

## Watson, l'ordinateur d'IBM qui vient de gagner Jeopardy! conquiert le monde de la santé

IBM et Nuance Communications annoncent un effort commun de recherche pour mettre à disposition de la médecine les capacités analytiques de Watson

**Paris - 21 févr. 2011:** Watson, l'ordinateur développé par IBM au cours des quatre dernières années, répond à la volonté de construire un système informatique rivalisant avec la capacité humaine à répondre à des questions posées dans un langage naturel, tout cela avec vitesse, précision et confiance en soi. Les capacités d'analyse et de réactivité de Watson ont récemment été mises à l'épreuve lors de sa participation au célèbre jeu télévisé américain *Jeopardy !*. A l'issue des trois manches l'opposant aux deux plus grands champions de *Jeopardy !*, Watson s'est imposé, démontrant ainsi ses capacités. Au-delà du défi que constituait cette expérience, elle a permis de dévoiler le champ des applications possibles de Watson. C'est dans ce cadre qu'IBM annonce aujourd'hui un accord de recherche visant à appliquer les capacités analytiques de Watson au domaine médical.

### **IBM to Collaborate with Nuance to Apply IBM's "Watson" Analytics Technology to Healthcare**

*Joint Research Effort to Integrate IBM's Watson and Nuance's Voice and Clinical Language Solutions to Provide Enhanced Access to Critical and Timely information*

**ARMONK, N.Y. & BURLINGTON, Mass. - 21 Feb 2011:** IBM (NYSE: [IBM](#)) and Nuance Communications, Inc. (NASDAQ: NUAN) today announced a research agreement to explore, develop and commercialize the Watson computing system's advanced analytics capabilities in the healthcare industry.

The research and technology initiative will combine IBM's Deep Question Answering (QA), Natural Language Processing, and Machine Learning capabilities with Nuance's speech recognition and Clinical Language Understanding (CLU) solutions for the diagnosis and treatment of patients that provide hospitals, physicians and payers access to critical and timely information. The two companies expect the first commercial offerings from the collaboration to be available in 18-24 months.

Additionally, Columbia University Medical Center and the University of Maryland School of Medicine are contributing their medical expertise and research to the collaborative effort. For example, physicians at Columbia University are helping identify critical issues in the practice of medicine where the Watson technology may be able to contribute, and physicians at the University of Maryland are working to identify the best way that a technology like Watson could interact with medical practitioners to provide the maximum

assistance.

[Watson's](#) ability to analyze the meaning and context of human language, and quickly process information to find precise answers can assist decision makers, such as physicians and nurses, unlock important knowledge and facts buried within huge volumes of information, and offer answers they may not have considered to help validate their own ideas or hypotheses.

*"Combining our analytics expertise with the experience and technology of Nuance, we can transform the way that healthcare professionals accomplish everyday tasks by enabling them to work smarter and more efficiently," said **Dr. John E. Kelly III, senior vice president and director of IBM Research**. "This initiative demonstrates how we plan to apply Watson's capabilities into new areas, such as [healthcare](#) with Nuance."*

For example, a doctor considering a patient's diagnosis could use Watson's analytics technology, in conjunction with Nuance's voice and clinical language understanding solutions, to rapidly consider all the related texts, reference materials, prior cases, and latest knowledge in journals and medical literature to gain evidence from many more potential sources than previously possible. This could help medical professionals confidently determine the most likely diagnosis and treatment options.

*"The combination of Nuance's speech recognition and existing Clinical Language Understanding solutions with the power of IBM's Watson technology will introduce unmatched clinical information and analytic technological advancements for healthcare," said **Paul Ricci, chairman and CEO of Nuance**. "The initiative represents a logical step in Nuance's evolution, one that expands our capabilities from recognizing what was said to understanding the intent and providing guidance. The solutions we are developing with IBM will transform the capture, flow and use of clinical data, empowering healthcare organizations to drive smarter, more efficient clinical and business decisions."*

*"We are excited at the prospect of applying the Watson analytics technology to help create the next generation of electronic medical record systems and the next generation of computer diagnostic and decision support tools," said **Dr. Eliot Siegel, Director of the Maryland Imaging Research Technologies Laboratory (MIRTL) University of Maryland School of Medicine**. "We believe that this has the potential to usher in a new era of computer assisted personalized medicine into healthcare to improve diagnostic accuracy, efficiency, and patient safety."*

*"Watson has the potential to help doctors reduce the time needed to evaluate and determine the correct diagnosis for a patient," said **Dr. Herbert Chase, professor of Clinical Medicine at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons**. "We also believe that Watson also has the ability to help doctors provide personalized treatment options that are tailored to an individual patient's needs."*

Under the agreement, IBM and Nuance will jointly invest in a multi-year research initiative targeted to the applications of the Watson technology to assist in the diagnosis and treatment of patients in combination with Nuance's voice and clinical language solutions. In addition, IBM has licensed access to the Watson technology to Nuance. IBM and Nuance are currently engaged in a five-year joint-research initiative designed to advance next-generation natural language speech technologies, the results of which will be commercialized by Nuance. IBM also named Nuance its Preferred Business Partner for speech technologies and related professional services, aimed at complementing IBM's Industry Solutions portfolio.

For more information about the Watson computing system and the Jeopardy! challenge, please visit: <http://www-03.ibm.com/press/us/en/presskit/27297.wss>

### **About Nuance Communications, Inc.**

Nuance is a leading provider of speech and imaging solutions for businesses and consumers around the world. Its technologies, applications and services make the user experience more compelling by transforming the way people interact with information and how they create, share and use documents. Every day, millions of users and thousands of businesses experience Nuance's proven applications and professional services. For more information, please visit: [Nuance.com](http://www.nuance.com).

### **Nuance Healthcare**

In the era of Accountable Healthcare, where there is shared responsibility for the quality and cost of patient care, Nuance Healthcare's portfolio of Medical Intelligence solutions empower healthcare provider organizations, payers and individual physicians worldwide to deliver higher quality care, improve financial performance and enhance compliance efforts. Nuance Healthcare employs a range of technologies and services as part of its full portfolio – speech recognition, clinical language understanding, decision support, test results management and data analysis. For additional information on Nuance's healthcare IT solutions visit: <http://www.nuance.com/for-healthcare/index.htm>

To view the press kit on Watson go to: <http://www.ibm.com/press/watson>

Pour plus d'information sur Watson : <http://www-05.ibm.com/fr/watson/>

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