## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sales Contact: Bryan Carver, Inside Sales Director

Media Contact: Brad Davis Blind/Low Vision Group 800-444-4443 or 727-803-8000 www.FreedomScientific.com

## JAWS 10TH ANNIVERSARY OBSERVANCE AND NEW PRODUCT DEMONSTRATIONS HIGHLIGHT THE 6TH ANNUAL ATIA CONFERENCE

(St. Petersburg, Florida, January 11, 2005) – Freedom Scientific is pleased to celebrate the 10th anniversary of JAWS® for Windows at the 6th Annual Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA) Conference, January 19-22, 2005, at the Caribe Royale All-Suites Resort in Orlando, Florida. The ATIA Conference is one of the nation's leading forums for the assistive technology community to participate in presentations and discussions of new technology, practical applications and services. All of Freedom Scientific's new and powerful products for the blind and those with low vision or learning disabilities will be showcased, with demonstrations and presentations throughout the conference. Special emphasis will be given to the recently-released JAWS 6.0.

Eric Damery, Vice President of Software and Product Management, said the top new features of JAWS 6.0 are "Citrix and Terminal Services Support, delivery of training material in DAISY format with a free DAISY reader (FS Reader Demo) to read it all, and Custom Labels for HTML, PDFs, and Word Forms."

With remote access terminal sessions through Citrix MetaFrame and Microsoft® Terminal Services, users at home can connect to a computer at work, and use JAWS with workplace applications and files. Citrix and Terminal Services support can be added to any JAWS Professional License.

JAWS 6.0 also is the first screen reader to give users the flexibility to assign Custom Labels to links, graphics, and form controls in Internet Explorer that do not read well or are not marked up correctly, including fields on poorly-designed or protected PDF or Word forms.

"Without doubt, this release of JAWS for Windows® 6.0 is the most significant step forward in access to computer technology for the visually impaired this year," said Brian Hartgen, Technical Consultant for T & T Consultancy, Ltd. "The new features make screen reading much easier and provide valuable tools for the work environment. Some excellent examples are the introduction of Custom Labels, improved braille support, and superior access to the Outlook calendar.

These are the type of features and innovations that screen reader users at all levels will benefit from."

"Custom Labels, used together with other JAWS HTML features such as Personalized Web Settings and PlaceMarkers, give you the tools you need to make inaccessible sites more accessible and to make accessible sites easier to use," said Brian J. Walker, Technology Analyst with the Iowa Department for the Blind's Project ASSIST with Windows. "These JAWS tools make you more efficient and allow you to customize the Web browsing experience and even fine tune how JAWS interacts with HTML applications. This helps improve your productivity."

MAGic 9.2, an update of Freedom Scientific's popular screen magnification software, and OpenBook 7.02 also will be spotlighted at the ATIA Conference. These updates were released simultaneously with JAWS 6.0 to ensure full compatibility with the latest version of JAWS. Included in MAGic 9.2 demonstrations at the ATIA Conference will be a new feature that allows users to view a magnified area using nine incremental levels between 1x and 2x magnification. This option adds even greater flexibility to choose a magnification level that is best suited to each individual's vision needs.

Other highlights of conference sessions will be Freedom Scientific's exciting new scanning and reading appliance, the SARA, new Focus 40 and Focus 80 Braille Displays, PAC Mate 2.5, and the Learning Systems Groups' literacy software, WYNN and TestTalker. Freedom Scientific's Blind/Low Vision products will be shown and demonstrated at Booth 513. The Learning Systems Group's products will be featured at Booth 700. More informal product demonstrations will be conducted in the Freedom Scientific meeting room on Thursday (January 20) and Friday (January 21). A celebration of the 10th anniversary of JAWS will be held on Thursday. The schedule of all Freedom Scientific sessions can be reviewed on the Freedom Scientific Schedule Page.

"Throughout 2004, Freedom Scientific led the industry with the release of innovative new products and valuable updates of our other powerful products," said Dr. Lee Hamilton, CEO of Freedom Scientific. "The ATIA Conference will give users a chance to see and learn more about all of our new products, along with our other popular software and hardware solutions for the visually impaired. The 2005 ATIA Conference promises to be a must-attend event."

## **About Freedom Scientific**

Freedom Scientific is the world's leading manufacturer of assistive technology products for the blind and products for the special education and learning disability markets.

Freedom Scientific®, JAWS®, MAGic®, OpenBook™, PAC Mate™, and SARA™, Focus™, WYNN™ and TestTalker™ are either trademarks or registered trademarks in the United States and/or other countries.