JAWS

JAWS (Job Access with Speech) is a screen-reading program that gives users voice output access to compute programs for those who are blind or have low vision. JAW 12.0 has a variety of features, including Braille support, multi-lingual speech synthesis, and multi-screen support. JAWS provides many useful commands that make it easier to use programs, edit documents, and read Web Pages. With many customizable options JAWS lets you tailor for your individual needs and preferences.

- **Smart Screen Technology**: Smart Screen is the hands-off screen reading technology that allows speaking any program automatically. It looks at the screen and determines what to speak, it also announces each time a new window is opened or closed.
- **Dual Cursor Design**: JAWS has two cursors, the PC cursor tells you where you are typing on the screen, menu items selected etc. The JAWS cursor, acts like the mouse cursor, it roams around the screen like a person’s eyes, going and seeing where the PC cursor can’t go.
- **Hot Key Help**: Press INSERT + H to get instant help for the JAWS hot keys or Windows shortcut keys available in the current dialog window.
- **JAWS Wizards**: Built-in helpers that pop-up at the touch of a key. For example the dictionary wizard automates the task of entering words into the on-line pronunciation dictionary. Other wizards are available for tutoring or to make other complex tasks easier.

**Starting JAWS**

JAWS may be configured to launch when a user logs into a window or it may be launched by double-clicking on the desktop icon or from the JAWS entry in the Start Menu. Refer to the JAWS Quick Start Guide for more ways to start JAWS.

**How to know that JAWS is working:**

By default, when JAWS launches, it will display the JAWS application window (Figure 1) and will say “JAWS for Windows is ready.”
**Figure 1:** Jaws application window.

**Turning off JAWS:**

To turn off JAWS, exit the JAWS application or press **Insert + F4**

**JAWS Options:**

JAWS is highly configurable, and the configuration options for JAWS are way beyond the scope of this document. A screenshot of the basic settings for JAWS is shown in the figure 2 below. The reader is encouraged to read the documentation included with JAWS or to click on one of the links in the in the more information section below.
Figure 2. Jaws basic setting window.

For More Information:

Schedule a demonstration with the SDRC

To read more about JAWS, click on the following links:

- Freedom Scientific Product Page
- JAWS Training
- JAWS Documentation
- JAWS Quick Start Guide