

# **HAIGHTS CROSS COMMUNICATIONS** **PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Recorded Books and Transparent Language Introduce *Byki Online – Library Edition***

Prince Frederick, MD—December 3, 2009—Recorded Books, LLC, the world’s largest independent producer of audiobooks and a Hights Cross Communications company, in partnership with Transparent Language, Inc., has announced a new online language learning service for public libraries. *Byki Online -- Library Edition* is a powerful language-learning system designed specifically for use by patrons of public libraries. The new language learning system is available immediately to libraries from Recorded Books.

“Recorded Books has been providing audio language learning services to libraries for over nine years. We have used that experience and feedback from our customers to build a service with features that libraries and their patrons’ need.” says Jim Schmidt, Vice President of Business Development at Recorded Books.

*Byki (Before you know it) Online – Library Edition* offers language learning for over 80 languages, including English for foreign language speakers. It allows library patrons to access the Byki Online system remotely, providing users with users unprecedented learning options. Byki’s desktop software features listening, reading, speaking, and writing exercises, as well as speech analysis to improve pronunciation skills. Individual progress tracking and assessment tests help identify areas for improvement and move users in the right direction.

In addition to comprehensive language learning tools, Byki’s world language community services offer a range of options that users can access anytime. One-click access to Facebook and Twitter communities and Byki Blogs allow patrons to read articles written by experts from over the world and learn more about the language itself and the culture that surrounds it. Libraries can easily control remote access through their own administrative site, which offers comprehensive reporting and online technical support options. “With multiple ways to utilize Byki’s language program, taking ownership of your personal language-learning experience is now within reach,” says Schmidt.

Recorded Books representatives will be demonstrating *Byki Online – Library Edition* software at the American Library Association Midwinter Conference in Boston from

January 15 through January 18, 2010 at booth #2004. Details are also available by email at [bykionline@recordedbooks.com](mailto:bykionline@recordedbooks.com), on the web at [www.recordedbooks.com](http://www.recordedbooks.com), or by calling 1-877-828-2833.

**About Transparent Language, Inc.:**

Transparent Language is a leading provider of best-practice language learning software for consumers, educational institutions, government agencies, and businesses. Transparent Language's products are used by millions of consumers and over 12,000 civilian and government educational institutions. For more information, please visit [Transparent.com](http://Transparent.com) or [Byki.com](http://Byki.com).

**About Recorded Books:**

Recorded Books, LLC, a Hights Cross Communications company, produces and distributes unabridged audiobooks and other audio products to public and university libraries and schools on CD, cassette and Playaway digital player. Over 9,000 titles are available for adults, children, and young adults in English and Spanish languages narrated by professional, award-winning actors. Recorded Books also distributes music, educational lectures, independent films, and nonfiction films on DVD. Packaging is designed for high circulation. One-year warranty, cataloging, processing, and free MARC records are available. For more information, visit [www.recordedbooks.com](http://www.recordedbooks.com).

**About Hights Cross Communications:**

Founded in 1997 and based in White Plains, NY, Hights Cross Communications is a premier educational and library publisher dedicated to creating the finest books, audio products, periodicals, software and online services, serving the following markets: K-12 supplemental education, public and school libraries, and consumers. Hights Cross companies include: Triumph Learning, Buckle Down Publishing and Options Publishing, and Recorded Books. For more information, visit [www.hightscross.com](http://www.hightscross.com). Triumph Learning is HCC's test-preparation and intervention business and is comprised of its *Coach*, *Buckle Down*, and *Options* brands. Recorded Books is a leading publisher of unabridged audiobooks and other audio media for libraries, schools, and consumers, with operations in the U.S., U.K. and Australia.

**Safe Harbor Statement:**

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the Company's plans, intentions and expectations. Such statements are inherently subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected. The forward-looking statements that we make in this Current Report are subject to a variety of risks, uncertainties, and other factors known and unknown that could cause actual results to differ materially from such forward-looking statements, including, but not limited to the completion of the Company's announced restructuring and planned operation of our business, including the outcome and impact on our business of any resulting proceedings under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Company makes no assurance that it will be successful in consummating the proposed Plan and restructuring or any other restructuring proposal on favorable terms if at all, which could also adversely affect the Company's business plans and expectations. As a result, the Company makes no assurance that the treatment of creditors outlined in this report and the term sheet included in the Support Agreement will not change significantly. A more extensive discussion of the risk factors that could impact these areas and the Company's overall business and financial performance can be found in the Company's reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The risks included above are not exhaustive. The Company expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any such statements to reflect any change in the Company's expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.