

Eye On Health

A New Look At Innovative Ways To Read With Low Vision

(NAPSA)—Small changes in lifestyle or environment, such as improved lighting in your home or using a magnifier to read, can often make a big difference for those with low vision. For people who find reading their mail, shopping, cooking, watching TV and writing a challenge, there's good news. Now, thanks to new technology, there is a possibility to live with independence once again.

An estimated 25 million people live with some form of vision loss. Low vision is a term used to refer to a visual impairment that is not correctable through surgery, pharmaceuticals, glasses or contact lenses and is often characterized by partial sight, such as blurred images. More than 2.9 million people in the U.S. have a vision-altering condition and it is most common in people age 60 and over.

Low vision occurs because of eye diseases and health conditions such as macular degeneration, cataracts, glaucoma and diabetes. While vision that is lost usually cannot be restored, remaining vision can be maximized through rehabilitation programs and vision aids.

A New Type of Aid

To assist with these changes, industry innovator Optelec offers a complete range of products, from daily living aids to magnifiers, talking and portable electronic devices.



You may know someone struggling with vision loss from macular degeneration, cataracts or glaucoma. Here's how you can help.

The products are designed to be simple and effective and do not require advanced technology skills. For instance, the company has just released a line of easy-to-use, high-definition, portable video magnifiers that will enlarge the print size and change the contrast of the font to allow for a comfortable and more enjoyable reading experience.

The new Optelec ClearView+ Speech will not only magnify text and photos but will also scan and read print aloud with a touch-screen, point-and-read interface.

Optelec offers a national network of representatives who provide personalized care, local support and in-home demonstrations.

To learn more and get started, you can call 1-800-826-4200 or visit www.Optelec.com.