SAGE ALERTING SYSTEMS

Text-To-Speech (TTS) Pronunciation Tips

Dates
When formatted as *MM/DD/YY*, a date will be read as a human would, e.g. **3/7/16** is pronounced "March seventh, two-thousand-sixteen." The correct century is deduced - for example, **3/7/95** is pronounced "March seventh, nineteen-ninety-five."

Four digit year values by themselves will be pronounced as cardinal numbers - for example *1985* is pronounced "one-thousand-nine-hundred-eighty-five" - unless immediately preceded by the word "*in*," in which case the number is pronounced as a year - for example, "*in 1985*" is pronounced "in nineteen-eighty-five."

For car model years and similar, use a two-digit year value and put an apostrophe immediately before it - for example, " **'89 Honda Civic**" would be pronounced "eighty-nine Honda Civic."

Punctuation
Proper punctuation is important. The ENDEC will inflect appropriately when punctuation is encountered - for example, a period at the end of a sentence will result in downward inflection and a pause.

Odd Words and Proper Names
You can adjust specific pronunciations at your ENDEC, using a customized lexicon file. A lexicon file is simply a plain text file that provides a one-to-one pronunciation guide. For example, a lexicon file that defines **Versailles, OH**, and the surname **Vournazos**, which is always mispronounced by man and machine alike:

"versailles"="ver say ills"
"OH"="ohio"
"vournazos"="vor nah zohs"

Lexicon files are uploaded to your ENDEC using the Restore Lexicon File button on the Files page of the web interface. Note that individual broadcast or cable users generally do not prepare their own lexicon files, but instead use lexicon files distributed by state or county authorities.

If you require assistance, contact **support@sagealertingsystems.com**.