Bumps in the Night!!!!

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Tools of the Trade

Ovilus

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One of the newest pieces of equipment in the TnT Paranormal toolbox is the Ovilus. Invented by Bill Chappell, the Ovilus uses environmental readings such as electromagnetic field and temperature changes to produce words through electronic speech synthesis.

The Ovilus has many different modes. In dictionary mode it uses an onboard data base of words connected to numbers. The environmental readings produce the number and the Ovilus then speaks the word connected to that number. In phonetic mode the Ovilus uses EMF (electromagnetic field) variations to produce a phoneme which creates words that are not in the data base. There is also a reverse phonetic mode, a touch mode were the Ovilus will make a ping sound when touched, an energy mode in which the Ovilus acts as an electromagnetic pump, a white noise mode were the Ovilus produces low volume static noise for EVP (electronic voice phenomenon) sessions, a say last word mode in which the Ovilus will repeat all the words produced when it was in dictionary mode, and even a sync mode to help sync audio and video equipment.

If you are a fan of such paranormal television shows as Ghost Adventures, Paranormal Challenge, Celebrity Ghost Hunt, The Haunted Collector, Paranormal State, and The Haunted you more than likely have seen the Ovilus in action. The show Ghost Adventures featured a version of the Ovilus that was equipped with a built in night vision video camera.

Does the Ovilus work as a useful tool during EVP sessions? Can the dead really speak through it? At this time we cannot answer that question. Some paranormal teams swear by this device, others have stopped using it totally. Keep in mind that printed on the Ovilus itself by the manufacturer is "For entertainment purposes only. " The manufacturer even lists on their website the odds of getting a relative response. 1: 512 for the Ovilus I, 1: 1024 for the Ovilus FX / Video Ovilus, and 1:2048 for the PX. The odds change with the different modes also. 1 in 2048 in dictionary mode to 1 in 71 in phonetic mode.

For TnT Paranormal the verdict of the use of this tool for investigations is "still out". At this time we do not show any data associated with it to a client. We need to do a lot more research before that would happen.

Sources:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ovilus
http://digitaldowsing.com/ovilus-x