devices in Latin America by 2017.³

Globally, 360 million people are hearing-impaired, and 32 million of those are children.

⁴Socioeconomic challenges and limited access to education services inhibit this group's ability to participate on an equal basis with others. In developing countries, hearing-impaired children rarely receive the education they need to thrive.

Service providers play a key role in connecting people to information previously unavailable due to limited Internet and mobile access. With Internet connections and mobile network, access to specialty education programs designed for hearing-impaired people is more available for those in need. In

fact, across Latin America, there will be 940 million mobile-connected devices in 2017. This represents approximately 1.5 devices per capita.⁵

Special needs education programs, such as [Hablandocon Julis](#), created in Colombia, provide educational opportunities with downloadable software. Service providers bring the Internet and mobile network to developing countries worldwide, allowing educational programs such as Hablandocon Julis to reach a larger hearing-impaired audience. This software was created to give the hearing-impaired the opportunity to communicate and advance academically. The software is available from any IP-enabled device and is offered in English and Spanish. These connections improve access to education and vocational services, giving hearing-impaired children and adults the foundation to communicate and participate in the economic development of their community.

¹ [Medical News Today](#)

² [Hear-It](#)

³ [Cisco Visual Networking Index](#) 2012-2017

⁴ [World Health Organization](#), WHO 2013

⁵ [Cisco Visual Networking Index](#) 2012-2017

Hablandocon Julis has used the foundation of service provider connections - the Internet - to provide access to specialty education software through a computer or mobile device. Through these connections, the Internet of Everything's mission to connect the unconnected is realized: those affected by hearing loss are able to take advantage of specialty learning opportunities and improve their quality of life. As more connections are made with education software similar to Hablandocon Julis, the hearing-impaired community will continue to benefit.



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