

Trainer's Guide Suggested Training Activities

After the group has completed Parts I and II of the case study, one or more of the following questions and follow-up activities could be used to discuss the accommodation and the process involved in greater depth. The Trainer's Guide is designed for trainers and normally would not be given out to participants. These materials usually work best as a total group discussion, ranging from a few minutes up to 10-15 minutes. Questions or activities are typically followed by information to assist in supplementing participant discussion. Trainers are encouraged to add other questions to focus discussion on specific learning objectives and local or state issues.

Compare functional capacities/limitation to essential functions of the job.

- *What other options could be considered for accomplishing essential functions?*
- *Discuss pros and cons of each as well as cost/benefit.*

Zoomtext was selected for this consumer. Discuss other screen magnification options that might already be available to a potential consumer on their current application, without purchase of additional software.

- *In some applications the user can set the fonts used by the application. (for example, WordPerfect 6 or Microsoft Word for Windows) or zoom in on the display (for example QuattroPro).*
- *In Windows 95, there are "Accessibility Features" that are selected using the "Wheelchair Icon" located on the desktop. In later versions, Windows 95 and above, you find these features in the Accessories program. There is a magnification feature similar to ZoomText as well as settings that can enhance the visual perception on the monitor as well as alternative uses of the mouse. The Mouse Properties icon in the Control Panel allows the user to enlarge the size and shape of the mouse pointer, change it's color, slow it down, and locate the pointer using a "sonar" function.*
- *If a sound card is installed in the computer, it is possible to attach sounds (through the Sounds option in the Control Panel) to many Windows events, such as opening and closing a program or minimizing or maximizing the size of windows. Users can also change the size of icons and the size and color of some screen items, such as fonts, menus and title bars.*

If magnification features already available on computer are not sufficient, review screen magnification program options and how they work.

- *Magnification programs function similarly to a magnifying glass moving over a page. Programs can automatically follow the cursor, magnifying the area around it. It is also common to be able to automatically move across and down a magnified page at a present speed. Additionally, in the event of losing your place in a magnified document, programs can show the unmagnified screen, emphasizing the magnified area with color or shading. Most programs allow the use to change colors.*
- *The magnification available varies. The least expensive screen magnification products limit magnification to 2x and some of the more expensive products provide up to 32x magnification. A limitation of screen magnification software is that as on-screen material is magnified, less of it fits on the screen. Prices range from \$350 to \$600.*

Discuss closed circuit televisions (CCTV's) and the basics of how they work.

- *A CCTV system uses a stand-mounted or hand-held video camera to project a magnified image onto a video monitor or a TV screen. There is considerable versatility in types of CCTV systems available today. Cameras with zoom lenses provide variable magnification and are used in the more expensive CCTV's. In most of these systems magnification level and focus are set after choosing a comfortable and functional working distance between the camera and the material to be viewed. Lower cost CCTV's often use cameras that have a fixed focus and cannot vary magnification or camera-to-target distance. Most cameras also need their own light source.*
- *Cameras that are mounted on a fixed stand require the reading material to be placed under the camera and moved across and down the page. Stand-mounted cameras are particularly effective for handwriting because a hand can fit under the camera. To make the process of viewing easier, a table that is movable from the top of the page to the bottom and side-to-side is used with most stand-mounted cameras.*
- *In contrast to stand-mounted cameras, hand-held cameras are portable systems designed for bringing the camera to the material to be viewed. They can magnify almost anything within reach, including labels on packages of food and medicine. Hand-held cameras are often on rollers, which make them easier to move across a flat working surface. When used in conjunction with a small (5"screen) video monitor or TV, hand-held cameras can be highly portable. Some manufacturers of CCTV systems that use hand-held cameras offer a writing stand as an accessory.*
- *Typically, CCTV systems that use video monitors are in the \$1,800 to \$4,000 price range. Lower cost CCTV's that plug into a TV are in the \$400 to \$1,000 price range.*

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- *Optical aids can assist individuals with low vision by either helping them read print, do work requiring fine detail or increase the range of their visual fields. The simplest of these devices is the hand-held magnifier. The advantage of these devices is that they are small and lightweight and can fit in a pocket or purse, and they are inexpensive.*
- *Visual expanders are generally prisms or special lenses built-in to eyeglass frames that expand the field while keeping the image size the same.*

For more information, including copies of recent evaluations of various CCTV systems, contact National Technology Program at 212-502-7642; or E-mail: techctr@afb.net.

