

SMART AirLiner Wireless Slate: A White Paper



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Introduction

Do you struggle with maintaining the focus of students while having to stand near the board for instruction? A new type of technology, the AirLiner, has been created to help teachers become more efficient and engaging in the classroom. The AirLiner is an innovative way to instruct subject skills and have students work collaboratively, while still allowing the teacher to have control and mobility in the classroom.

What is an AirLiner?

AirLiners are interactive mobile devices used in conjunction with SMART Technologies© software. They allow the teacher to walk around the classroom and still maintain the students' engagement with the lesson. The AirLiner uses wireless Bluetooth technology to connect to the network or SMART software to promote mobility in the classroom.

Using the AirLiner, teachers can have all of the same functions of SMART software, including the ability to erase, select, and edit objects using a specialty pen which is connected to the AirLiner (Garton, 2008, a). The pen acts as a cursor and allows the teacher to select specific options from the SMART toolbar. The AirLiner is battery-operated and comes with a rechargeable battery lasting approximately 25 hours (Garton, 2008, b). The AirLiner can be used with the SMART interactive whiteboard or can be hooked up to any computer and LCD projector.

“AirLiners allow the teacher to walk around the classroom and still maintain the students’ engagement with the lesson.”

Where to Find the AirLiner

The SMART AirLiner can be purchased through SMART Technologies©. Some school districts choose to purchase the AirLiner and offer it for employee use. Check with your employer before deciding upon purchasing one. If you are not currently an educator, and would like more information about the SMART AirLiner, you can go to SMART Technologies©’ website at <http://www.smarttech.com>. There are various other retailers that carry interactive wireless slates, however be cautious that it is a SMART AirLiner as there are multiple types of wireless slates available. A list of retailers can be found on SMART Technologies©’ website.

Parts of the AirLiner

Parts of the AirLiner are as follows:



WIRELESS SLATE

The wireless slate is the AirLiner itself. It contains the underlay cover, pen, and function panel (discussed in further detail below). The wireless slate comes with the USB port which connects the Slate to Bluetooth technology.



PEN

The pen is attached to the wireless slate to prevent losing it. The pen allows you to write on the slate. With the pen, you can use the side panel functions to select a color to write with or select a different function. Functions on side panel are discussed below.

How to Use the AirLiner

It will take a little practice before you become comfortable using the AirLiner, as your writing may not appear as it would on a regular whiteboard. However, you will get used to holding the pen and wireless slate at the same time after a few practice lessons.

To begin using the AirLiner, follow the instructions below. If you do not have SMART Notebook Software on the computer that you will be using the AirLiner on, begin directions [here](#). If you already have SMART Notebook Software on the computer, continue down to step eight.