

- Partners in Progress -

BUSINESSline Briefing

South Warwickshire Business Partnership

www.swbp.org.uk

Clippings of interest to businesses and organisations operating within the districts of Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick

Links to external websites do not imply recommendation or commendation of the information contained therein.

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The AbilityNet website contains free resources such as Factsheets and Skillsheets and the new Freeware and Shareware Archive, which can be found under our Factsheets/Free Resources link on the left hand menu or by clicking on http://www.abilitynet.org.uk/atwork_shareware.

Useful recommendations:

A modern computer is an immensely flexible tool with a wide range of adaptations and alternatives that can be used to fit the computer to the user. Many of these are easy to implement and cost little or nothing.

- Individuals with visual impairment or a lack of control over fine motor movements may need to increase the size of icons - easily achieved through the computers control panel.
- Individuals with dyslexia will normally find symbols easier to deal with, so encouraging them to use the icon-based instructions on the toolbar, rather than the drop down menus will be more effective.
- Individuals with VI or dyslexia may benefit from changing the colour of the screen through the control panel and eye strain can be avoided by selecting bigger and clearer font styles and sizes.
- Readability of text can be enhanced by using 1.5 or double line spacing. Easily achieved by highlighting the paragraph and using Ctrl 1 for single spacing Ctrl 2 for double and Ctrl 5 for 1.5.
- For individuals struggling with complex websites, readability can often be enhanced through simply increasing the text size of websites through the view menu of Internet Explorer.
- You can retune a mouse to suit a left-handed user, you can slow down its reactions, including the double click, or even change its functionality altogether, depending on what is required.
- You can also make the mouse pointer easier to see by using pointer trails and increasing the size of the pointer.

More solutions available on <http://www.abilitynet.org.uk/myway/>

Access to Work

AbilityNet continues to deliver workplace assessments under the Access to Work scheme.

The Access to Work (AtW) scheme provides funding for technical assessments and the costs of adapting an employee's IT and workstation. It helps enable many people with disabilities to access employment or continue in employment. The scheme works differently across the UK, but wherever you are based we can help. To find out more about the scheme visit http://www.abilitynet.org.uk/atwork_access or contact david.traish@abilitynet.org.uk or enquiries@abilitynet.org.uk for further details.