**Victor Reader Trek** REVIEW By Nolan Crabb August 2017

1. The device is billed as a combination book reader and Trekker Breeze.
   1. All-in-one device that combines Trekker Breeze with Victor Reader Stream.
   2. The front of the product looks exactly like a Victor Reader Stream; it is somewhat thicker. The buttons are identical to those on the Stream, which means the learning curve is small, since there is an install base of some 100,000 users.
   3. Tactile recognition on the 2, 4, 6, 8, and 5 keys. The 5 key is a “Where Am I” key.
2. Differences between the old units and the new one:
   1. Only one jack for headphones and microphones.
   2. Internal processor is a Snapdragon processor, which adds more power than the current stream. That added power allows for faster map processing. The slightly thicker profile accommodates a GPS antenna; the receiver is allegedly excellent, GPS acquisition occurs in 20 seconds at the most. If the machine is off for three weeks, acquisition can take 50 seconds.
   3. Battery life is between 12 and 15 hours, mostly between nine and 11 hours of use. GPS chip can be turned off if you’re inside and simply want to read a book.
   4. The new unit includes a Bluetooth device for pairing with headsets and speakers. There is a vibration motor and an FM radio chip.
3. Comparisons:
   1. No functions from the old Breeze are abrogated here.
   2. Most important button is the “Where Am I” button. It is the number 5 key on the keypad, and there are two large dots that differentiate that key. The 2, 4, 6, and 8 keys are also used.
   3. You can record landmarks anywhere including open areas like parks or campuses with off-road locations. You can even landmark where a vehicle is in a large parking lot should that be necessary.
   4. There are 32 gigabytes of internal memory, and the battery is replaceable. You can also insert an SD card. The maps are included with the purchase price.
   5. You can enter an address through the telephone keypad on the front of the machine.
   6. If you hold down the “Where Am I” button, you can hear about points of interest around you within a certain radius.
   7. The maps are from TomTom. With the old Breeze, you could download only small regions. This device includes all of North America—all states, Canada.
   8. The unit provides detailed information about intersections. It can be a four-way, a roundabout, etc.
   9. The GPS chip is better than the one in the old Breeze, and the speaker capacity is louder in the new unit than was the case in the Breeze. There are five outdoor volumes.
4. Victor Reader functionality:
   1. No functionality is lost between the old Victor Reader and the new one. You can control volume with the in-line button in your headset.
   2. Audible books will work on the new device as well. “You can expect Audible support on the Victor Reader Trek.”
   3. The only real difference in terms of dimensions between the Victor Reader Stream and the new Trek is thickness; the Trek is slightly thicker.
5. The Future of the Product:
   1. The new Trek does not replace the current Victor Reader Stream; both products will be available.
   2. The Trek supports in-door Bluetooth beacon technology. Current software does not support any in-door company at the moment; there is no standard, but the i-Beacons seem to be the most popular of the options out there.
   3. The new Galileo chip set, available in 2019, will include one-foot accuracy as opposed to the current 10-meter accuracy.
   4. Maps will be updatable via wireless; no computer necessary.
6. What’s in the box?
   1. Included is the device
   2. A carrying case
   3. A headset with in-line controls
   4. Micro USB cable, long and short
   5. AC adapter and a reference card for the keys.
   6. Included is an on-board user guide built into the firmware.
7. Price:
   1. Pre-order price: $599, retail price is $699.
   2. Shipping begins in October.
8. Product was demonstrated at that point
   1. When the device powers up, it vibrates rather than beeps.
   2. If you have an old Breeze, you can export your landmarks from the old   
      Breeze to the new Trek.
   3. Eventually, the Trek will be able to play PDF files.