

# HEARING SOLUTIONS SIG

Sun City Texas Computer Club  
November 8, 2018

Paige Peterson, AuD, PhD



# HEAR TECH

2018

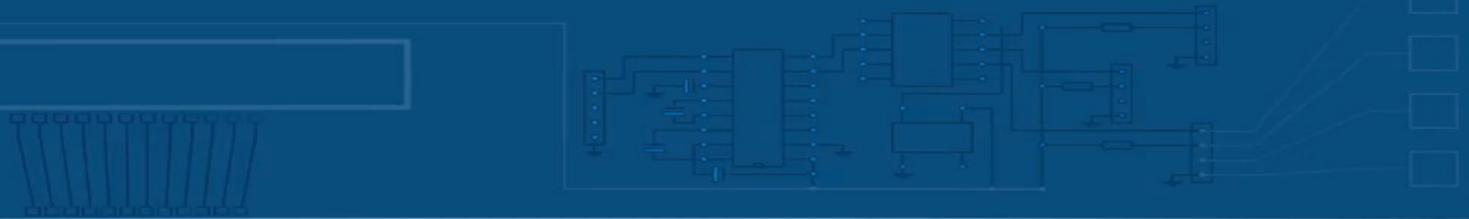
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# Personal Disclosure



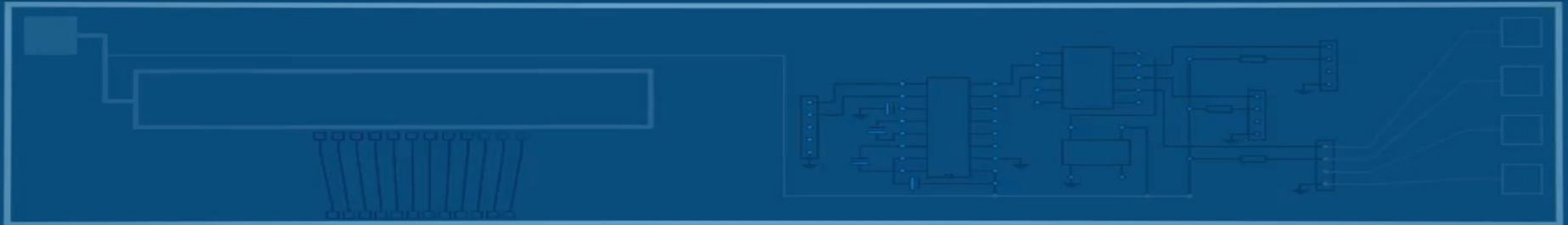
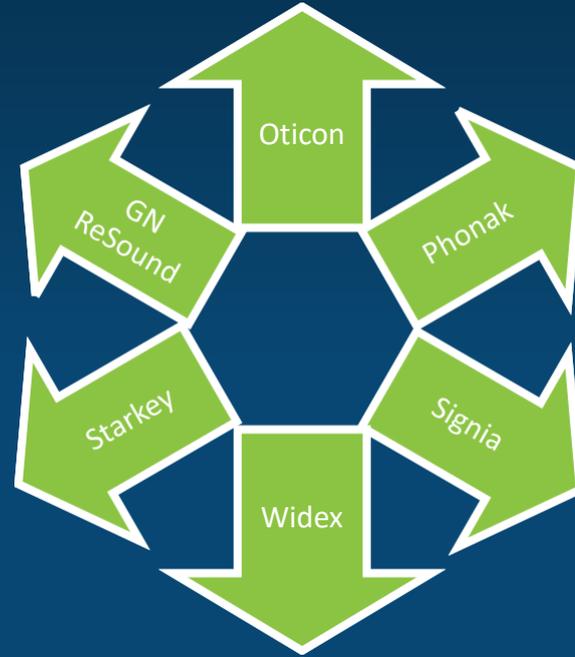
- Audiologist in practice at **Great Hills ENT & The Hearing and Balance Center of Austin**
- Dispensing Audiologist
- Receive no financial remuneration from any **hearing aid, cochlear implant or hearing device manufacturer**
- **All** opinions expressed within this presentation are my own and not that of any of the following manufacturers, **Great Hills ENT or The Hearing & Balance Center of Austin.**



# Hearing Aid Manufacturers Discussed Today

Today I will focus on the “Big Six” hearing aid manufacturers. Yes, I fully realize that there are subsidiaries of these companies readily available for purchase. No, they will not be discussed as I do not utilize them on a daily basis.

No, I will not be discussing features of Costco, Sam’s or other Big Box retailers. These are by and large older chipsets or de-featured versions of one of the hearing aids that will be discussed during today’s talk.



# Signia Nx

Available in 3 (three) Technology Tiers

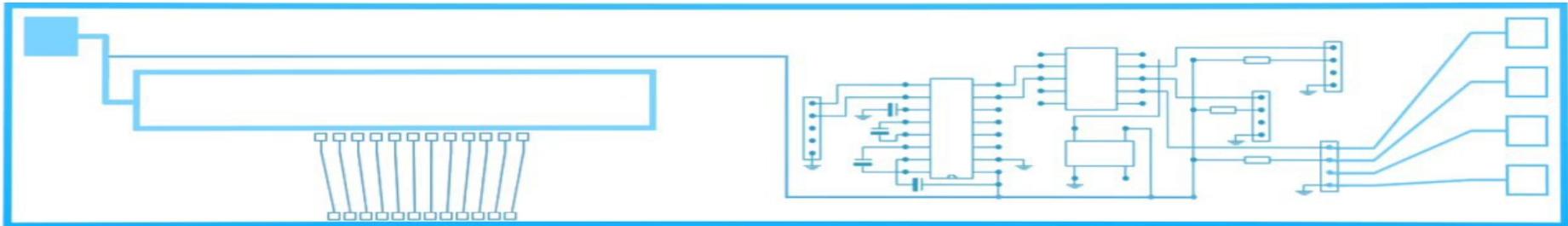
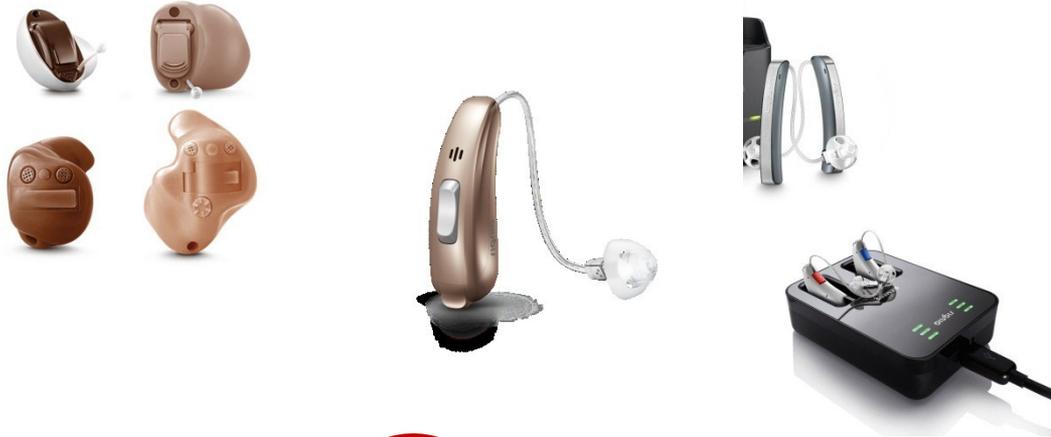
- Nx 7 (Premier)
- Nx 5 (Advanced)
- Nx 3 (Entry/Economy/Basic)

Custom Products Now Available with Direct Connectivity  
(312 battery ITE/ITC)

T-Coil in ITE, 13 RIC (with battery door conversion, Motion BTE

Stylecto introduced for mild/moderate hearing loss with up to three charges stored in the case. No direct connectivity

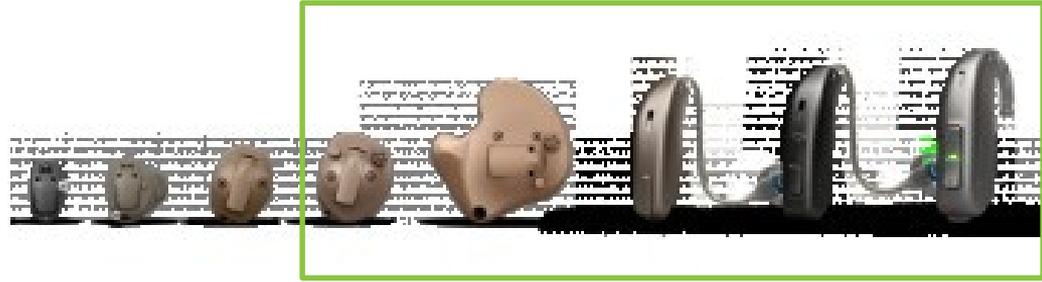
Nx chip has Own Voice Processing (OVP)



# Oticon OPN

Available in 3 (three) Technology Tiers

- Opn1 (Premier)
- Opn2 (Advanced)
- Opn3 (Entry/Economy/Basic)

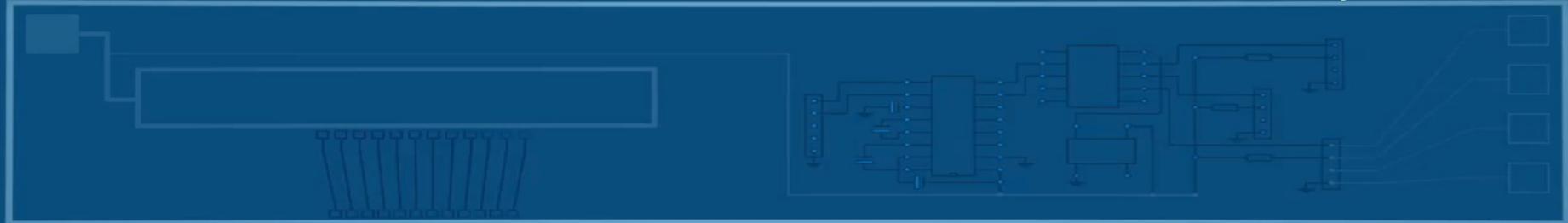


Custom Products Now Available with Direct Connectivity

T-Coil in miniRITE-T, Power Plus BTE, ITE & HS



ITE/HS 13  
Battery



# Widex Evoke

Available in 3 (three) Technology Tiers

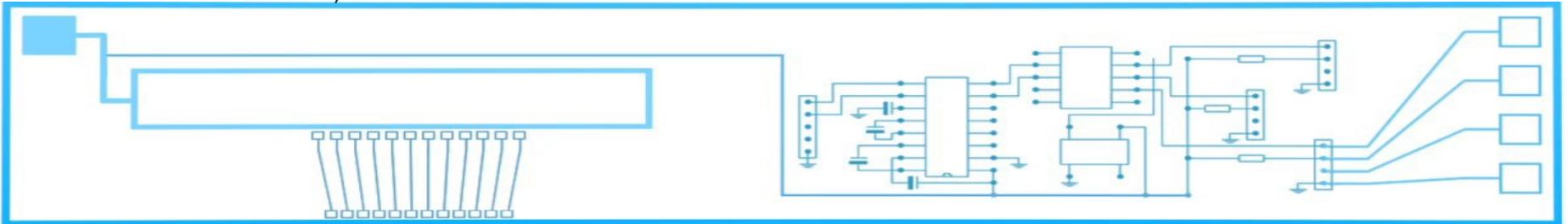
- 440 (Premier)
- 330 (Advanced)
- 220 (Entry/Economy/Basic)



Wider dynamic range than most manufacturers



T-Coil in Fashion, Fusion



# Starkey Livio<sup>AI</sup> & Livio

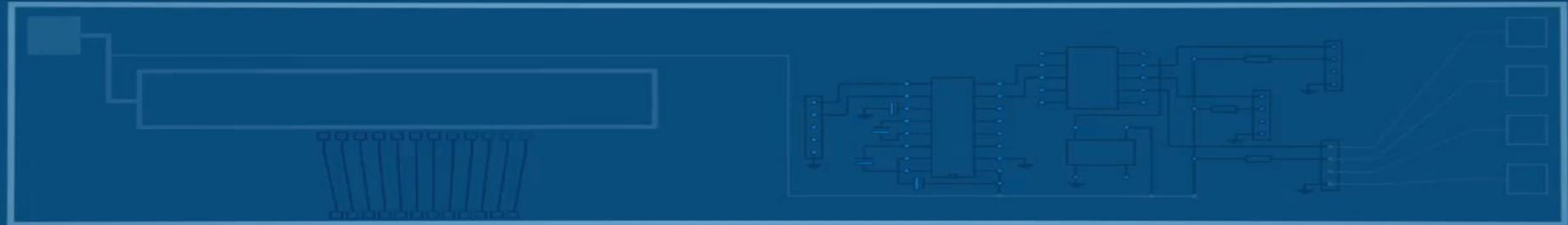
Available in 4 (Four) Technology Tiers

- Livio<sup>AI</sup> 2400 (Super Premium)
- Livio 2400 (Premium)
- Livio 2000 (Select)
- Livio 1600 (Advanced)



No Customs on Livio platform

Fall Prevention, Fitness Tracker,  
Language Translation, THRIVE app



# GN ReSound Quattro

Available in 3 (three) Technology Tiers

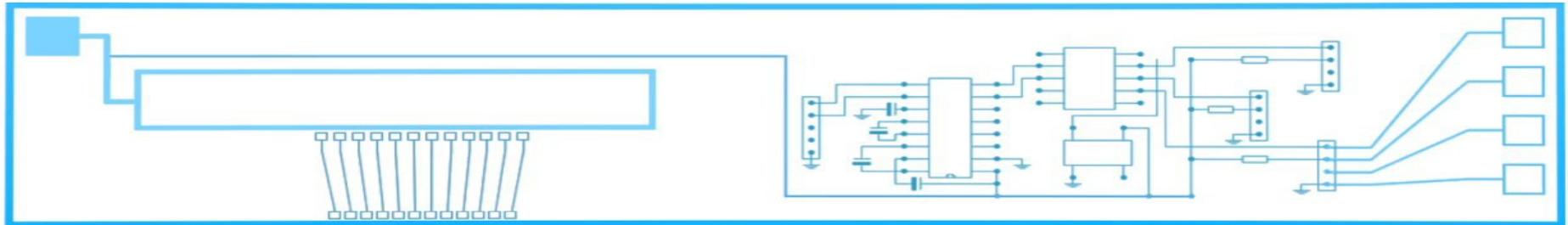
- 9 (Premier)
- 7 (Advanced)
- 5 (Entry/Economy/Basic)



NO custom products at this time. Only 312 & 13 RIC

Lithium Ion recharging within the case.

No embedded T-coil in Quattro. Must use external miniMic



# Phonak Marvel

Available in 4 (four) Technology Tiers

Will Connect to ANY smart phone/TV or Bluetooth enabled device

Hands Free calling and Stereo Streaming (finally..)



Released Feb.  
2019



# Hearing Aid Features By Manufacturer

Features Reported  
are current per  
manufacturer  
specifications as of  
11/6/2018.

Table can be found  
[here](#).

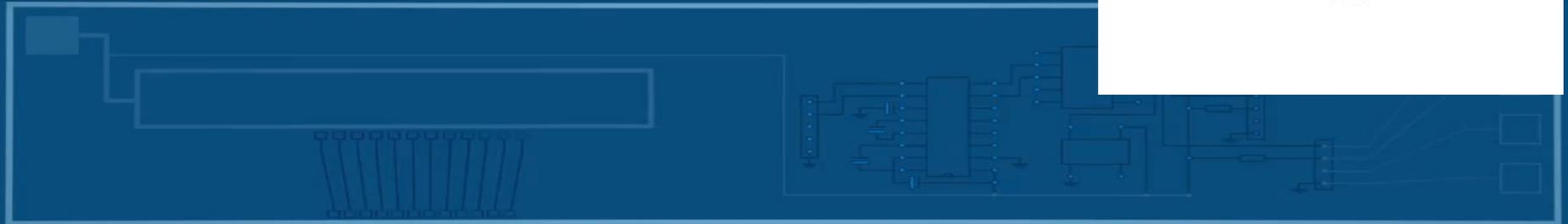
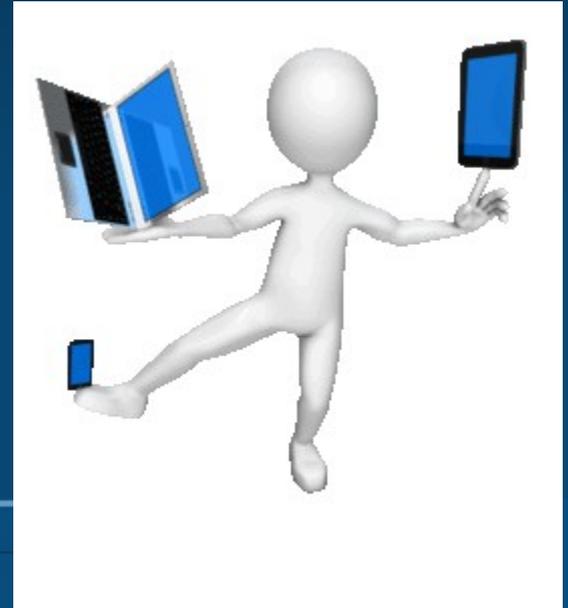
	Li-ION Rechargeability	Z-Power Rechargeability	Direct to iPhone Connectivity	Direct to Android Connectivity	TeleCoil	Fall Prevention / Alert	Television Streaming	Tele-Audiology (Remote Fitting/ Adjustment)
GN ReSound Quattro	✓		✓	COMING SOON!			✓	✓
Oticon OPN		✓	✓		✓		✓	COMING SOON!
Phonak Marvel	✓		✓	✓	COMING SOON!		✓	✓
Signia NX	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓
Starkey Livio			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Widex Evoke		✓	✓		✓		✓	

# Direct Connectivity

In general you can typically pair up to 5 devices to your hearing aids. The order in which you pair them will determine the “pecking order” in which they are recognized.

IF you have alerts turned on (email, text, Pinterest board updates) you will hear those through your hearing aids. Sorry, can't change that.

Manufacturers currently have “Direct Connectivity Helplines” for patient support.



# Rechargeable Hearing Aids

There are currently two options here, **Lithium-Ion** and **Z-Power** retrofit kits.

**Z-Power** was widely hyped, and is severely underperforming. In my opinion, not worth the hassle or the money.

Usage on a rechargeable battery will depend on your use day and how much you stream from another device. The more you stream, the less time on the charge.



# Li-ION Rechargeability Comparison by Manufacturer

Features Reported are current per manufacturer specifications as of 11/6/2018.

Table can be found [here](#).

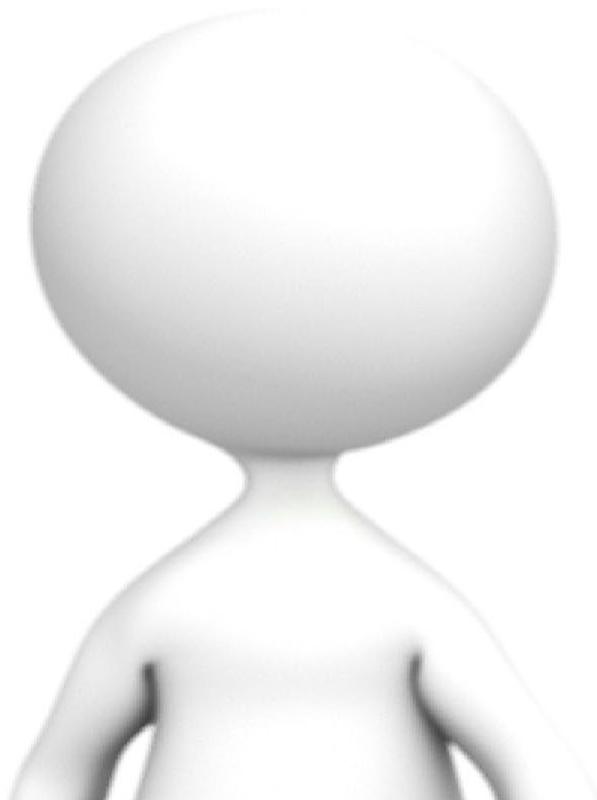
	Signia Charge 'N Go	Signia Styletto	GN ReSound Quattro	Phonak Marvel
Direct Streaming			 	 
Take 'N Go Charging Case				 (Power Pack)
# of Charges in Case	n/a	3	3	7
Quick Charge	30 min (5 hrs)	30 min (5 hrs)	60 min (16 hrs) 30 min (8 hrs)	90 min (17 hrs) 15 min (3 hrs)
# Hours of Use (no streaming)	19	19	30	24– 30 hrs
# Hours of Use (50% streaming)	<10	<10	24	22-24 hrs
Type of Hearing Loss	Mild to Severe	Mild to <i>“Moderate”</i>	Mild to Severe	Mild to Severe

# Tele-Audiology Support

Currently there are 4:6 manufacturers that have the capability for this type of support depending on the device you are wearing. Starkey, ReSound , Signia, & Phonak have this built into the **newest chipset**. Some older models may have this ability for remote programming. Oticon will be rolling this out, which leaves Widex as the only one that does not currently have a solution.

This can allow for **routine adjustments** and **follow-up** to be performed in the **comfort of your home** with the use of your smart device.





**HEARING & BALANCE CENTER**  
— OF AUSTIN —  
AT GREAT HILLS ENT

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***This is our last meeting for 2018***

**NEXT MEETING**

**January 10, 2019 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Info – Contact Nelda McQuary**  
**[mcquary@suddenlink.net](mailto:mcquary@suddenlink.net)**