

CHAPTER 1

Introduction

ZoomText 9.1 is a powerful computer access solution designed for the visually-impaired. Consisting of two adaptive technologies – screen magnification and screen reading – ZoomText allows you to see and hear everything on the computer screen, providing complete access to applications, documents, email and the Internet.

ZoomText 9.1 is available in two product versions:

Magnifier – a standalone screen magnifier.

Magnifier/Reader – an integrated magnifier and screen reader.

Both versions of ZoomText 9.1 are designed for users of all ages and skill levels. With a precise mix of power and simplicity, ZoomText provides total independence at home, school and in the workplace.

ZoomText Magnifier

ZoomText *Magnifier* is an advanced screen magnification program that enlarges and enhances everything on the computer screen.

ZoomText 9.1 *Magnifier* features include:

- **Flexible Magnification** Full range of magnification levels up to 36x. Levels include: 1x to 8x in steps of 1, 10x to 16x in steps of 2, 20x to 36x in steps of 4, and fractional powers of 1.25x, 1.5x, 1.75x and 2.5x.
- **Powerful Zoom Windows** 8 different zoom windows allow you to configure the magnified view according to your needs.
- **Font Enhancements** xFont technology (patented) displays print-quality text that's easy to read at all magnification levels. Smooth, bold and condense settings allow you to fine-tune the thickness and spacing of text for added legibility.
- **Dual Monitor Support** Allows you to expand your magnified view or simultaneously see magnified and normal views of your screen (Windows Vista and XP only).
- **Enhanced Screen Colors** Innovative color controls improve screen clarity and reduce eyestrain. Special effects include color dyes, two-color modes and replacement of problem colors.

- **Visible Pointers and Cursors** Size and color enhancements make it easy to see the mouse pointer. Special locators make it easy to find and follow the mouse pointer and text cursor.
- **Focus Enhancements** New focus enhancements make it easy to locate and follow the control focus when you navigate through application menus, dialogs and other application controls.
- **Smooth Navigation** Navigating your applications and scrolling the view is always smooth and comfortable. Constrained mouse movement allows you to examine rows and columns, and keeps you within the active window.
- **Desktop Finder** Desktop Finder helps you find and launch programs and documents on your desktop, system tray and quick launch bar.
- **Web Finder** Web Finder helps you find links and controls in any web page.
- **Text Finder** Text Finder helps you locate words, phrases and topics of interest in documents, web pages, and application windows.
- **Application Settings** Save unique settings for each application that you use. As you switch applications, ZoomText automatically loads the desired settings.
- **Windows Vista Logon Support** Magnification and screen reading support when logging on in the Windows Vista logon screen.

ZoomText Magnifier/Reader

ZoomText *Magnifier/Reader* is a fully integrated magnification and screen reading program that enlarges, enhances and reads aloud everything on the computer screen.

ZoomText 9.1 *Magnifier/Reader* includes all the features of ZoomText *Magnifier*, plus:

- **Complete Screen Reading** ZoomText automatically speaks all program controls, including menus, dialogs, list views and messages. Three verbosity levels give you complete control over the amount of information spoken.
- **Automatic Document Reading** 'AppReader' automatically reads documents, web pages and email within the parent application. 'DocReader' reads documents in a special environment where text is reformatted for easier viewing.
- **Reading Zones** Reading Zones allow you to instantly see and hear selected locations in your applications. Define up to 10 zones per application that you can trigger via pop-up menu or keyboard commands.
- **Full Internet Accessibility** ZoomText reads any web page, in the proper reading order. You can read automatically or manually navigate by word, line, sentence and paragraph.

- **Text Navigation** Navigation keys make it easy to read while creating and editing documents. With simple commands you can read by character, word, line, sentence and paragraph, even while selecting text.
- **Typing Echo** Each key or word that you type is automatically spoken. You can choose to have all keys spoken or only selected groups of keys.
- **Mouse Echo** Mouse echo automatically reads text that you point to. Single words or complete lines of text are spoken instantly or after hovering briefly.
- **SpeakIt Tool** The SpeakIt tool allows you to read selected areas of the screen by clicking or dragging the mouse.
- **Special Application Support** Built in support for popular applications – including Microsoft Office 2007 (Word, Excel, Outlook), Adobe Acrobat 8, Adobe Reader 8, Firefox 2.0 and Java – allow you to read and navigate your documents with 100% accuracy.
- **Built-in Synthesizers** ZoomText includes four built-in speech synthesizers, each providing a variety of male and female voices to choose from. The new NeoSpeech synthesizer provides human-sounding voices (English only) that are closer to the real thing than ever before.

What's New in ZoomText 9.1

ZoomText 9.1 contains the following new features and enhancements, allowing for greater productivity and support for the latest versions of popular applications.

- **Support for Windows Vista** ZoomText 9.1 offers robust support for Windows Vista, allowing users to take advantage of the advanced security and stability of the Vista operating system. Note: Vista's Aero Glass feature is not supported.
- **Support for Microsoft Office 2007** The new Office 2007 user interface components are fully tracked and spoken by ZoomText.
- **Support for Adobe Acrobat 8 and Adobe Reader 8** ZoomText's reading tools, including AppReader and DocReader, can now read in all of the page view types in Adobe Acrobat 8 and Adobe Reader 8.
- **Support for Mozilla Firefox 2.0** ZoomText offers advanced support for Firefox 2.0, including complete tracking of web page controls and accurate reading in complex page layouts.
- **Support for the ZoomText Large-Print Keyboard** ZoomText 9.1 provides full support for the ZoomText Large-Print Keyboard. Used together, your low-vision workstation is complete.

- **New Dual Monitor Support** ZoomText's new dual monitor support allows you to utilize two monitors to extend your magnified viewing area, or simultaneously share a magnified or unmagnified view of your desktop on a second screen (Windows Vista and XP only). For more information, see Chapter 3 - "Dual Monitor Support."
- **New ZoomText Scripting** ZoomText's scripting feature lets you create and utilize scripts to customize the behavior of ZoomText and other applications, providing more informative visual and audible feedback, and automation of tasks.
- **New Smooth Panning** Smooth panning (patent-pending) provides a more natural panning motion when the magnified view scrolls to keep the focus in view.
- **New Focus Enhancements** The new Focus Enhancement feature makes it easy to locate and follow the control focus when you tab and arrow key through menus, dialogs, toolbars, and other application controls. For more information, see Chapter 3 - "Focus Enhancements."
- **New Screen Enhancement Schemes** Additional schemes have been added to each of ZoomText's screen enhancement options.

- **New Inverted Block Locator Type** A new type of view locator that provides greater emphasis on the area that's currently being magnified, making it easier to select a new area to zoom in on.
- **New Windows Vista Logon Support (with ZoomText Logon UI)** ZoomText's new logon support provides essential magnification and screen reading features when logging into Windows Vista. For more information, see Chapter 2 - "Windows Vista Logon Support."
- **New Cursor Enhancement Sample Box** The Cursor Enhancement dialog now includes a sample box to help you select a cursor enhancement scheme or select custom cursor settings. For more information, see Chapter 3 - "Cursor Enhancements."
- **New 60-day Trial Periods** The ZoomText trial period has been extended to 60 days, allowing more time for customers to try out ZoomText before making a purchase decision.

System Requirements

The following hardware and software is required to run ZoomText 9.1:

- 450 MHz Pentium® III processor or equivalent
1.5 GHz for Windows Vista
- One of the following operating systems:
 - Windows Vista
 - Windows XP with service pack 2 (SP2) or later
 - Windows 2000 with service pack 4 (SP4) or later
- Internet Explorer 5.0 or later
- Minimum 256 MB RAM
Minimum 1 GB required for Windows Vista
- Minimum 25 MB free hard disk space (additional 60 MB required for each NeoSpeech synthesizer)
- Sound card (for *Magnifier/Reader* version only)

Note: Hardware requirements are higher for systems running the core features of Windows Vista. For more information, see the Minimum Support System Requirements on the Windows Vista website.

About the ZoomText User's Guide

The ZoomText 9.1 User's Guide provides complete instructions for installing and using ZoomText *Magnifier* and ZoomText *Magnifier/Reader*. Features that are unique to ZoomText *Magnifier/Reader* are grouped together in Chapter 4 - "Screen Reading Features", or are noted as a screen reader feature only.

This user's guide assumes you have a working knowledge of Microsoft Windows® and its conventions, including how to use the mouse and standard menu commands. For help with these techniques, please refer to your Microsoft Windows documentation.

Before using this manual, we recommend you install ZoomText 9.1.

Documentation formatting

Throughout this user's guide you will see special formatting used to represent important information. The following table outlines these formats and what they represent.

Format	Represents
Screen item <i>Screen item</i>	On-screen items that you select or click on, such as menus, dialogs and controls.
Hotkey commands	Keys that you should press. The plus sign between keys means that you should hold down the first key while you press the second key. If three keys are represented, hold the first two keys while you press the third.

