

Linguasoft: Linguasofts replicate language skills, allowing the user to speak a foreign language as fluently as her native language. Linguasofts may also be used as real-time translation programs. Linguasofts must be accessed with a direct neural link (either a sim module or datajack).

Simsense

Simsense is the pinnacle of modern entertainment. Simsense programs are created when a simrig records a person's sensory input (all five senses) plus their emotive response. These recordings may then be played back and experienced by another user with a sim module. Simsense has become the predominant medium in the entertainment industry, with "simflicks" raking in billions of nuyen and a range of celebrity simsense stars capturing the public's imaginations and desires.

Sim programs range from special-effects laden action blockbusters and steamy romances to completely programmed anime specials to porn and underground crime and snuff sims. Some sims have a poly-point-of-view feature, allowing you to switch back and forth to experience the action through different performers.

BTL Recordings: Conventional simsense recordings include signal peak controllers to protect the spectator from physical brain damage, as well as to reduce the addiction qualities of jacked up high-amplitude signals and direct

stimulation of the pleasure centers of the brain. Better-than-life programs don't have these controllers, promising the illusion of a better life to all those who've been chewed up and spit out by society.

Continuous exposure to BTL leads to psychological addiction and unpleasant side effects like catatonia, multiple personality disorder, amnesia, flashbacks, mania, synesthesia (sensory crossover), and, in some cases, death due to malnutrition, dehydration, or suicide. (For more details, see p. 250.) BTLs are usually programmed to burn-out or self-erase after one use, sending you back to the dealer for more.

Virtual Reality Gaming: The use of simsense technology has led to a whole new generation of games, linking the player directly into a true first person shooter perspective (Ultra Mario, Dunkelzahn's Quest XII, Sahara Soldier, Shadowrun MMORPG) or hovering over the action (SimCiv, EuroWar 2032, Final MageCraft). Most games offer both a SinglePlayer and Matrix MultiPlayer option (the latter for a monthly fee). Many of them offer not only a gaming challenge but also a perfect alternative to the dismal existence of most people's real lives.

ARE Software

Augmented reality has led to the development of AR environment (ARE) software that alters the user's perception of reality, allowing the user to customize the "world"

Matrix Programs	Availability	Cost (up to Rating 3)	Cost (Up to Rating 6)
Common Use	—	Rating x 50¥	Rating x 100¥
Hacking	(Rating x 2)R	Rating x 500¥	Rating x 1,000¥
Agents/IC /Pilot	Rating x 3	Pilot rating x 1,000¥	Pilot Rating x 2,500¥
System	—	Rating x 200¥	Rating x 500¥
Firewall	—	Rating x 200¥	Rating x 500¥
Autosofts (Rating 1–4)	Rating x 2	Rating x 200¥	Rating x 500¥
Storage Media	Availability	Cost	
Datachip	—	1¥	
Data Software			
Datasofts (Rating 1–6)	—	Rating x 10¥	
Mapsofts (Rating 1–6)	—	Rating x 5¥	
Tutorsoft (Rating 1–5)	—	Rating x 500¥	
Skillssofts			
Activesofts (Rating 1–4)	8	Rating x 3,000	
Knowsofts (Ratings 1–5)	4	Rating x 1,000	
Linguasofts (Rating 1–5)	2	Rating x 500	
Simsense			
Sim Recordings	—	5–200¥+	
BTL Recordings	4F	20–200¥+	
VR Games	—	50¥	
ARE Programs			
Virtual Surround Music	—	50¥	
Wall Space	—	50¥	
Virtual Pet	—	100¥	
Virtual Person	—	150¥	
Virtual Weather	—	100¥	
Miracle Shooter™	—	50¥ + 10¥ per month	