Mobile phones, tablets and computers are now normal in everyday life.  With increasing access to the internet via mobile devices and wireless technologies; It seems that everyday a new app, software, or even connected device is launched to make our lives more productive, organized and in control of our environment. Access to this technology is now not only normal, but also expected by most. However, many people with disabilities are not always given the opportunity to access the same technologies as their peers. This workshop will explore commercially available products for increased access to the same or similar technology for individuals utilizing power wheelchairs.  Specific attention will be paid to Apple iOS mobile devices and iPads; including built in accessibility features and the complimentary products to increase or create usability when accessing via joystick and/or specialty controls on a power wheelchair. Through hands on training of connecting the Apple iOS iPhone and iPad, participants will better understand how to increase mobile technology utilization to facilitate client independence within their home and personal environments.

Objectives

1. List the most common types of wireless technology and how they are integrated into everyday life.
2. Identify techniques to access mobile phone technologies, including via specialty input devices on a power wheelchair
3. Recognize pros and cons for the Apple iOS platform for pairing mobile phones and iPads with the power wheelchair.
4. Be able to pair and program a joystick and/or specialty controls on a power wheelchair with an Apple iOS device.