

## SAPIENT ANNOUNCES GESTURE MUTE TO ENABLE PEOPLE TO MUTE TEAMS VIA GESTURE.

The amount of times I have forgotten to mute myself while I tell my flat mates to bugger off is embarrassingly enormous. A close second is whenever I am doing a standing presentation, and I must walk back to my screen to mute and unmute myself every two minutes. The 3 key keyboard shortcut doesn't help either, it is of no use in the latter and for the former it's a bit cumbersome to remember it and then apply it. Imagine having to press ctrl/cmd+shift+m every time you have mute or unmute.

"At sapient we believe that technology is made for users not the other way round, users don't need to accommodate and compromise to make the technology work for them. We are leaders in the space of innovation but we don't just innovate for the sake of it, but we do it with a goal to make things easier for our ultimate stakeholders, the people" , Nigel Vaz (CEO of Sapient)

Muting by using a simple gesture solves the problem conveniently. A simple and easy to use gesture requiring only one hand makes the entire process simple and by extension, easy to remember. Users also will not have to switch between command and ctrl when using different operating systems making it universal.

## **PUBLIC FAQ**

### **Can you set a gesture by yourself?**

Currently, No. There will be a fixed gesture that you use to enable to mute yourself. You can choose any number of gestures from that set to enable the muting functionality of the app.

### **What are the chances of accidentally muting yourself?**

The gesture will not be a common enough for that to happen and if you still find it getting in your way then there is a functionality to turn the feature off will be provided.

### **Can the gesture work with both hands?**

Yes, you will be able to use either hand to turn the gesture on.

### **How can I start using this feature?**

Simply download package [someID@github.com/gestureMute](https://github.com/someID/gestureMute) and then there are certain commands giving the app certain privileges that you can find in the readme file, to paste in a powershell script.

The readme doc will cover it in further details

### **The duration for which the gesture needs to done.**

For performance, not every frame of the feed would be evaluated also the gesture would need to be done for 'N' frames. This is done to avoid muting the user when they are doing a certain action, and the action itself contains the gesture as a sub action, meaning that the user has no intention of muting themselves.

Users will be allowed to set the duration 't' for which they want to fire the gesture. The frames 'N' for which the gesture needs to be checked will be calculated as follows :  $N = F * t$  , where F = the fps of the video stream.

### **Can this gesture be performed at any part of the screen?**

Yes , it can be.

## **sInternal FAQ**

**If the gesture can be used by both hands, does it mean that the choice of gestures would be limited since either the gesture, or the part of image that the app works on, would need to be symmetrical or you would need to find training set for both the left and the right hand?**

The choice of gestures will not be compromised by having that feature since the video feed can just be flipped on the vertical axis and a left handed gesture will look just like a right handed one. Therefore the model will be trained on a right handed gesture since most training images are right handed.

**Since in windows, only one service can use the webcam service at a time, therefore how will your app use the webcam with teams is already using it?**

Using a free app called SplitCam. SplitCam connects to the windows webcam service, and then it allows multiple services to connect to it

**This usage and setup process sounds a bit cumbersome, especially relying on a third-party app. Is there any fix to this?**

Future plans might include shifting it from a standalone app to it being integrated with Teams but for now, there is no better way.

**How will it generate income for the company?**

It will not , but it might just make me skilled enough to work on other ML Projects that can bring value to the company.