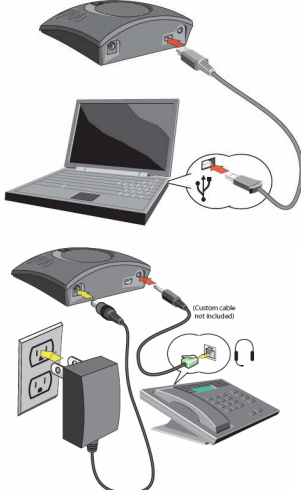

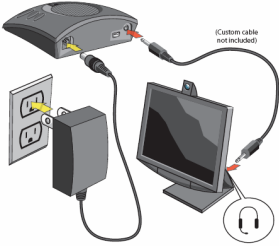
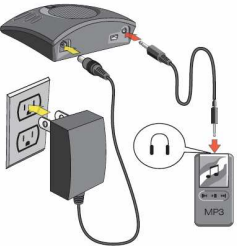




ClearOne

Chat 50 vs. Polycom Communicator
Competitive Comparison
May 2006

Competitive comparison table

	Polycom Communicator	ClearOne Chat 50
MSRP	\$129	\$149
Connectivity	USB	Multiple ways to connect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USB • Telephones handsets • Cell phones • Desktop video conferencing devices • iPods & MP3 players
Applications	Skype only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not connect to any other devices • Is focused solely on Skype (integrated Skype button) • Questionable performance even with other PC applications. According to Polycom FAQ on the Communicator: "Skype is the only application that is officially supported by Polycom Communicator model C100S. It is optimized for use with Skype, and if used with other Internet calling or voice applications, Polycom Communicator may experience diminished audio quality and/or loss of button functionality." 	Multiple applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skype, Vonage, Google Talk • Web conferencing • Video conferencing • Enterprise VoIP softphones • IM with audio chat • Audio playback • Gaming • Telephones: for hands-free, full-duplex calls 

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cell phones: for hands-free, full-duplex calls  • Desktop video conferencing devices: for hands-free, full-duplex calls  (Custom cable not included) • iPods & MP3 players: for full-band audio playback 
Expandability	<u>None</u>	<p><u>Multiple configurations available:</u> The base-model Chat 50 offers USB connectivity, and also comes bundled with various cables and accessories to enable additional connectivity for the road warrior or many other uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chat 50 USB (\$149) – device with USB cable • Chat 50 USB Plus (\$179) – adds power adapter, cell cable • Chat 50 USB Plus Int'l (\$189) – adds int'l power clips, cell cable • Chat 50 Global Traveler (\$209) – adds adds int'l power clips, cell cable, travel case, MP3 audio player cable

Audio processing	<p>No on-board DSP processing – code is loaded onto hard drive of connected PC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audio processing tasks <u>compete</u> for CPU resources with other PC applications such as video conferencing over internet • This could affect echo cancellation and duplex performance • No ability to ever connect to non-PC devices because it contains no built-in processing 	<p>Built-in DSP: all audio processing takes place on the Chat 50 itself, utilizing ClearOne’s market-leading algorithms for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Echo cancellation • Noise cancellation • Advanced input & output level management • 20Hz-20kHz full bandwidth frequency response for deep, rich sound
<p>Photos</p> <p>*Note: The Chat 50, Communicator, and the quarter are all shown proportionately accurate to demonstrate relative sizes.</p>		
<p>Size</p>	<p>W 3.24" (8.23 cm) D 5.25" (13.33 cm) H 0.85" (2.16 cm)</p>	<p>W 3.8" (9.7 cm) D 4.1" (10.4 cm) H 1.8" (4.8 cm)</p>
<p>Industrial design</p>	<p>Moving part: design includes <u>flip-out stand</u> to prop unit up:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prone to breakage, particularly as a portable unit that will be taken in and out of bags, etc. 	<p>No moving parts: durable, functional, attractive design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puts microphone and speaker in optimal positioning without need for a stand • Professional, sleek design complements contemporary look of laptops, enterprise phones, cell phones, etc.

Product awards	<u>None</u>	<u>PC Magazine Editors' Choice Award</u> (May 2006)
Audio quality	Early testing by other parties (not yet tested by ClearOne) resulted in significant echo and poor duplex performance, particularly when switching between headset mode and speakerphone mode	Deep, rich sound with the best full-duplex performance and echo cancellation in the category PC Magazine editor that gave the Chat 50 the Editors' Choice Award stated that it has " <u>excellent, full-bodied sound</u> . I found the audio <u>comparable to that of high-end Polycom conference-room models</u> —which cost far more."
Warranty	<u>1 year</u>	<u>2 years</u>
Availability	<u>Not available</u> (Polycom says it will ship late June 2006)	<u>Shipping</u> since April 7, 2006

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