



E-BUZZ

VISION REHABILITATION CENTRES NEWSLETTER

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- **Windows-based tutorials by American Foundation for the Blind**

Windows tutorials are available to assist people with vision loss in learning to use Windows and Windows applications. Tutorials come in different formats; cassettes, Braille, ASCII disk, CD-ROM and online. These tutorials are designed to assist in reducing the steep learning curve involved in mastering a visual operating system, a new application and a screen reader at the same time.

Source: <https://www.afb.org/ProdBrowseCatResults.asp?CatID=41>)

- **Accessible Reader.... An E-book reading app for Android phones**

Accessible Reader is a mobile application which leverages available text –to-speech engines and makes it convenient for people with vision impairment to read the digital documents. This app supports

English, Hindi, Bengali, Kannada, Malayalam, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu languages in the leading document formats; text, RTF, doc, docx and PDF files. This app is now being provided free of cost by Amway Opportunities Foundation. It is the world's only accessible E-book reading software with all the navigation features which is available free of cost.

Source:<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.AmwayOpportunityFoundation.accessiblereader&hl=en>

Food menu cards in Braille on Indigo Airlines

Indigo Airlines has been providing food menu cards in Braille as a part of their initiative to assist persons with vision loss.

- **Non Visual (NV) Access releases E-book training material for Non Visual Desktop Access (NVDA)**

The basic training for NVDA E-book is the first module in the official set of training materials for learning to use free NVDA screen reader. It is suitable for the new and existing user wishing to improve proficiency.

Topics covered include: Getting started with NVDA and Windows, basic configuration, writing and editing text, document formation, file management, multi-tasking, browsing the web, using the review cursor and object navigation. Formats included in this package are ePub, HTML, Word, Docx and Mobi (Kindle).

The purchase price of this product supports the work of NV Access and our ability to provide NVDA reading software free of charge.

Source: <http://www.nvaccess.org/product/basic-training-for-nvda-ebook>

- **V-mart has joined hands with Saksham charitable trust to sell assistive and utility products**

In a first initiative of its kind in India, the major retail chain, V-mart has joined hands with Saksham charitable trust to make available Braille and other assistive /utility devices across its stores on no-profit, no-loss basis to empower persons with vision loss. A large range of assistive and utility products including Braille watches, talking devices, Low Vision devices, canes, Braille learning devices, writing frames, Maths/Geometry devices, games, Stylus, computer/DAISY books, reading and recording devices, audio described films, Nuance Talk software for mobiles, screen readers for computer and other devices will be made available at V-mart stores.

To begin with, these products will be made available at V-mart stores in the cities of Ajmer, Allahabad, Chandigarh, Dehradun and Gorakhpur. The number of cities where these devices will be available will expand gradually.

Source:<http://www.vmart.co.in/CSR.html>

- **Freedom Scientific releases the Apple iOS training bundle**

Freedom Scientific has released a new training solution specifically designed to teach people with vision loss how to use VoiceOver and the Apple iOS on devices such as the iPhone and iPad.

This solution, provided in DAISY audio format, contains over 10 hours of one-on-one training on 2 GB SD card along with a PLEXTALK portable DAISY book player. All training is performed by certified instructors from Freedom Scientific.

Training includes setting up and iPhone, using gestures and Siri and apps including iTunes, iCloud, Safari, Calender and the App Store.

Source: <https://www.afb.org/afbpress/pub.asp?DocID=aw170408>

- **Mobile games designed specifically for persons with vision loss**

These games are hitting the App Store and gaining traction at Perkins. For instance, Blindfold Racer is a mobile game which uses sounds to guide racecar drivers around the course riddled with obstacles. Instead of avoiding inanimate objects like bolders or trees, players must steer their virtual cars around and assortment of moving, crowing and oinking barnyard animals. Their mobile device acts as a steering Wheel.

The other is Sudoku, a popular puzzle game in which numbers are arranged in a grid. Both were built specifically for people with vision loss, setting them apart from apps that were originally designed for sighted users and then adapted to be accessible.

Both games are available for free at Apple's App Store for iOS devices including the iPhone and iPad.

Source: <http://www.perkins.org/stories/news/perkins-collaborating-on-mobile-audio-games-for-people-who-are-blind#content>

- **Interested in reading books on Kindle app?**

Check out a free and accessible iOS version of the app released by Amazon. This app gives people with vision loss another option for purchasing and listening to books and periodicals. Previous versions of this app were not accessible with VoiceOver. The Kindle app is optimized for the iPad, iPhone and iPod touch, giving users the ability to read Kindle books, newspapers, magazines, textbooks and PDFs on a beautiful easy-to-use interface. You'll have access to over 1 million books in the Kindle Store plus hundreds of newspapers and magazines. Amazon Whispersync automatically syncs your last page read, bookmarks, notes and highlights across devices (including Kindle). So you can pick up your book where you left off on another device.

Source: <https://www.afb.org/afbpress/pub.asp?DocID=aw140602>

- **Interested in making friends with vision loss and discuss related issues?**

Then "World Accessible Services and Systems for Persons with Disabilities" is the right place for you. It is a social network which connects persons with disability from all around the world. To sign up, visit www.wassped.com

For any comments, suggestions and queries, please contact:

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