Professional Write 2.0

Word Processor Enhancements Useful for General Office Tasks

By John Lombardi  Review Board

One of the more elegant executive word processors, Professional Write 2.0 offers enhancements that improve its power and efficiency while maintaining its original ease of use.

FEATURES:
In this new version, Professional Write 2.0 adds several features to its basic word processing capabilities. Rectangular block definition allows the easy manipulation of tables and other similar text, and an effective calculator system permits manipulation of simple formulas, calculation of rows and columns, and the insertion of results anywhere in the text.

Professional Write continues to use a "fixed address book" format for mail merging, though it can import data files from other programs. The program also supports the inclusion of graphics from several popular programs such as Harvard Graphics. It imports and in some cases exports several types of word processing, spreadsheet, database, and graphics import files automatically.

Professional Write 2.0 includes facilities for making use of fonts and laser printers with a sophisticated installation and modification system. It easily allows multiple printer configurations, font attachments, and screen displays.

Lines are limited to 250 characters in length, more than adequate for most purposes. Professional Write also restricts headers and footers to two lines of 64 characters each - again, sufficient for most uses. The commands for centering, left align, and right align only work on one line at a time and cannot be applied to a block.

A welcome improvement are the Professional Write 2.0 margin and tab settings - they can be varied within the same document. The new version allows you to jump to any page, and blocks can now be marked from top to bottom and reverse.

Basic correspondence features meet our requirements for cut and paste, search and replace that maintains capitalization, full cursor movement, tabs, a status line that shows the page number, and full-featured indentation. Professional Write 2.0 also lets you redefine tabs, place headers and footers, double space, and append files, so we rate correspondence good.

Both the dictionary and synonym finder (not actually a thesaurus) work well, although the program does not hyphenate or permit soft hyphen insertion. The dictionary does not contain some words that appear in other word processing dictionaries, such as "filename"

Software Publishing's Professional Write 2.0 includes pull-down windows for choosing features or referencing keystroke sequences.

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If you use SpinRite™ every two or three months, you'll never have ANY PROBLEMS with your hard disks.

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BAD SECTOR ERROR
BAD SECTOR READING DRIVE... ABBORT, RETRY, IGNORE

That's how your vital data become hard to recover, or lost forever. This problem makes our personal computer hard disk drives the least reliable components in our computers.

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...Or cure the problem at its source by preventing your drive's low-level foundation from ever weakening and crumbling.

SpinRite completely eliminates the problem of gradual low-level format deterioration by quickly low-level reformating any DOS hard disk while leaving all its data in place...

But SpinRite goes FAR BEYOND JUST THAT!

SpinRite's Main Features:

SpinRite is an all-in-one, total, low-level format maintenance, repair, and optimization utility.

- Non-destructively low-level reformates any DOS hard disk drive in minutes. Backup & restore, before and after, are not required.
- Fully automatic surface defect management utilizing the industry's most extensive worst-case data pattern analysis.
- "Chemically" isolated sector interface optimization establishes the maximum possible drive data transfer rate.
- Recovery and repair of completely unreadable data!
- Identification, diagnosis, and repair of any form of data damage.
- IBM, ALL, AT, and ERL Compatible.

...In a matter of minutes it gives any DOS drive a completely new clean, stable, and solid low-level format WITHOUT requiring a tedious backup & restore operation.

It detects and eliminates all data-threatening hard disk errors (which DOS can't see) long before they become data-damaging.

It instantly optimizes and resets the drive's sector interleave, guaranteeing maximum possible data transfer rates.

It locates and isolates all data-threatening surface defects. (Two to three times more than ANY other surface testing software!)

Anyone with a hard disk is invited to purchase SpinRite without hesitation. It is extremely easy to use with a simple user-interface, on-line help, on-line index, and a short 40-page owner's guide booklet.

SpinRite is immediately available from:

Gibson Research Corporation
P.O. Box 6024, Irvine, CA 92716
(714) 854-1520

$59 plus $1.50 shipping and handling. Please send checks, or remit by COD. Credit Card Orders CANNOT be accepted at this time. California residents must include 6% state sales tax.

"I've been using SpinRite for years and it has never failed me. It's the only solution I know of that can fix my hard drive issues. Highly recommended!"
In most speed tests, Professional Write 2.0 matched office/professional packages.

with complex selection criteria.

Font management works
do not include several font types.

A graphic include feature
takes graph files prepared by
standards like Harvard and PTS
series (but not Lotus, PICT), and
integrates them into text at print
Basic lines can be drawn,
and several line types can be
chosen. Graphics are very
good. In most speed tests, Professional
Write 2.0 matched office/professional packages
and, in some cases, exceeded their
results. Speed rates a good score.
The word processor imported
and exported a variety of
other word processing file
formats, including DCA, Word

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or the name of your closest dealer, phone
today - 800-327-7231, Ext. 120.
Among executive word processors, Professional Write 2.0 does well performing executive-type word processing functions like basic correspondence and mail merging.

EASE OF LEARNING:
With a clean user interface and comprehensive context help screens, even computer novices will have little difficulty learning Professional Write 2.0. Its operation is predictable, and the default arrangements produce good results. Moreover, the easy setup and capability to change that setup with minimal technical expertise help beginners greatly.

EASE OF USE:
For experienced users, the speed keys known as "macro" permit many operations without going through a menu—a real advantage. The speed key feature allows the recording of any sequence of keystrokes and will automatically pause for user input. The enhanced directory management utility that sorts file names and permits document word or phrase searches is useful; it looks through the actual text of all documents in a subdirectory for a keyword or phrase. The quick-reference guide is tidy and helpful.

ERROR HANDLING:
The program is well-equipped against normal errors caused by faulty keystrokes or open drive doors, no undo or automatic backup features are available (although cut and paste keeps data in a clipboard buffer). Because the program keeps all text in memory, a power failure will clear all editing changes since the last save.

No Risk, 30-Day Trial:
ActionTracker works on IBM and compatibles. Our network version is compatible with Novell’s Netware and Novell’s 3+ Digital’s DECnet and other OSI networks. Prices start at $595.

PROFESSIONAL WRITE BENCHMARKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Microsoft Word</th>
<th>Professional Write</th>
<th>Word Perfect</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Word</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edit</td>
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<td>1.1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1.3</td>
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*Benchmark tests performed on 50K text files, tests based on office and professional word processing product comparisons, March 28.