



Apogee's MiC is a compact studio-quality USB microphone that connects digitally with the iPad, iPhone and Mac, helping to ensure clean, noise-free recordings. (Photo courtesy of Apogee).

## Mics that make it easier to work outside the office

**SHERRY KARABIN**  
Legal News Reporter

More people are traveling light these days, and that includes attorneys. Whether it's a laptop, iPad or iPhone, portable devices are the word of the day.

At the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) trade show in Anaheim, California in January, several companies unveiled microphones designed to plug into one or more of these items, making recording high-quality audio outside of a studio or office a much simpler process. Some of these microphones will be available in computer and music stores in northeast Ohio.

MXL Microphones, the professional audio division of Marshall Electronics, showcased the MXL Trio and MXL Tempo USB condenser microphones.

The USB-powered MXL Tempo microphone allows users to record voice notes, vocals and create podcasts via an iPad Camera Connection Kit adapter. The lightweight microphone is also compatible with PC and Mac computers and has an integrated headphone output that allows recordings to be monitored without going through a computer.

"The Tempo is designed for individual use and works great with a variety of mobile devices," said Perry Goldstein, MXL's sales and marketing manager. "While it was created with the musician in mind, this

traveling attorney, who is interviewing a client or just preparing notes for trial and does not want to transcribe the notes in real time."

The Trio is part of the USB series, and is the latest iPad-compatible USB condenser microphone from MXL. It works with PC and Apple computers and is specially designed so that it can be used with both versions of the iPad, allowing for recording directly into the iPads using the Camera Connector Kit.

"Like the Tempo, the Trio is not only perfect for recording music, it's great for podcasting, and over the Internet web chat,

with services such as Skype, ooVoo, iChat and Google Talk," said Goldstein. "A zero latency headphone jack is built into the body of the microphone, allowing the user to plug the headphone right into the microphone to monitor the recording, which not all USB microphones have."

For more information about where to purchase these products, log on to [www.mxlmicro.com](http://www.mxlmicro.com).

Digital audio recording equipment manufacturer, Apogee Electronics Corp., featured the MiC during the NAMM show, which was announced last

spring and had its first public viewing in the fall of 2011 at the AES (Audio Engineering Society) show in New York.

The compact, studio-quality USB microphone connects digitally with the iPad, iPhone and Mac, helping to ensure clean, noise-free recordings.

"MiC is very easy to use," said Brian Zarlenga, marketing manager for Apogee. "All you do is plug it in and begin recording. There is no software involved, and because MiC makes a digital connection with the iPad, iPhone or Mac there is virtually no background noise."

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## Gov's tax proposal might save Ohioans \$500M

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The new tax structure set to be proposed by Ohio Gov. John Kasich might not lead to a cut in the income tax until 2014 but might save Ohioans a half-billion dollars on those taxes by 2017.

Republican Gov. John Kasich wants to tax shale drilling, and the state would immediately get more revenue from oil and gas companies, according to The Columbus Dispatch, which said it obtained a copy of the plan. The money generating by the drilling tax would be used to help offset the government's cost of instituting a cut in the personal income tax. The extent of that tax cut could depend on the amount of revenue that's received, because regulatory fees

the drilling tax revenues.

The across-the-board income tax reduction would most save the most money for the wealthy and small businesses because they pay more in income taxes. Under one estimate, the income tax cut could amount to more than 5 percent if the drilling tax generates \$500 million to offset it, though some observers cautious that it's hard to predict what the production and tax-revenue will be.

"We could be drilling empty holes, or you could get a lot of production on the front end, and it could be gone before you know it," said Terry Fleming, executive director of the Ohio Petroleum Council.

Kasich initially wants a 1.5 percent tax on certain oil and

through the new form of oil and gas drilling known as hydraulic fracturing, and that could increase to 4 percent once a company recovers its capital costs to begin drilling. The tax rate would be 1 percent for dry gas from hydraulic fracturing wells, the newspaper said.

The state now has taxes of 20 cents per barrel of crude oil and 3 cents per 10,000 cubic feet for dry gas.

Under current oil and gas pricing, Kasich's proposed severance taxes would cost companies nearly \$13 million this year. In four years, that would jump to \$548 million.

The governor's administration estimates shale drilling would create \$4 billion in revenue for oil and gas companies next year