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Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1. About this Guide

This guide covers the use and features of Aurora Suite 2005 from Aurora Systems, Inc.

Tip: If you are reading this offline, there may be a updated version with additional information available on the internet.

Edition Indicator Icons

In this manual, three icons are used to indicate sections relevant to particular Editions of the software.

\[\text{\textcircled{V}}\] indicates sections relevant to the Value Edition.

\[\text{\textcircled{A}}\] indicates sections relevant to the Standard Edition.

\[\text{\textcircled{P}}\] indicates sections relevant to the Professional Edition.

Feedback

If you have any suggestions or questions about the contents of this manual, please email service@aurora-systems.com

Version 2005.0000

1.2. Aurora Suite 2005

Aurora Suite 2005 is the first release in Aurora Systems' new line of assistive technology tools. If there is something you need your PC to do, chances are good Aurora Suite can help.
Some of the features in Aurora Suite are:

- Advanced, effective Word Prediction that learns your writing style and works with all the applications you need to.
- Fast and easy conversational speech output for public speaking or day-to-day discussions.
- Spoken feedback as you type so you can hear if you make mistakes.
- Simple screenreader reads documents, email or web pages when reading is a chore.
- Talking Spellchecker works with any application and is tuned to the needs of the most creative spellers.
- Automatic Spelling Corrections correct common misspellings instantly. Add your own with the touch of a button.
- Homonym alert, definitions, and usage examples for over 2100 homonyms make sure you use the right word.
- Run-on-Sentence alert lets you know when it is time to consider adding some punctuation.
- Question alert reminds you when you start a question, but don't finish it with a question mark.
- Abbreviation Expansion saves keystrokes by letting you program a short code to type instead of often used phrases.
- Phrase prediction learns phrases as you type for even more effective keystroke savings than single-word predictors.
- Grammatical Rules help the word prediction system give you better suggestions.
- AutoPunctuation, AutoCapitalization and AutoSpacing save keystrokes by typing spaces and capitals where you need them.
- Feature Editor allows you to tailor Aurora Suite's feature set to the needs of your user.
- The Dictionary Editor allows you to edit your dictionary, or even import vocabulary from documents you've written to get prediction up to speed on your writing style.
- Pretrained English word prediction vocabularies from 1,900 to 625,000 words, many including 20,000 common names and places.
- Additional language dictionaries for UK English, French, German, Italian, Finnish, Spanish, Swedish, Polish and Portuguese.
- Easy language selection.
- UNICODE support for foreign languages.
- Support for synthesizers that use industry standard Microsoft Speech API (SAPI) versions 4 and 5.
- Pronunciation correction system assures words are always pronounced correctly by the speech synthesizer.
- Multiple users can use Aurora Suite on a single PC using Windows logins.
- Full support for end-user or reseller translation.

For detailed information on these and many more features included in Aurora Suite, please browse this guide.

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1.3. Changes for 2005

Aurora Suite 2005 is the first in a new line of products from Aurora Systems. Some of the differences between it and Aurora 3.0 for Windows are:

- Aurora Suite offers three levels of functionality so that the user can choose features appropriate for their needs at the best price.
- **Value Edition** - basic support for learning disabilities.
- **Standard Edition** - enhanced support for learning disabilities and basic support for augmentative communication.
- **Professional Edition** - the most effective assistance for both learning and augmentative communication.

- Visual Highlighting for speech output, highlighting each word as it is spoken, with complete visual customization of font, size and colors.
- The application is now all UNICODE internally, meaning better support for foreign languages. The user interface can now be easily translated to different languages even by end-users.
- Prediction now includes the option to give recently added words a priority boost.
- Echo has a new button to stop the speech synthesizer while it is speaking. Prediction and Talk offer this as a menu item.
- Echo will now check if questions end in a question mark and speak a warning if they don't.
- The Feature Editor's fine grained feature control lets teachers control exactly what help Aurora Suite offers students.
- Both Microsoft Speech API Version 4 and 5 speech synthesizers are now supported making Aurora compatible with nearly all modern software speech synthesizers.
- The look of the program is improved, using Windows XP skins and new raindrop icons for Echo.
- For people who have difficulty with next word prediction, now it can be turned off.
- Placing the mouse over a homonym or other macro displays its full text in a tooltip.
- Windows user profiles are now supported along with roaming profiles.
- The Prediction window can now display up to 40 words to select from.
- All the Aurora programs are now integrated into one easy to manage package.
- There are also many other minor additions, changes and fixes you will discover as you use the software.

In order to take advantage of features available on newer platforms, we have deleted support for a few older and lesser used features. If you require any of these features, please consider purchasing Aurora 3.0 for Windows instead.

- Support for 16-bit Speech Synthesizers and external hardware synthesizers has been removed.
- The Aurora Realvoice is no longer supported.
- Windows 3.1, 95, 98, Me, and NT 4 are no longer supported.
Chapter 2: Getting Started

2.1. Getting Started

To install Aurora Suite, insert the CD-ROM into your disk drive. If your computer has autorun enabled, it should start the installation program automatically. If it doesn't, open My Computer, then double-click on your CD-ROM drive. On some computers, the installer will start now. If it still hasn't started, find the Setup.exe or Setup Application in the My Computer window to start the installer manually.

Running Aurora Suite

To run Aurora Suite, double click on the Aurora Suite 2005 icon on your desktop. Alternately, click on Start, Programs, Aurora Suite 2005, Aurora Suite 2005.

Starting Automatically

If you would like Aurora Suite to start automatically each time you start your computer, add it's icon to the Startup group in your Programs folder.

2.2. Welcome

When Aurora Suite starts, if it is not Activated, you will be presented with the Welcome screen.

Enter Serial Number and Activate Software

If you have already purchased Aurora Suite and have your 12 digit serial number ready, press Enter Serial Number and Activate Software to enter it and activate the software for full operation.

Buy Now

If you are ready to buy your own copy of Aurora Suite, and want to purchase it instantly and securely over the internet, press the Buy New button.
With Buy Now, you can get access to Aurora Suite while you wait for your CD and Manual to arrive, or you can save a few dollars and purchase Aurora Suite without the CD and Manual.

Tip: Your Aurora Reseller can use Buy Now to instantly purchase and receive a fully activated serial number for Aurora Suite, you don't have to wait for order processing or your software to arrive in the mail.

Demonstration
If you are new to Aurora Suite, choose Demonstration to give Aurora Suite a try for yourself.

Exit Aurora Suite
You can choose Exit Aurora Suite to return to Windows and end Aurora Suite.

2.3. Enter Serial Number

Once you have received your Aurora Suite serial number you need to enter it in order to activate Aurora Suite for full operation. Serial numbers for Aurora Suite are 12 digits, like 0000-0000-0000. The simplified serial numbers in Aurora Suite are much easier to enter than our previous products.

Aurora Activation sends your serial number along with a special Hardware Code unique to your computer to Aurora Systems servers which provide an Activation Code which enables the software for full operation. You can learn more about activation from our online Activation FAQ.

Please Note: your Aurora Suite serial number is your key to access the software and services you have purchased from Aurora Systems. Aurora Systems is a small company and we rely on the support of customers like you to continue in our mission to produce affordable, effective solutions for people with special needs. Please do not share your serial number with others and be sure to protect it like your Social Security Number (SSN), Social Insurance Number (SIN) or other confidential personal information.

Enter the serial number you have been provided. If you have purchased Aurora Suite through its Buy Now feature, this should be filled in automatically for you.

Select Users for this Serial Number
Most users will select **Use this serial number for all users** so that any subsequent Windows users added to the system will be able to use this serial number.

**Tip:** Network administrators should select to use the serial number for all users so that Aurora Suite will work for roaming users.

If only a single Windows user will be using the software, or if different users are using unique installations of Aurora Suite, choose **Use this serial number only for the current user.**

### Automatic Activation

If your computer is connected to the internet, press Automatic to connect to Aurora Systems servers and activate your software automatically.

If the Activation process is successful, you will be provided with an Activation Code as shown above. If you prefer, you can use this code in the future to activate manually provided your computer has not changed.

### Manual Activation

If you do not have access to the internet on the computer you are installing Aurora Suite onto, you can also activate the software for full operation manually. Choose Manual to start manual activation and to view detailed instructions on Manual Activation.

### Your Privacy

Aurora Systems respects your privacy. We have a corporate privacy policy that explains what information we collect and what we use it for. If you are connected to the internet, you can click on Your Privacy to view our [privacy policy](#).

### 2.4. Register for Support

Registration of your Aurora Systems product provides access to features for registered users such as technical support, fixes and updates, new product notifications and more.
Registration is entirely optional, however to gain access to support resources such as software updates, you need to enter a Technical Support Access Information Password.

We hope you will complete the other fields so we can use it to provide better services.

**Automatic Registration**

![Automatic Registration Form](image)

Complete the registration form, then if you are connected to the internet, press Next to send your information to Aurora Systems servers. After a few moments, the results of your registration will display.

![Registration Result](image)

**Manual Registration**

You can also register your software online at [www.aurora-systems.com](http://www.aurora-systems.com).

**Your Privacy**
2.5. Voice Choice

When you first start Aurora Suite, if you want spoken feedback or if you are using Aurora to communicate verbally with other people, you will need to select a speech synthesizer. If you have never used Aurora Suite before, it will prompt you the first time you start it to select a speech synthesizer.

You can get back to the Voice Options dialog through the menu bar or right-click menu of any Aurora Suite window.

Voice Options

The Voice Options dialog will list all the speech synthesizers that are installed on your computer. Select one of the voice drivers from the list, you can press Try It to hear the selected synthesizer speak. You can try the different voice drivers until you find one you like.

Windows 2000 does not come with any speech synthesizers by default. Windows XP comes with one Microsoft voice. Additional Microsoft speech synthesizers should be installed during the Aurora Suite installation.

Tip: If you do not have any Microsoft Speech API version 5 (SAPI) drivers, your only option will be SAPI 4 Drivers. SAPI 5 speech synthesizers have proven to be much less prone to reliability problems.

Visual Highlighting

If you would like visual highlighting when Aurora Suite is speaking, you should check the box next to Highlight Feedback in the Visual Highlighting box. This will make the Visual Highlighting window appear on your desktop.
Pronunciation

⚠️ If you find that certain words are mispronounced by your speech synthesizer, you can correct the pronunciation of words in the Aurora Voice Options dialog with Edit Exception File.

More Information...

To learn more about Voice, see What is Voice.

2.6. Prediction

Prediction appears as a window full of words on your desktop. By default, the Prediction window will stay on top of any application that you want Prediction to help you with. When you go to an application that you don't want help with, Prediction will display a ZZZZZZZZZ message and disappear behind any windows you put in front of it.

![Prediction Window](image)

The first time you start Aurora Suite, it will prompt you to select a dictionary to use for the Prediction window. There are several dictionaries that ship with Aurora Suite, these are:

- **CORE.DCT** - a core vocabulary of 1900 of the most common words in English.
- **SPELL.DCT** - a dictionary of words optimized for users who just need the spellchecker.
- **PREDICT.DCT** - a dictionary of 125,000 words, trained extensively to offer the best word prediction experience for all users, right out of the box.
- **MONSTER.DCT** - a dictionary of over 625,000 words trained for word prediction.

Aurora Suite also ships with a number of language specific dictionary files you can choose from.

Getting Started

Aurora Prediction is easy to get started with, just start typing in your Word processor or other Windows application. In a moment, either the application is one that Aurora Suite is preprogrammed to work with and word prediction will start working, or it is one Aurora Suite is not familiar with and it will prompt you to see if you want word prediction to help you with this application.

The Prediction Window

The Prediction window lists words it thinks you might be typing or might want to type. To the left of the first nine words is a number. You can type that number to have Aurora Prediction type that word into the program you are working with for you.
Words in the window display in different colors to cue you to special features of those words. Green words are homonyms, blue words are words that are spelled differently, but sound like what you have typed.

Macros also appear in the Prediction window. Text macros display the macro code, a red arrow, and the abbreviation expansion. Speech macros display the macro code, a red S, and the message to be spoken.

**Getting into Aurora Prediction's Settings Dialogs**

You can get to the Prediction program's setup dialogs from the Prediction window System menu (the square box at the top left corner of the Prediction window,) or by right clicking anywhere on the Prediction window and choosing Prediction Options.

You may want to look through the Prediction Options dialog before starting. There are easy setup buttons on the first tab page of options that will get most people started quickly.

**More Information...**

To learn more about Prediction, see [What is Prediction](#).

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### 2.7. Echo

Echo appears as a toolbar at the top of your Windows desktop. Echo offers a number of reading tools, you can read the name of each tool by placing the mouse over the toolbar buttons until the tooltip for that button appears.

![Echo Toolbar Buttons](image)

Echo is easy to get started with, just go to any program you like and start writing. Echo will start talking as you type providing spoken feedback so you can hear if you make any mistakes.

**Tip:** If you didn't select a speech synthesizer during installation or you don't hear any speech, you will need to select a synthesizer in the Aurora Voice Options dialog. You can get to that dialog by clicking the Voice Options icon. You can also get to Voice Options by right clicking anywhere on the Echo toolbar.

**Choosing Things to have Echoed**

Generally having fewer things echoed in Echo Options is best, especially with faster typists, as the more it has to say, the longer it takes, and the more it can get behind. We recommend having Words, Punctuation and Sentences on to start. You may also need to use the Every N Words option if you don't use punctuation. You can add other options as you use the program.

**Stopping Speech**

You can stop speech output at any time by pushing the button with the lips with the red stop circle over it.

**Run-on Sentence Warning**

Aurora Echo can warn writers when they construct a run-on sentence that has too many commas or words. It is not fooled if the person constructs a list of items following a colon.
For information on setting up the Run-on Sentence Warning, see Echo Options.

Punctuation Monitoring

Aurora Echo can also warn writers if they construct a sentence that looks like a question that doesn't end in a question mark.

Choosing Toolbar Tools

Generally we recommend you choose the tools you think you need. You will probably not need the Echo Clipboard, Echo Options, Voice Options, Help!, About Aurora Echo and Close Aurora Echo tools once you have Echo working the way you like. Most of these tools are still available on the Echo Menu if needed.

Changing Echo's Looks

You can also select larger icons if the default icons are too small. If you prefer, the toolbar can be vertical rather than horizontal.

More Information...

To learn more about Echo, see What is Echo.

2.8. Talk

Talk appears as a window at the bottom of your desktop. The top part of the window features a summary of the defined function keys. Function keys can be programmed either to do actions within the program such as Help or Muting the voice, or as phrases to be spoken. There are a number of actions you can program.

The lower portion of the window allows you to type in phrases which can then be spoken any time you like. Phrases can be repeated any time, just by using the arrows to navigate to the phrase and pressing Enter to speak it.

Function Key Phrases

You will want to add your own function key phrases for things like your address, telephone number, favourite expressions etc. You can do this in the Talk Options dialog in the box marked Function Key Phrases, just click on one of the buttons to add new phrases or edit existing ones. If you don't like having
part of your screen used to display the function keys, you can get rid of this display in the Talk Options dialog by turning off Show Function Keys Help.

Repeating Phrases
You can repeat any phrase you have typed by placing the caret (the vertical bar) anywhere on the phrase and pressing enter.

Saying Part of a Phrases
If you only want to say part of a phrase you can do that by highlighting the part of the phrase you want to read with the mouse (or by holding the shift key and using the arrows on the keyboard.) If anything is marked, pressing Enter will read it.

Deleting old Phrases
You can delete a phrase by putting the caret at the start of a phrase and holding the Del key until it is entirely deleted, or you can use the mouse or keyboard to mark what you want to delete and then press the Del key once.

Conversations
You might want to organize your phrases into topics called Conversations to make them easier to manage. You can have one for home, one for at school, one for with friends, and so on. Aurora Talk allows you to switch between conversations quickly and easily with F11 and F12. Find out more by reading about conversations.

Speech Problems?
If you didn't select a speech synthesizer during startup or you get an error message when you try to speak, you will need to select a synthesizer in the Voice Options dialog. You can get to that dialog by choosing Options from the Talk menus, then Voice Options... You can also get to Voice Options by right clicking anywhere on the Talk window.

Pronunciation
If you find that certain words are mispronounced by your speech synthesizer, you can correct the pronunciation of words in the Aurora Voice Options dialog with Edit Exception File.

More Information...
To learn more about Talk, see What is Talk.

2.9. Public Speaking

Public speaking is challenging for some, and a necessity for others. Recognizing this need, Aurora Suite offers a number of tools for public speaking which should give you the comfort and assurance you need when you get up in front of a crowd.

Using Aurora Talk
Aurora Talk allows you to do public speaking from a prepared speech and interact with your audience quickly and easily.

**Prepared Speeches**
If you have a speech prepared in your word processor, you can put it into Talk quickly and easily by copying the speech to the clipboard, and then pasting it into Aurora Talk with Edit|Paste. (It is best if you do this with a new conversation that you have created with Conversations|New.) This will put your speech into the current conversation and split it into sentences so that you can easily control the flow of your presentation by repeatedly pressing Enter each time you wish to speak the next sentence.

**Tip:** Before you do the paste, you might want to change the History Lines setting in Talk Options to 512 to make sure that a long presentation doesn't run off the top of the conversation.

**Handling Questions**
If you receive questions from the audience, you can answer quick yes and no questions with preprogrammed phrases in the function keys. If a question requires a longer answer, switch to a different conversation (again, created with Conversations|New) by using Next! (F12) or Previous! (F11) and write out your longer response with the help of Aurora Word Prediction. When you are done answering, again use Next! and Previous! to return to your presentation.

**Using Aurora Echo**
Although Aurora Talk is a better solution for public speaking, Aurora Echo will also allow you to do public speaking from a prepared speech.

**Prepared Speeches**
If you have a speech prepared in your word processor, you can mark sections of it to be spoken and use the Read Marked Block button to read it.

**Handling Questions**
If you receive questions from the audience, you can answer quick yes and no questions by typing them into another document in your word processor and using Echo to read back what you are typing.

**Using Aurora Prediction**
Aurora Prediction also offers abbreviation expansions which provide speech output. You can preprogram your presentation, then use the abbreviation expansions and word prediction to give it.

**Pronunciation**
We strongly recommend going through your presentation ahead of time to make sure that your speech synthesizer pronounces everything correctly. If there are problems, you can correct them in the Aurora Voice Options dialog with Edit Exception File.
Chapter 3: Demos

3.1. Demos

We recommend anyone thinking about purchasing Aurora Suite give it a try before they buy. Aurora Suite offers two types of Demo so you can choose the one that best suits your needs.

All-Day Demo

The All-Day Demo allows most functions of Aurora Suite to operate for up to 24 hours or until you quit Aurora Suite. You can continue to request the All-Day Demo for up to 30 days from the first time you request one. Click on More Information About All-Day Demo for detailed information.

Note: The All-Day Demo requires an internet connection so that Aurora Suite can contact Aurora Systems servers to verify eligibility for the All-Day demo.

Standard 20 Minute Demo

The Standard 20 Minute Demo offers limited functionality and a per-run time limit of 20 minutes. You can use the 20 minute demo even if you don’t have an internet connection.

Back

Back returns you to the Welcome screen.

Your Privacy

Aurora Systems respects your privacy. We have a corporate privacy policy that explains what information we collect and what we use it for. If you are connected to the internet, you can click on Your Privacy to view our privacy policy.

3.2. Demo Level
Aurora Suite offers three levels of functionality so that the user can choose features appropriate for their needs at the best price.

- **Value Edition** - basic support for learning disabilities.
- **Standard Edition** - enhanced support for learning disabilities and basic support for augmentative communication.
- **Professional Edition** - the most effective assistance for both learning and augmentative communication.

Once you select a demo, you will be prompted to select the level of functionality for the demo software.

**Tip:** Resellers note that your sample software will prompt you for the demo level just as if it was a demo.

Click any of the three buttons to choose the demo level you want.

**Don't Ask Again**

Check Don't Ask Again and the next time you choose a demo, it won't ask you this question.
Chapter 4: Prediction

4.1. What is Prediction

Aurora Prediction is designed to help two groups of people, people with Learning Disabilities and Dyslexia, and people needing Augmentative Communication.

Aurora Suite's Prediction system is designed to speed typing input and improve spelling and grammar in programs for the Microsoft Windows operating environment.

**Word Guessing**

Aurora Prediction attempts to guess what word you are typing as you type it. If you press H for example, you will see a list of words that start with the letter H in the window like: he, his, had, her, have, him etc. Pressing E will then cause Prediction to offer you a list of words starting with HE. Pressing L will give a list of words that start with HEL. If you were typing "helpless" and you saw it appear in the prediction window, you could then either type the number next to it in the prediction window or click on it with the mouse to have Prediction complete the word for you. So for four keystrokes "HEL4" you get nine keystrokes output, eight for "helpless" plus a trailing space. You've doubled your typing speed.

**Grammatical rules and Phonetic Spelling** are used to help increase the chance that the word you are typing will appear in the prediction window.

**Word Prediction**

To improve keystroke savings even more, Aurora Prediction attempts to predict what word will follow the word you have just typed, so after the "helped" example above, you would see words that have been seen to follow "helped" before, the most likely one being "the". In this case, you type 1 to select "the" for a savings of 3 keystrokes. Much better than you can get with guessing alone.

**Multiple-Word Prediction**

Once you have typed "helped the" a few times using the technique above, you may notice that the phrase "helped the" appears in the prediction window after you have typed "hel". You can then pick the phrase for a savings of 8 keystrokes. Three better than you can get with the word guessing/prediction combination.

As you use Multiple-Word Prediction you can build even longer phrases like "Hello there how are you" for savings of 20 characters or more, plus you don't need to preprogram macros and remember all those codes.
It Learns Your Writing Style
As you use Aurora Prediction, it learns your personal writing style, so the more you use it, the more effective word guessing, prediction and multiple-word prediction will get.

AutoPunctuation
After you press a punctuation character (period, exclamation, question, semicolon, comma) Aurora Prediction automatically inserts the appropriate number of spaces after that punctuation character.

Tip: If you don't need the spaces, you should go back with the left arrow key rather than the backspace because backspace will delete both the space and the punctuation character.

AutoCapitalization
After a terminating punctuation character (period, exclamation, question), Aurora Prediction will automatically set the shift key so that the first character of the next sentence or paragraph will automatically be capitalized.

Tip: If you don't want that character to be capitalized, you should type it, then go back with the left arrow key and type over top of it with the desired lower case letter.

AutoSpacing
You may have noticed that after words and punctuation that Aurora Prediction automatically puts the appropriate number of spaces after the word or punctuation character for you. This is called AutoSpacing.

Tip: If you don't need the spaces, you should go back with the left arrow key rather than the backspace because backspace will delete both the space and the punctuation character.

AutoBackspace
In Aurora Prediction, the backspace key is more of an undo key than a simple backspace. It remembers the last twenty keystrokes and can undo any changes that Aurora Prediction has made to the typed results in your application.

Tip: Pressing any arrow key, delete, PgUp or PgDn will cause AutoBackspace to forget its backspacing information, returning it to regular backspace operation.

Macros
Aurora Prediction also supports preprogrammed text and speech macros that can be used for Logical Letter Coding schemes and are automatically expanded when you hit the expand character. This character defaults to a space, but can easily be changed to any other character using the ExpandCharacter= setting in the AURORA.SET.

There are two types of macros, text and speech. Text macros are typed into the application you typed the macro code into. Speech macros are spoken. After a macro is autoexpanded, the macro code is erased out of the window where you typed it. Text macros are automatically followed by a space. Text macros can be unexpanded by pressing the backspace key, backspacing after a speech macro will return the macro code to the screen.

Word Endings and Suffixes
This is one thing that Aurora Prediction doesn't do since this feature was originally designed to compensate for limited dictionary capacity. With Aurora Prediction's million word capacity dictionary, it can easily contain all variations of words (park, Parker, parking, parked, parks, park's etc.) without the added cognitive difficulty of managing suffixes.

And More...
We recommend you read through the following sections to find more about Aurora Prediction.

### 4.2. For Learning Disabilities

**Talking Spellchecker**
Aurora Prediction helps improve writing with a talking spellchecker that can work as you type to mark or correct words, or help you correct your entire text after you are finished. Advanced phonetic and rule based spell matching make sure the spellchecker makes the right suggestions.

**Error Logging**
You can log your spelling errors for later analysis. You can even convert your spelling errors into automatic spelling corrections automatically using the Log Spelling Errors feature.

**Knowledge of Common Dyslexic Errors**
Aurora's talking spellchecker applies knowledge of common dyslexic errors such as confusing b/d/p/q to find the word the writer meant more often than conventional spelling assistance tools.

**Automatic Spelling Correction**
Automatic correction of commonly misspelled words fixes common mistakes without help from the writer. You can even convert your spelling errors into automatic corrections automatically using the Log Spelling Errors feature.

**Homonym and Homophone Selection**
Visual and audio cues, definitions and examples help the writer choose between homonyms and homophones.

**Definitions, Thesaurus and Usage Examples**
Some words include definitions and usage examples, and you can add as many as you like to help you with word selection. You can also enter thesaurus words for vocabulary variety. You can find out more of what it does in the What Does it Do? section and Spelling Aids section.

### 4.3. For Communication

Aurora Prediction helps speed typing input or allows you to type longer without tiring by attempting to guess what you are typing and allowing you to complete a word or phrase by pressing the number next to the word or phrase in the prediction window or by clicking on it with the mouse. You can improve your results with Aurora Prediction by using the strategies discussed in Strategies for using Prediction.
Effective Word Prediction

Aurora Prediction contains one of the most effective next word prediction and word completion algorithms ever developed. That means you can type faster or longer than you could with help from other word prediction programs.

Multiple-Word Prediction

Once you have typed "my name is" a few times, you may notice that the phrase "my name is" appears in the prediction window after you have typed "my". You can then pick the phrase for a savings of 8 keystrokes. This also will learn people's names and other handy phrases as you use them. You can also program your own phrases if having prediction learn them isn't fast enough. Multiple word phrases have the added benefit that you don't have to remember macro codes any more.

It Learns Your Writing Style

As you use Aurora Prediction, it learns your personal writing style, so the more you use it, the more effective word guessing, prediction and multiple-word prediction will get. To make sure that it is effective right out of the box, we have trained our dictionaries on several master works of the English language.

AutoPunctuation, AutoCapitalization and AutoSpacing

Aurora Prediction saves you keystrokes by putting the right number of spaces after punctuation, putting a space after a word you choose from the prediction window, and automatically capitalizing the first word of a new sentence for you.

Macros

Aurora Prediction also supports preprogrammed text, speech and WAV (sound effect) macros that can be used for Logical Letter Coding schemes and are automatically expanded when you hit the space bar. There are three types of macros: text, speech, and WAV file. Text macros are typed into the application you typed the macro code into. Speech macros are spoken. WAV macros play the WAV file you name.

Grammatical Rules

Grammatical Rules can be used to make sure that Aurora Prediction doesn't make grammatically incorrect suggestions. Since English is such a complicated language and is impossible to completely define with a limited set of rules, we recommend Grammatical Rules be left off as our statistical algorithms have been shown to be less subject to error in informal testing.

Talking Spellchecker

Aurora Prediction helps improve writing with a talking spellchecker that can work as you type to mark or correct words, or help you correct your entire text after you are finished. Advanced phonetic and rule based spell matching make sure the spellchecker makes the right suggestions.

Error Logging

You can log your spelling errors for later analysis. You can even convert your spelling errors into automatic spelling corrections automatically using the Log Spelling Errors feature.

Automatic Spelling Correction
4.4. Adult Content

**Warning:** There may be words contained in Aurora for Windows' dictionary files that some users find offensive. Rather than censoring our dictionary files, we have made a best effort to hide these words from our younger or more sensitive users with our Show Adult Words feature. Unfortunately, what is considered "offensive" varies widely over individuals and we may simply have missed some "adult" words. If you find words you find offensive in our dictionaries that are not marked as "adult," we sincerely apologize, and please be sure to let us know so we can make sure they are marked as adult content in future releases.

Aurora Prediction's Show Adult Words feature is designed to make the use of Aurora Prediction easier for parents of younger users, or in a school setting. Aurora Prediction's vocabulary contains many words that are generally considered "adult." Rather than censoring these words, Aurora Systems has made a best effort to mark any "adult" words so that they will not be shown to users unless specifically enabled by checking the Show Adult Words checkbox in the Dictionary tab of the Prediction Options dialog, and so that they can be easily removed from the dictionary using Dictionary Optimization.

If the Show Adult Words checkbox on the Dictionary tab of the Prediction Options dialog is not checked, words marked as "adult" content will not show up in the prediction window, and will show as asterisks (*****) in the dictionary editor. You also will not be able to edit "adult" content words in the dictionary editor.

**If You Find Adult Words We Have Missed**

If you find words that you consider "adult" that we have not already marked, you can mark them yourself by editing the words in the Dictionary Editor and checking the word's "Adult Vocabulary Word” checkbox. We would be interested in hearing about any words we have missed.

**Removing Adult Content Words from the Dictionary**

You can remove all words marked as "adult" content from the dictionary by choosing Optimize Dictionary... from the Aurora Prediction menu, checking the Delete Words Marked as Adult Content checkbox, then clicking on the Start button at the bottom of the Optimize Dictionary dialog. This may take a few hours. Please see Optimizing a Dictionary before starting. Note that this must be done for each dictionary file individually, it cannot be done for all dictionaries all at once.

**Displaying Adult Content Words**

If you wish to have full access to words that are "adult" content, check the Show Adult Words checkbox in the Dictionary tab of the Prediction Options dialog.
4.5. Spelling Aids

Aurora Suite contains several features designed to help poor spellers, each of these is discussed briefly below.

**Unlimited Dictionary Size**

Since the dictionary size is practically unlimited (roughly 1 Million words), nearly any word you might want to spell (roughly 125,000 words including more than 20,000 names and places in the prediction dictionary) will already be in the dictionaries.

**Spelling Autocorrection**

The standard dictionaries shipped with Aurora Suite contain a number of Spelling Autocorrection text macros. These macros make Prediction correct commonly misspelled words automatically as you type, like "recvie" to "receive". You can even automatically convert your spelling errors into automatic spelling corrections, find out more under the Log Spelling Errors feature.

**Talking Spellchecker**

Aurora Prediction helps improve writing with a talking spellchecker that can work as you type to mark or correct words, or help you correct your entire text after you are finished. Advanced phonetic and rule based spell matching make sure the spellchecker makes the right suggestions.

**Error Logging**

You can log your spelling errors for later analysis. You can even convert your spelling errors into automatic spelling corrections automatically using the Log Spelling Errors feature.

**Knowledge of Common Dyslexic Errors**

Aurora's talking spellchecker applies knowledge of common dyslexic errors such as confusing b/d/p/q to find the word the writer meant more often than conventional spelling assistance tools.

**Phonetic Spelling**

Prediction has the ability to guess words that sound like a word you are spelling if the word you are typing is not in the dictionary. Typically this helps if you are spelling a word incorrectly by offering you the correct spelling in the prediction window once you have typed most of the word. See Prediction Options for more information. These phonetically similar words appear as blue words in the Prediction window.

**Spell Check as you Type**
Aurora Prediction can check the words you type to see that they are in its dictionary and spelled correctly, and if not, ask you to correct the spelling or add the word to the dictionary as you go. Unlike the spelling checkers in commercial word processors, it can read the selections to you to help choose the correct word. See Prediction Options for more information.

Spell Check Clipboard

Aurora Prediction can spell check any text that you copy to the clipboard so that you can mark a passage in your document, copy it to the clipboard, spell check it, then paste it back into your document to make the corrections permanent. See Prediction Options for more information.

Extra Words

Aurora Prediction allows the user to display up to 6 extra words at the bottom of the Prediction window that can only be selected by clicking on them with the mouse. These words can help if a poor speller can get the first two or three letters of a long word by allowing them to see the word earlier than if only the top 6 or 9 words were shown.

You can get more information in the section Spell as you Type.

4.6. Spell Check While you Type

![Aurora Spellcheck](image)

The Aurora Spellcheck dialog appears if you type a word that is not in the current dictionary file. The dialog shows you the word and a number of suggestions and allows you to make any desired changes.

**Note:** If the Aurora Spellcheck dialog is onscreen in one application, Aurora Spellcheck is disabled in all other applications until the dialog is closed. So if you get a spelling error in one application, take care of correcting it before you go to a different application.

**Tip:** When the spelling dialog opens, the word in the dictionary that is most likely the word you meant will be entered here. If it is the correct word, just hit Enter and it will go into your document.

The top line of the dialog box contains the context of the word you are correcting. For spell checking as you type, this will just be the misspelled word. For spell checking the clipboard, this will be the part of the sentence after the misspelled word.

Below the context is a text entry box that is where you can enter a correction for the misspelled word.
Below the text entry box, the left side contains a list of suggestions for what the correct word might be. You may double-click on any of the words in this list to move them into the correction text entry box. To see more words, click on the scroll bar to the right of that window (if present.) The words in this list are ordered with the most likely word at the top of the list.

**More Suggestions**
If the word you are looking for is not in the suggestion list and you have the spell checker set to not give you every possible suggestion right at the start, the More Suggestions button will cause the spellchecker to look further for the correct word. This button will go gray when it has no more suggestions to make.

**Replace**
The Replace button will put the text in the correction text entry box into the document you are working on, or into the clipboard. The word in the correction text entry box will be added to the Aurora Prediction dictionary.

**Was Spelled Right**
The Was Spelled Right button will make Aurora Prediction assume the word you typed is correct and add it to the dictionary.

**Autocorrect**
The Autocorrect button will put the text in the correction text entry box into the document you are working on, or into the clipboard. The word in the correction text entry box will be added to the Aurora Prediction dictionary as an autocorrection so you never have to correct this mistake again.

**Say**
The Say button will make Aurora Prediction speak the word in the correction text entry box. If you click the Say button a second time, it will spell the word for you. You can click on any of the words in the suggestion list to have them read to you.

**Mark**
The Mark button will make Aurora Prediction surround the misspelled word with curly brackets {} in the document you are working on, or in the clipboard. The word will not be added to the Aurora Prediction dictionary.

**Ignore**
The Ignore button will make Aurora Prediction ignore the word in the correction text entry box, and will not add it to the dictionary. This is useful if the word is an unusual or made up one and you just want to get back to your work without making any changes or adding the word to the dictionary.

**Alarm Sound**
If the Alarm Sound checkbox is checked, Aurora Prediction will make a sound when the Aurora Spellcheck dialog appears.

You can find out more in the section [Spelling Aids](#).
4.7. Read Prediction Window

Reading All the Words in the Window

Aurora Prediction can read the prediction window to you if you press the ` key (above the tab on 101 key keyboards, it also has the ~ character on it) and have a speech synthesizer attached and configured correctly. You can set up your speech synthesizer in the Voice Options dialog.

Reading Single Words

You can also read single words by placing the mouse cursor over them with the Read the Word Under the Mouse Cursor checkbox on the Window tab of the Prediction Options dialog.

Stopping Speech

If you decide you don't need to hear any more while Prediction is speaking, select Stop Speaking from the Prediction menu or right-click menu.

Pronunciation

If you find that certain words are mispronounced by your speech synthesizer, you can correct the pronunciation of words in the Voice Options dialog with Edit Exception File.

4.8. Prediction Strategies

Aurora Suite's Prediction system can be used most effectively if you use a few simple strategies which take best advantage of its features.

Remember your Phrases

Aurora Prediction's multiple word prediction feature is designed to maximize the speed of typing input. The way it does that is by offering you longer phrases for selection in the prediction window. In time, the phrases you use often will start to be offered earlier, but until that time, you can often get a phrase you know Prediction has learned by typing one or two more characters of the first word of the phrase after that word appears alone in the prediction window. If you type the whole first word and still don't see the phrase you want, don't worry, the phrase you are looking for probably just hasn't been typed as many times as the other options in the prediction window so it doesn't show up.

Building Longer Phrases

If you don't use two-word phrases, Prediction will never learn longer ones. If "I want" has been learned, you need to select it and "to" to build the phrase "I want to".

Getting Words Spelled Right

With the larger dictionaries, nearly any word you might want to spell should already be in the dictionary. If you do not see the word you are spelling, you may be making a spelling mistake. If you think that might be the case, spell the word out the way you think it is spelled, and if Phonetic Spelling doesn't offer the word you are typing before you press the space at the end of the word and you don't have Spell Check as you Type on, stop! Don't press that space. You might want to check that you have spelled the word correctly before you press the space and Prediction learns the new word.
If you have Spell Check as you Type on, you will not have this problem.

4.9. Typing Numbers

Prediction allows you to disable prediction temporarily for any window by typing 0 (zero). To turn prediction back on, type ;0 (semicolon, zero). This feature is particularly useful when you want to type numbers where those numbers would usually select words from the prediction box. Note that if you switch to another window, that prediction will come back on for that window, then turn off again when you switch back. This feature only turns prediction on and off for a single window.

4.10. Prediction Performance

Several options can greatly improve the performance of the Prediction program. These options and their associated tradeoffs are discussed briefly below.

**Dictionary Optimization** is recommended if you find that your dictionary is slow during prediction, or when you are editing, and you have been using the same dictionary for a long period. Over time as new words are added to a dictionary, it is possible for the dictionary to become fragmented so that it can no longer make optimal use of the available cache memory.

**Increasing Cache Memory** is recommended if you find your dictionary performance slow even after dictionary optimization. Note that increasing cache memory may affect the performance of other applications. If you increase the amount of cache memory over the size the dictionary is optimized for, we recommend you optimize the dictionary for the new cache size.

**Use an Uncompressed Dictionary.** Compressed dictionaries are slower than uncompressed dictionaries, this can make a significant difference to the performance of Aurora Prediction on slower computers without enough memory to cache the entire dictionary. Note that uncompressed dictionaries use roughly double the amount of disk space than their compressed equivalents. The standard dictionaries shipped with Prediction are not compressed.

**Set the Learning Options to Don't Learn** so that new words are no longer added and words' priorities no longer change. Much of the time taken after selecting a word from the prediction window is used up adjusting words' priorities.
Set the Show Phonetically Similar Words option on the Dictionary tab Off so that Aurora Prediction doesn't have to search for phonetically similar words. Much of the time taken when typing is spent searching for phonetically similar words.

If you are not using too large a dictionary, Cache the Entire Dictionary. This will put the entire dictionary file in memory for maximum performance.

Use a smaller dictionary. Several dictionaries are provided with Prediction, smaller ones require less cache memory and will generally perform better than larger ones.

Tip: We do not recommend using smaller dictionaries if you are using the spell checking features.

4.11. Prediction Options

The Prediction Options dialog allows you to set up Aurora Prediction for your needs. When you are in the options dialog you can move to the next tab by pressing F12, or the previous tab by pressing F11, or click on the tab to go directly to that page.

You can get to the prediction options dialog by right clicking on the Prediction window and choosing Prediction Options from the menu or by opening the System menu for Aurora Prediction and choosing Prediction Options.

Choose the tab you need help with below for detailed feature descriptions:

- Easy Setup
- Dictionary
- Spelling
- Window
- More (Window)
- Learning

Click on OK to accept changes, or click Cancel to abort changes.
4.12. Easy Setup

To quickly set Prediction for the best options for you, you can use the Easy Setup buttons. If these preset configurations do not suit your needs, you may modify the options on the other tabs in the Prediction Options dialog box as you choose.

**Best Settings For Spellchecking**

This button optimizes Aurora Prediction's settings for a person who is using it for spellchecking while you type only. With this choice, you will usually minimize Aurora Prediction to run in the background. This enables all features of the talking spellchecker and optimizes Prediction to operate most quickly. You may make Aurora Prediction even faster by increasing the Dictionary Cache on the Dictionary tab. You may wish to log your spelling errors for later analysis. You can then convert your spelling errors into automatic spelling corrections automatically using the Log Spelling Errors feature.

**Best Settings For Word Prediction**

This button optimizes Aurora Prediction's settings for a person who is going to use Aurora Prediction for word prediction and typing speed enhancement, but who is a good speller. If you misspell a word, it will be added to the dictionary unless you check the Spell Check as you Type checkbox on the Spelling tab or the Just Learn my Writing Style radio button on the Learning tab.

**Best Settings For Word Prediction with Spellchecking**

This button optimizes Aurora Prediction's settings for a person who is going to use Aurora Prediction for word prediction but who needs spelling assistance. This option enables the Show Phonetically Similar Words option on the Dictionary tab which may make prediction performance much slower. You may wish to log your spelling errors for later analysis. You can then convert your spelling errors into automatic spelling corrections automatically using the Log Spelling Errors feature.

4.13. Dictionary
## Show Phrases

Aurora Prediction has the unique ability to learn the phrases that you use to greatly speed up input and reduce the need for preprogrammed macros. So if you type "Fred Jones" several times, eventually it will learn to offer you "Fred Jones" as a single choice in the word prediction window. If you do not wish to have multiple word phrases offered in the prediction window, uncheck this option. Changing this option does not take effect until the next time you open a dictionary.

## Show Adult Words

Check this checkbox if you wish to have words that are marked as "adult" content presented in the Prediction window and the Dictionary Editor. Please see [Adult Content](#) for more information before checking this checkbox.

## Show Phonetically Similar Words

Prediction has the ability to offer you words that sound like a word you are spelling if the word you are spelling is not in the dictionary. Typically this helps if you are spelling a word incorrectly. If the [Use Color to Indicate Word Type](#) checkbox is checked on the Window tab, these words will be drawn in the Prediction window in blue. Uncheck this if you do not wish to be offered similar sounding words in the prediction window. Changing this option does not take effect until the next time you open a dictionary.

**Tip:** Aurora Prediction will be much faster when typing if this option is turned off. A larger Dictionary Cache setting can mitigate this slowdown.

## Don't Show Grammatically Incorrect Words

Prediction has the ability to apply grammatical rules to reduce the number of inappropriate words it offers in the prediction window. Uncheck this if you do not wish to have grammar rules applied to the prediction window. Changing this option does not take effect until the next time you open a dictionary.

**Note:** This feature only works for English dictionaries.

**Tip:** In languages as complicated as English, it is very difficult to cover all cases with a finite set of grammatical rules. Aurora Prediction's prediction and guessing algorithms are very effective at presenting the correct words, you will generally receive best results if this feature is turned off.

## Recent Words Priority Boost

If Recent Words Priority Boost is checked, new words added to the dictionary recently will be given an additional priority boost and presented sooner than they might otherwise by the word prediction. Since
new words are often used repeatedly, such as when writing a school report, this should save additional keystrokes by presenting such words earlier.

**Predict Next Words**

Some users have difficulty with next word prediction, but still need word completion. This option allows you to turn next word prediction off.

**Activate Prediction Automatically**

If this checkbox is checked, Aurora Prediction will ask you if you wish to have Aurora Prediction help you with your typing in a new application when you type a word followed by a space in that application. If you answer Yes, Prediction will start helping in that application. If you answer No, Prediction will not help in that window unless you use the manual [Activate Window](#) feature.

**Do Automatic Spacing After Punctuation**

Aurora Prediction automatically adds spaces after punctuation characters like ..?!. Uncheck this checkbox to turn off the automatic spacing for punctuation.

**Dictionary Cache**

In general, the cache size of a dictionary should be about 25% of its uncompressed size. So if you have a 2 megabyte compressed .DCT dictionary file (the standard dictionaries shipped with Aurora are not compressed,) you should use 1024K(1M) of cache (2 megabyte dictionary file, double the size because it is compressed, and divide by 4). For a 2 megabyte uncompressed dictionary, you should select at least a 512K cache.

The Professional Edition supports a cache of up to 31744K, the Value and Standard Editions support a cache up to 8192K.

**Tip:** For systems with 64M of RAM or more we recommend a cache of at least 4096K. If you have 256M or more of RAM, we recommend setting the dictionary cache to its maximum. You may also want to see [Optimizing the Dictionary](#) for more information.

You can find out how your cache is performing in [Dictionary Info](#) from the Dictionary Editor.

**Tip:** You are not penalized if you choose a cache larger than the dictionary you are using needs. In that case Prediction will cache the entire dictionary and the balance of the cache will remain free for use by other applications.

**Cache Entire Dictionary**

Check this option to get maximum performance from a dictionary. With this option checked, the entire dictionary will be loaded at startup. Note that this option may significantly increase the time needed to
open a dictionary and if you do not have enough memory, it can make Windows and your other applications very slow.

**Tip:** If your computer has 64M or less of RAM, we recommend you don't use this feature.

**Tip:** If your dictionary is smaller than the maximum Dictionary Cache and you set the Dictionary Cache to its maximum setting, you will get a similar performance benefit without the increased time at startup.

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### 4.14. Spelling

![Prediction Options](image)

#### Spell check Text in Clipboard

⚠️ If this checkbox is checked, any time you copy text to the clipboard, you will be offered an opportunity to **spell check** the text you copied to the clipboard. This feature can be distracting, and you may want to look at Spell Check as you type below as an alternative.

**Important:** If you make any changes, you must paste the text back into your document to make the corrections permanent in your document and you may lose any formatting you have entered. If you are going to apply formatting, we recommend you write your document first and get it all spelled correctly before formatting it.

Note: We recommend using the **SPELL.DCT** dictionary if you are using spell checking features.

#### Spell check as you type

![Aurora Spellcheck](image)

If this checkbox is checked, any time you type a word that Aurora Prediction does not recognize, a **spelling dialog** will appear in your application and allow you to correct the spelling of the word, or tell
Aurora Prediction to learn the word. This feature can be distracting, and you may want to look at Spell Check Text in Clipboard above as an alternative. You may wish to log your spelling errors for later analysis. You can then convert your spelling errors into automatic spelling corrections automatically using the Log Spelling Errors feature.

Note: We recommend using the SPELL.DCT dictionary if you are using spell checking features.

**Tip:** If you are using Aurora Prediction solely for spell checking as you type, we recommend minimizing the prediction window and unchecking Allow Selections when Minimized on the Window tab to allow normal use of the number keys and semicolon.

**Only Mark misspelled words**

If this checkbox is checked, whenever you type a word that Aurora Prediction does not recognize, it will mark the word by bracketing it with curly brackets like {word}. The word in brackets will not be added to the dictionary. If you later decide to spell check text marked with the Spell Check Text in Clipboard feature, the brackets will be automatically removed. You may wish to log your spelling errors for later analysis. You can then convert your spelling errors into automatic spelling corrections automatically using the Log Spelling Errors feature.

**Ignore Words with Numbers**

If this checkbox is checked and you type a word containing a number like "hel3lo", the word will not bring up the spelling dialog, and will not be added to the dictionary. This option is only enabled if you have checked Spell Check as you type above.

**Ignore Words with all Capitals**

If this checkbox is checked and you type a word that is all capital letters like "HELLO," the word will not bring up the spelling dialog, and will not be added to the dictionary. This option is only enabled if you have checked Spell Check as you type above.

**I confuse b/d/p/q**

If this checkbox is checked, Aurora's spellchecker will match words where you have confused b/d/p/q example if I typed "Pobe" or "Poqe" for "Pope" the spellchecker would suggest "Pope." If you don't make these types of errors, unchecking this will make the spellchecker faster.

**Suggestions**

This drop box allows you to choose the type of suggestions offered when the Spell Check as you type dialog box opens. The closer you get to Similar First Letter, the longer it will take for the Spell Check while you Type dialog to appear although it will make the alarm sound as soon as it notices a word it doesn't recognize to tell you the spelling dialog is coming.

- Corrections will only list corrections that you have made previously for the misspelled word.
- Phonetic matches will also list words that are phonetically similar to the misspelled word.
- First Two Letters will also list words that have the first two letters the same and similar spellings.
- First Letter will also list words that have only the first letter the same and similar spellings.
- Similar First Letter will also list words that have similar sounding first letters and similar spellings.
We recommend leaving this set to Phonetic Matches as this will make the Spell Check while you Type dialog appear quickest, and often the phonetic match will give you the desired word. Also, you can always click on the More Suggestions button in the Spell Check while you Type dialog box to get more suggestions if they are needed.

**Match Quality**

This drop box allows you to choose how similar the words in the dictionary must be to the misspelled word in order to be listed in the suggestions list in the Spell Check while you Type dialog box. If you choose Very Close, only words that are very similarly spelled will be listed. If you choose All, then all similarly spelled words will be listed. Your choices are: Very Close, Close, Loose, and All.

**Log Spelling Errors**

If this checkbox is checked, any time you do an action in the Aurora Spellchecker the action will be logged. The default log file is ERRORS.TXT in your Documents and Settings\%USERNAME\%My Documents\Aurora Suite 2005 directory. You can change the name of the log file with the SpellingLogFile setting in the aurora.set.

**Changing Spelling Errors into Automatic Spelling Corrections**

If you have corrected errors with the Aurora Spellchecker and have had Log Spelling Errors on, you can import those corrections using the Dictionary Editor and its Import feature to make them into automatic spelling corrections so that your specific spelling errors are corrected automatically. To convert your spelling errors into automatic corrections, do the following:

1. Open Aurora Prediction.
2. Choose Edit Dictionary from the Aurora Prediction menu.
3. Choose Import Vocabulary from the Edit Dictionary window menu.
4. Click on the Import Aurora Vocabulary File from Disk radio button.
5. Click on OK.
6. Choose ERRORS.TXT from the file selection dialog and click on OK.

Importing will then begin. When it is complete, you can close the Edit Dictionary window and your new automatic corrections will be entered.

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## 4.15. Window

![Prediction Options](image)

The page allows you to customize the display of the Prediction window and the words contained in it.

- Always bring Prediction Window to Top
- Show Semantic for Selection
- Show Numbered
- Show Focused
- Tracking when Minimized
- Allows Folded Window
- Show Word with Mouse Cursor
- Use Cursor to indicate word type
- Prediction Window Tracks the Cursor

[Ok]  [Cancel]  [Help]
Always Bring Prediction Window to Top
If this option is checked, the prediction window will always stay on top of other applications when prediction is on. When Prediction goes to sleep (displays the Zzzzzz message) it will sink to the bottom to allow the full screen display for the application which doesn't require word prediction.

Use Semicolon for Selection
If this option is checked, the semicolon key will be used to select the first word from the prediction window allowing ten words to be directly selectable from the keyboard. This keeps a fast typist on the home row more. To type a semicolon with this option checked, turn word prediction off by pressing 0 (zero) then ; then ;0 (semicolon zero) to turn prediction back on.

Show Selection Numbers
If this option is not checked, the Prediction window will not show numbers next to the words in the window. This is generally done when words are going to be picked from the prediction window exclusively by clicking with the mouse. If this option is unchecked, we recommend changing the Number/Word Separator on the More tab to nothing.

Allow Selections when Minimized
If this option is checked, the Prediction window will allow you to choose words from the prediction window using the numbers and semicolon keys even when it is minimized. Regardless of this setting, when the Prediction window is minimized, the number and semicolon keys will work as they are set with the Use Semicolon for Selection option above and with Words in Window on the More tab.

This option is primarily intended for use when Aurora Prediction is being used as a spell as you type system. See Spell Check as you Type on the Spell tab for more information.

Read the Word Under the Mouse Cursor
If this option is checked, any time you put the mouse cursor over a word in the Prediction window it will be highlighted in red (if you have Use Color to Indicate Word Type checked) and spoken. You need to have selected a speech synthesizer in Voice Options for this to work.

Use Color to Indicate Word Type
If this option is checked, words in the Prediction window will be color coded to indicate additional information about them.

Blue words sound like the word you are typing but are not spelled the same.
Green words are Homonyms.
Red words are currently being spoken.
All other words are Black.

Prediction Window Tracks the Cursor
When turned on, this causes the Prediction window to follow the Cursor (Caret) in many applications. If there is insufficient room for the Prediction window between the Caret and the edge of the screen, the Prediction window will move to an alternate position where it can fit.
Note: This feature does not work in all applications, it only works in those that use the Windows standard Caret. If it does not work in the application you want to use, check if the application has any accessibility options, as often such applications give you the choice to enable updating of Windows standard Caret.

Show Homonyms

If this option is checked, words that have homonyms information will be displayed with the additional information. If you have Use Color to Indicate Word Type checked, homonyms will appear in green. Also, any time you type a word that has homonyms information, a bell sound will occur. Homonyms usually include the word's homonyms plus an example of correct usage. For example:

their - they're, there; ex. it is their cat.

You can add your own homonym entries using the Dictionary Editor.

Show Definition

If this option is checked, definitions will be displayed for words that have them. Definitions are usually short and only list the main definition for words that mean more than one thing for example:

their - belonging to them

You can add your own definition entries or edit existing ones by using the Dictionary Editor.

Show Thesaurus

If this option is checked, thesaurus words will be displayed for words that have them. For example:

frill - addition, adornment, amenity, beading, beauties, bedizenment

You can add your own thesaurus entries using the Dictionary Editor.

Show Note

If this option is checked, notes you have entered about a word will be displayed. You can add your own notes using the Dictionary Editor.

Choose Font
Press this button to choose the font that will be used in the prediction window. The Prediction Window's text and background colors are controlled by Windows and will match what you have chosen for your other applications' windows.

4.16. More Window

Spacing

The prediction window can single, 1.5 or double space the words in it to help individuals with visual acuity problems. When the prediction box is wider than it is high or Horizontal List presentation is selected, this option allows you to adjust the horizontal spacing between words.

Words in Window

This option allows you to control the number of words that are offered in the prediction window. Although only 10 words can be picked by typing a number or semicolon (if enabled), up to 40 words can be displayed. These extra words can be picked using a mouse, or just used as a cueing system for poor spellers to tell what words are coming.

Note: The Value Edition can show 9 words, the Standard edition can show 15 words and the Professional Edition can show 40 words.

Tip: If you are using the alternate sorting features and have resized the prediction window to show fewer words than specified by Words in Window, it is important that you change the Words in Window setting to make sure you are presented the words in the proper order.
Longest Word to Show

This option allows you to limit the length of words suggested in the Aurora Prediction window. If this option is set larger than 0, words longer than that number of characters will no longer appear. Note that longer words that were in the list when you went into Prediction Options will remain in the Prediction window after you leave the Prediction Options dialog. This number must be greater than or equal to the value for Shortest Word to Show below. Set this option to 0 and Longest Word to Show above to 0 to disable this feature.

Shortest Word to Show

This option allows you to limit the length of words suggested in the Aurora Prediction window. If this option is set larger than 0, words shorter than that number of characters will no longer appear. Note that shorter words that were in the list when you went into Prediction Options will remain in the Prediction window after you leave the Prediction Options dialog. This number must be less than or equal to the value for Longest Word to Show below. Set this option to 0 and Shortest Word to Show above to 0 to disable this feature.

Number/Word Separator

This option allows you to change the character or characters that separate the numbers from the words in the prediction window. This defaults to a single right parentheses character ), but can be set to one or more other characters.

When Predicting

The prediction window can be sorted by priority, alphabetically or by length when it is predicting next words for you.

Research into the effectiveness of word prediction has shown that the traditional approach of showing the "most likely" (sorting by priority) word first in a list of words is not the best way of presenting a list of words for selection in some cases. Research has found that lists sorted by length, or alphabetically are much more efficiently searched. Since spelling words and predicting words are two different activities, we allow you to choose the sorting method for each activity individually. This allows Aurora Prediction to offer the most likely word when it is predicting the next word, and offer the quickest to scan list when you are spelling out a word and searching for it in the Prediction window word list.

Tip: We have found that when predicting next words that Sort By Priority is generally the best option.

Note: If you are not sorting by priority, it is important that if you have resized the prediction window to not show some of the offered words, you change the Words in Window setting to match the number of words actually visible in the window.

When Spelling

The prediction window can be sorted by priority, alphabetically or by length when it is spelling words for you.

Tip: We have found that when spelling words, that Sort by Length, Shortest First is generally the best option.

This setting is always set the same as When Predicting above.
List Presentation

The words in the prediction window can be displayed either in a vertical list or horizontally. If you want the list to be presented a specific way, you can choose Vertical, Horizontal or Automatic display here. Automatic determines the list presentation based on the dimensions of the Prediction window.

4.17. Learning

Learn new Words and my Writing Style
This is the normal setting if you want to have the dictionary learn your writing style and new words as you type them. If you are a poor speller, you may want to turn on Spell Check as you Type.

Just Learn my Writing Style
Use this setting if you just want Aurora Prediction to learn your writing style, but not new words. Note that words that are specifically added through the spell checking features are added regardless of this setting.

Don't Learn my Writing Style or New Words
Use this setting if you want maximum performance from the Prediction system while not learning your writing style or new words. Note that words that are specifically added through the spell checking features are added regardless of this setting.

Tip: Performance of Aurora Prediction will be much better if this radio button is selected.

Length of Shortest Words to Learn
To reduce the number of nonsensical words learned by Prediction, set this to the number of letters a word must contain before Prediction will learn it. If you have Spell check as you type on, this setting is not used.

Tip: To disable learning new words and phrases at all (with the exception of words added in the spellchecker,) set this to 1000.

4.18. Activate Prediction
Before Prediction will work with a Windows application, the Windows application's window must be activated. This tells Prediction to pay attention to what is typed in that window so that it can guess what you are typing and finish words for you.

This can be done automatically, see the Dictionary tab in Prediction Options for the Activate Prediction Automatically for New Applications checkbox. Once this is on, whenever you type a word and a space in a new application, Prediction will ask you if you want help in that application.

Many programs come preconfigured to work with Aurora Suite. These include Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, Microsoft Works, Write, WordPad, Microsoft Excel, Lotus Ami Pro, Corel Draw, Borland C++ and Borland Pascal.

To activate an application's window, for example a word processor:

1. Open the application you wish Prediction to work with.
2. Open a document, or the dialog box where you want prediction to work.
3. Make sure the document portion of the application's window is visible.
4. Select Activate Window from Prediction's system menu.
5. Click on Yes in the Activate Window dialog box.
6. Click on the document. Make sure you click on the document, on the cursor is usually a good spot, not on the scroll bars or window frame. The **ZZZZZZZZZZZ** message should immediately disappear from the prediction window.

**Note:** Some applications, like Microsoft Word, need to be clicked twice to activate them before the **ZZZZZZZZZZZ** message will disappear.

**Important:** If you are having trouble activating an application, make sure you click on or near the cursor, because sometimes Windows programs have hidden status windows that you may activate by accident. In this case it will appear that Aurora Prediction hasn't activated, even though it has - on the wrong window. Or use the Activate Prediction Automatically for New Applications on the Dictionary tab.

If your application supports multiple views of a document, ie "Draft", "WYSIWYG", "Preview" you may need to repeat the Activate Window procedure for each view.
If you later decide you do not want Aurora Prediction to help you in that application, use Deactivate Window to make Aurora Prediction not work with it.

4.19. Deactivate Prediction

If you no longer wish to have Prediction work with a Windows application, you must deactivate the application's window.

To deactivate an application's window, for example a word processor:

1. Open the application you wish Prediction to work with.
2. Open a document, or the dialog box where you want prediction to not work.
3. Make sure the document portion of the application's window is visible.
4. Select Deactivate Window from Prediction's system menu.
5. Click on Yes in the Deactivate Window dialog box.
6. Click on the document. Make sure you click on the document, on the cursor is usually a good spot, not on the scroll bars or window frame. The ZZZZZZzzzzzz message should immediately appear in the prediction window.

Note: Some applications, like Microsoft Word, need to be clicked twice to deactivate them before the ZZZZZZZzzzzzz message will appear.

Important: If you are having trouble deactivating an application, make sure you click on or near the cursor, because sometimes Windows programs have hidden status windows that you may deactivate by accident. In this case it will appear that Aurora Prediction hasn't deactivated, even though it has - it just hasn't deactivated the window you hoped for.

If your application supports multiple views of a document, ie "Draft", "WYSIWYG", "Preview" you may need to repeat the Deactivate Window procedure for each view.

You may also deactivate windows by deleting their corresponding WATCHn= lines from the aurora.set file.
4.20. New Dictionary

Aurora Prediction allows you to create a new, empty, dictionary. To create a new dictionary, choose Open from the Prediction system menu, then type in the name of the new dictionary file.

If the file doesn't exist you will be prompted if you wish to create it. If you do wish to create a new dictionary, choose Yes and you will be placed in the Create New Dictionary dialog where you may enter a description and copyright information for the new dictionary.

After you have entered your description and copyright information, press Enter to create the dictionary or click Cancel to not create it.

To get your dictionary set up with your vocabulary and writing style quickly, see Import Vocabulary in the Dictionary Editor.

4.21. Open Dictionary
Select the dictionary (.DCT) file you wish to open. If you wish to create a new dictionary file, type in the name of the new dictionary file.

**Important:** If you open an Aurora 2.x or 3.x for Windows dictionary with Aurora Suite, it will NO LONGER BE ACCESSIBLE from those previous products. Please see Old Aurora Dictionary Files for more information.

There are four dictionaries included in the CD-ROM edition of Aurora Suite, they are:

- **PREDICT.DCT** - Word prediction dictionary for slow typists.
- **SPELL.DCT** - Spellchecking dictionary for people who need help with their writing, not their typing speed.
- **CORE.DCT** - Core 1900 word vocabulary for younger users.
- **MONSTER.DCT** - 600,000+ words, thesaurus information and more, 64M RAM recommended.

To get your dictionary set up with your vocabulary and writing style quickly, see Import Vocabulary in the Dictionary Editor.

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### 4.22. Old Format Dictionaries

**Aurora 2.x and 3.x for Windows Dictionaries**

Aurora Suite will load Aurora 2.x and 3.x for Windows dictionaries, however when it does so, it converts them to Aurora Suite format. **They will no longer be accessible from Aurora for Windows.** We recommend making a backup copy of the .DCT file before you open it if you plan to use it with Aurora for Windows in the future.

**Aurora for DOS and Aurora 1.0 for Windows Dictionaries**

Aurora Suite will not load Aurora for DOS, or Aurora for Windows 1.0x dictionary files. We had to sacrifice absolute backwards compatibility in order to take best advantage of many of the advanced new features when we introduced Aurora for Windows 2.0. To make sure your investment in Aurora 1.0 for Windows and Aurora for DOS isn't wasted, words and macros that have been added to these dictionaries may be imported into any Aurora 3.0 for Windows dictionary and then opened with Aurora Suite to
convert it to Aurora Suite format. This is done using the Import program which may be obtained from Aurora Systems Technical support. Import includes Version 3 format dictionary files.

4.23. Optimize Dictionary

Dictionary optimization may need to be done from time to time to improve performance of the prediction system. If you notice long delays when selecting words from the prediction window, or if scrolling in the dictionary editor is slow, you should consider dictionary optimization. Dictionary optimization will only have a limited benefit if you are using a large dictionary with a small dictionary cache.

Note: For optimization to complete, you will need enough free disk space to hold the new dictionary. If you have not chosen to Compress Dictionary, you will need roughly double the amount of disk space free than the dictionary used before optimization. The dictionaries distributed with Aurora Suite are not compressed.

Tip: When you plan to optimize your dictionary, you should consider doing this overnight as it can take a very long time for large dictionaries to be optimized. If you are using a laptop, it is a good idea to plug it into the wall to prevent its batteries from dying in the middle of optimization.

Repair Damaged Dictionary (will not Optimize)

If you receive error messages that there was Internal damage detected in dictionary or you find that the Prediction program is hanging while you are using it, or regular optimization fails with an error message other than a segment load failure and you are sure you have enough free disk space, you should check this checkbox to repair the dictionary rather than optimize it. Dictionary repair takes roughly the same time as optimization and should repair most damage or internal inconsistencies in the dictionary. We strongly recommend you make a backup copy of your dictionary before using this option.

Note: Words which were damaged or that you have deleted using the dictionary editor will be included in the Words in original dictionary count as well as the Deleted and damaged words removed count. These words will be removed from the repaired dictionary, as well as any prediction information that is invalid. If you find that the bulk of the words in the dictionary have been lost, or hundreds of fixes made, you might consider contacting Aurora Systems Technical support before continuing. It is possible that the dictionary will be irreparable, in which case, we recommend contacting Aurora Systems Technical Support or restoring from a backup.
Note: The repaired dictionary is not optimized so you might want to run dictionary optimization on the repaired dictionary.

**How much Memory should optimization use?**
This value should be set to at least 8192K. The larger the value here, the faster optimization will proceed. This value may not be set less than twice the Cache Size target value.

**Compress Dictionary**
This feature controls the use of compression on dictionary files. Dictionary performance can be improved on slower computers by not checking this checkbox. Note that not checking this checkbox will roughly double the disk space needed for the dictionary (.DCT) file being optimized. The standard dictionaries are not compressed.

**Save Backup Copy of Dictionary File**
If you do not want to save a backup copy of your unoptimized dictionary, you may uncheck this option. It is generally a good idea to save a backup copy when optimizing. Note that you will need enough free disk space for the optimized dictionary while optimization is running, even though the old one is to be deleted.

**What Cache Size should we Optimize For?**
This should be the same as the [Dictionary Cache](#) setting under the Dictionary tab of the Prediction Options dialog. Dictionary Optimization attempts to build a dictionary that will work best with this amount of cache memory.

In general, the cache size of a dictionary should be a minimum of about 25% of its size. So if you have a 2 megabyte compressed dictionary on disk, you should use 1024K of cache (2 megabytes, double it because it is compressed, and divide by 4). For a 2 megabyte uncompressed dictionary, you should select at least a 512K cache. If you have lots of RAM, you can only get better performance by choosing a larger cache. A minimum 1024K cache is recommended.

**Delete unused Words**
If checked, dictionary optimization will delete all words with a 0 priority value. Generally words with a 0 priority value are ones that the prediction system has only seen once, which may include junk words.

**Delete unused Phrases**
If checked, dictionary optimization will delete all phrases with a 0 priority value. This may significantly improve performance on dictionaries which have been used a great deal. Generally phrases with a 0 priority value are ones that the prediction system has only seen once, which may include junk phrases.

**Delete unused Macros**
If checked, dictionary optimization will delete all macros with a 0 priority value.

**Delete Words Marked as Adult Content**
If checked, dictionary optimization will delete all words that have their [Adult Vocabulary](#) checkbox checked.

**Word Prediction Statistics Thinning Factor Caution!**
This number determines how much the statistics used for word prediction are thinned out to reduce the size of your dictionary. Removing these statistics can severely reduce the effectiveness of Aurora Prediction's ability to predict next words. We recommend optimization with the Delete Unused Words and Delete Unused Phrases checkboxes checked before using this feature. A setting of one will remove prediction statistics for rarely used words and may significantly reduce dictionary size. We do not recommend using a value above 1 for this setting.

Click on the Start button or press Enter to start dictionary optimization. Click on Cancel to abort dictionary optimization.

**Dictionary Optimization Status**

Dictionary optimization shows a status bar to indicate the percentage complete. This bar is only an indicator that optimization is progressing, most often you cannot predict how long optimization will take based on it.

**If Optimization Fails**

If optimization fails with an error message and you are sure you didn't run out of disk space, it is possible that there is internal damage to the dictionary. To fix this, you should run optimization again with the Repair Damaged Dictionary, (will not optimize) checkbox checked to repair the dictionary. See above for more information on this option.

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### 4.24. Edit Dictionary

⚠️ The Dictionary Editor allows you to add, change or delete words, phrases and macros from the dictionary. It also allows you to Import vocabulary from your documents to get prediction up to speed on your writing style quickly, Export words that you have added to transfer them to other dictionary files, and display Dictionary Info on your current dictionary file. If you have logged your spelling errors, you can convert your spelling errors into automatic spelling corrections using Import feature.

**Note:** Words are listed in order alphabetically by their first two letters, and then by frequency rather than strictly alphabetically so generally, it is fastest to use the Find option when you wish to edit a specific word..

Adult content words will appear as asterisks (*****) if the Show Adult Words checkbox is not checked on the Dictionary tab in the Prediction Options dialog.

Words with "Spelling Correction History Entry" next to them are used by the spell checking features, and may be deleted but not edited.
To **add** a word, press Ins, or select Add Word from the system menu. You can also right click on the dictionary editor to get to the menu.

To **edit** a word, move the highlight to the word using the arrow keys or the Find Word command, and press Enter, or select Edit Word from the Edit menu. You can also right click on the dictionary editor to get to the menu. You cannot edit words marked as "adult" content unless the Show Adult Words checkbox is checked on the Dictionary tab in the Prediction Options dialog.

To **delete** a word, move the highlight to the word using the arrow keys or the Find Word command, and press Del, or select Delete Word from the Edit menu. You can also right click on the dictionary editor to get to the menu.

**Keys**

- **Ins** - Add word to dictionary
- **Del** - Delete highlighted word from dictionary
- **Enter** - Edit highlighted word
- **Home** - Move highlight to the first word in the dictionary
- **End** - Move the highlight to the last word in the dictionary
- **PgUp** - Move the highlight up one screen
- **PgDn** - Move the highlight down one screen

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**4.25. Add/Edit Word**

⚠️ The Add/Edit Word dialog box allows you to change or add a word or macro to the prediction dictionary while in the **Edit Dictionary** window.
Word/Macro code

Enter the word you want to add to the dictionary, or the code for a macro you want to add. If you are editing a word, you can change its text here. Macros must be two or more letters. To expand them in your documents, type the macro code followed by a space.

Read

Press the top Read button to read the word in the Word/Macro code box. Press the bottom Read button to read the text in the Macro value box.

Grammatical Type

This information is used by Prediction to apply grammatical rules to the words in the prediction window. Words default to "None" which means that the word is not to have grammatical rules applied to it.

Adult Vocabulary Word

If the Adult Content checkbox in the Prediction Options dialog is checked, you cannot edit words that have been marked as adult vocabulary words. These words appear as asterisks (***) in the dictionary editor window. You can automatically remove adult vocabulary using Dictionary Optimization. You can also read more in the section Adult Content.

Word Completion Priority

This number ranges from 0 to 65530. Words with higher priority values will be presented by the Prediction system sooner than words with lower priority values. Words with a priority of 0 are considered "unused" by Aurora Prediction and may be removed by checking one of the Automatic Deletion Options checkboxes in the Optimize Dictionary dialog.

This dialog box will not close if you have entered an invalid priority value.

Choose Type of Macro or Word Information to Add, Edit or Delete

You can make the word you entered a macro, or associate extra information like a definition, example or note with it using this drop box. Choose the type of extra information you wish to add here. Entries that already have information in them will have an asterisk * before them.

- Spelling Correction History Rec - This is an entry maintained by Aurora's spellchecker. The only thing you can do with these entries is delete them.
- Text Macro - Text that will by typed into the current application when you type the word you entered.
- Speech Macro - Text that will be spoken when you type the word you entered. The word will then be erased from the screen. If you use both a WAV macro and a Speech macro for the same macro code you may find only one will play since both will try to use the sound card at the same time.
- Homonyms - Enter words that sound like or are spelled like another word along with an example for correct usage. Words with this extra information will show up in green in the word prediction window if the Show Homonyms checkbox on the Window tab of the Prediction Options dialog is checked.
- Definition - Enter a definition for this word. Words with this extra information will show up in the word prediction window if the Show Definition checkbox on the Window tab of the Prediction Options dialog is checked.
- Thesaurus - Enter thesaurus words for this word. Words with this extra information will show up in the word prediction window if the Show Thesaurus checkbox on the Window tab of the Prediction Options dialog is checked.
- WAV Playback - The name of a WAV file that will be played when you type the word you entered. The word will then be erased from the screen. If you use both a WAV macro and a Speech macro for the same macro code you may find only one will play since both will try to use the sound card at the same time. WAV files must be stored in the \Program Files\Aurora Suite 2005 directory, not in a shared network directory. You can get around this by specifying the name of the WAV file in your macro relative to the \Program Files\Aurora Suite 2005 directory for example ..\windows\sounds\ding.wav would cause Aurora Prediction to look for the file ding.wav in the \windows\sounds\ directory.

Delete

Once you have selected the type of macro or word information you can delete the data for that selection by clicking on the Delete button.

Enter Value for Selected Macro or Word Information Type

Once you have selected the type of macro or word information you can enter the information or macro expansion here.

Click on Ok so save changes, or Cancel to leave without saving changes to the word.

4.26. Find Word

The Find Word dialog box allows you to search for a specific word in the dictionary while in the Dictionary Editor. This is usually much faster than looking through the dictionary manually, since the dictionary is not presented in alphabetical order.
To find a word, type in the word and then press Enter or click on the Find button. The mouse cursor will change to an hourglass while the dictionary editor searches for the word. If the word is found in the dictionary, the highlight will be placed on it, otherwise, the highlight will be placed near where the word would be if it were in the dictionary. Note that searching for a word in a large dictionary can take some time.

**Tip:** To find a macro, type in the macro code. Find does not search for macro expansions.

To leave this dialog without looking for a word, click the Cancel button.

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**4.27. Import Vocabulary**

The Import Vocabulary dialog allows you to import vocabulary and your writing style from documents you have written previously, or from special Aurora vocabulary files on disk in order to train Prediction on your personal writing style and make it more effective.

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**Import Document from Clipboard**

If this radio button is selected when you click on OK, Aurora Prediction will display a verification box to make sure that it is going to import the text you intended, then import that text, learning new words and the writing style of the document's author. This is great for getting Aurora Prediction up to speed as quickly as possible when you first start using it.

To import a document:

1. Mark the text you want Prediction to train on in your word processor or other application.
2. Copy that text to the clipboard using the word processor or other application's menus.
3. Click on the Import Document from Clipboard radio button.
4. Click on OK.
5. If you have successfully copied the text to the clipboard, a confirmation dialog will appear. Check that the text is correct in the verification dialog. If the confirmation dialog does not appear, there was a problem copying the text into the clipboard, and you should try again.
Click on Yes if it is the text you want, otherwise no. A status indicator will appear while it imports.

**Import Aurora Vocabulary File from Disk**

If this radio button is selected when you click on OK, Aurora Prediction will open a file selection dialog where you can choose an Aurora Vocabulary file you have previously created using the Export feature. This is great for transferring vocabulary, macros and definitions and other word information from one dictionary file to another. This is especially useful for administrators, trainers and installers who set up macros and specialized vocabulary ahead of time to allow them to enter it once, then import it into other dictionary files.

**To import an Aurora Vocabulary File**

1. Create a vocabulary file using the Export feature.
2. Click on the Import Aurora Vocabulary File from Disk radio button.
3. Click on OK.
4. A file selection dialog will appear, select the previously created file and click on OK. A status indicator will appear while it imports.

**Importing your Spelling Errors Log to make Automatic Spelling Corrections**

If you have logged your spelling errors for later analysis you can use the Import feature to convert your spelling errors into automatic spelling corrections automatically. In the file selection dialog, choose the file ERRORS.TXT, this is the file that is created to log spelling errors. Note that this file name can be changed in aurora.set so that may not be the name if you have changed that setting. You can find out more about his under the Log Spelling Errors feature.

**Allow Non-English Characters**

If this checkbox is checked, Import will not restrict the importing of text to A-Z, but will allow accented characters to be imported. Note that if you accidentally import a binary or other non-text file that this will allow that junk to get into the dictionary file during import.

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**4.28. Export Vocabulary**

⚠️ The Export Vocabulary dialog allows you to export custom vocabulary, macros, and extra word information that you have entered such as definitions or homonyms to disk so that you can easily transfer
them to other dictionary files. This is especially useful for administrators, trainers and installers who set up macros and specialized vocabulary ahead of time to allow them to enter it once, then import it into other dictionary files.

Once you have chosen the items you wish to export, click on OK, you will be prompted to enter a file name to export to. Once you have done that a status bar will appear to let you know how the export is proceeding.

Note: Export will not export any vocabulary that was in the dictionary when you received it, only words that have been added through use.

Words
Words that you have added will be exported. Note that if a word also has a Homonym, Definition, Thesaurus, Wav Playback Macro, Note, Text Macro or Speech macro and any of those checkboxes are checked, that that word will be exported regardless of this setting.

Text Macros
Words that have a Text Macro defined for them will be exported.

Speech Macros
Words that have a Speech Macro defined for them will be exported.

Multiple Word Prediction Phrases
Phrases containing spaces that have been learned automatically will be exported.

Phrases
Phrases containing spaces that you have added in the Dictionary Editor will be exported.

Homonyms
Words that have homonyms defined for them will be exported.

Definition
Words that have definitions defined for them will be exported.

Thesaurus
Words that have thesaurus words defined for them will be exported.

**Wav Playback Macros**

Words that have WAV playback macros defined for them will be exported. Note that you will have to make sure that the paths to .WAV files are correct if you have placed your .WAV files in a directory other than the \Program Files\Aurora Suite 2005 directory.

Notes Words that have notes defined for them will be exported.

Click on OK to perform the Export, or Cancel to return to the Dictionary Editor

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### 4.29. Dictionary Info

The Dictionary Info dialog displays information about the current dictionary and cache usage.

#### Dictionary Info

This section provides details about the contents and usage of your dictionary file. The most important information is the number of words, the amount of space used by deleted words, and the percent full. These give you a quick indicator of how your dictionary is doing. If the Percent Full numbers get near 100, you should consider using the dictionary optimizer and removing some older and unused words. The space used by deleted words will also be recovered during optimization.

#### Cache Info

This section provides details about the size and usage of your dictionary cache. Used tells you how many 4K cache pages are in use. Pages tells how many you have allowed on the Dictionary Tab. Generally if Pages equals Used and you have less than a 10:1 ratio in the hits:misses numbers you should consider making the cache larger to get better performance.

#### Dictionary Copyright Info

The copyright and description entered when the dictionary was created are displayed at the bottom of this dialog.

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### 4.30. Error Messages
Below is a partial list of error messages Aurora Prediction can report. If the error message you receive is not listed below and you need more information, please contact Aurora Systems technical support.

**Disk access error, or internal index error, or dictionary corruption detected! Please see online help "Error Messages" section immediately for more information. Editor will now quit.**

This is a catch-all error message. One of three things has happened. The most likely is a disk error, usually meaning you are low on disk space, or you need to run a disk diagnostic program like SCANDISK. Otherwise the dictionary index or word lists have internal damage and may need to be repaired. Please see Optimize Dictionary for more information.

**Internal damage detected in dictionary. You should choose 'Optimize Dictionary... With the 'Repair Dictionary, no Optimization' checkbox checked to repair the damage.**

This indicates that internal damage has been detected in the dictionary. This damage should be repaired immediately using the Optimize Dictionary option with the Repair Dictionary, no Optimization checkbox checked. Without repairs, Prediction is liable to crash or hang at any time, or the dictionary may become unrepairable and all information in it lost. Please see Optimize Dictionary for more information.

**Error in Dictionary**

Catch-all error message, depends on what you are doing. Can be caused by running out of memory, a disk being full, a network access error, a disk error, or a corrupted dictionary file.

**Invalid word address**

Indicates internal damage to a dictionary file. A backup of the troubled dictionary file should be made, and then Optimize should be run on the original. Please see Optimize Dictionary for more information.

**Word save error or Word load error**

Usually caused by running out of memory, a disk being full, a network access error, a disk error, or a corrupted dictionary file.

**Next word area full or Dictionary full**

The dictionary is full. Run Optimize with the "Delete Unused Words" and "Delete Unused Phrases" checkboxes checked to free some space in the dictionary file.

**Word already in dictionary**

You should never encounter this error message. If you do, please contact Aurora Systems technical support.

**Unknown language selection**

Indicates you attempted to load a dictionary file that uses a language unsupported by this version of Aurora Prediction.

**Dictionary created with newer version**

The dictionary you are attempting to use was created by a later version of this program and Aurora Prediction doesn't know how to handle it. Contact Aurora Systems about upgrading.
Wrong character set
Indicates a dictionary file using a character set language unsupported by this version of Aurora Prediction.

Dictionary file too large
Indicates a dictionary file created using a more capable system which is unsupported by this version of Aurora Prediction.

Dictionary file damaged, possible loss of data
Indicates that the Dictionary check routine was unable to repair damage to the dictionary file. Please see Optimize Dictionary for more information.

Dictionary file corrupted
Indicates that the Dictionary file is corrupted and cannot be read. Restore your dictionary file from a backup.

Out of memory
Indicates that Aurora Prediction has run out of memory. You should not encounter this error message. If you do, it is generally fatal. It is recommended you restart Aurora Prediction and quit one or more other applications before continuing.

Dictionary file was not closed properly
Indicates that the dictionary file was not closed properly the last time it was used. Generally this happens if Windows crashes or if you turn the computer off without leaving Windows. The Dictionary check routine will be run to fix the dictionary if possible.

General disk error accessing dictionary
Usually caused by a disk being full, a network access error, a disk error, or a corrupted dictionary file.

Unknown dictionary error code!!!
Indicates an internal program error, you should not encounter this error message. If you do, please contact Aurora Systems technical support.

Dictionary corrupt or not a dictionary file.
Indicates you attempted to open a file that Aurora Prediction does not recognize as a dictionary file. You may encounter this error message if you attempt to open an Aurora for DOS dictionary file.

Invalid dictionary file name.
You have entered a dictionary file name that is not valid.

Not enough disk space for optimization.
Optimization ran out of disk space before it could complete. Free some disk space and start optimization again.

Word too short.
You should not encounter this error message. If you do, please contact Aurora Systems technical support.

4.31. Damaged Dictionary

Should you receive an error message indicating the dictionary is damaged, you can repair it using the Dictionary Optimization dialog's Repair Damaged Dictionary checkbox. This will go through the dictionary and rebuild its internal structure and verify that all internal links are correct. It will also tell you if there are any unrecoverable errors.

Repairing the dictionary can take some time, and you may want to optimize the dictionary for best performance afterwards.

**Tip:** Make a backup copy of your dictionary file before you repair it. This is just a precaution, but it is a good idea in case there is still a problem with the repaired dictionary.

If dictionary repair cannot fix your dictionary, contact Aurora Systems Technical Support for more information.
Chapter 5: Echo

5.1. What is Echo

Aurora Echo provides audible feedback as you type and is designed to help writers catch when they make errors. It provides both services while you work, and a toolbar full of assistive choices.

Keyboard Echo

Echo's Keyboard echoing features read back to you as you type. It can read back each keystroke, words, partial words, sentences, paragraphs or anything you copy to the clipboard. If users find constant reading distracting, Echo can also read every so many words so you still get feedback, but it is not constant.

Reading Tools

The Echo Toolbar shown above offers a number of handy reading tools. It can read text you mark in your word processor, email or web browser, it can read menus, dialogs and buttons in all your favourite applications. As you type, you can have it read back your word, sentence, or paragraph so far as well as anything that is in the Windows clipboard.

Run-On Sentence Monitoring

If you forget to use periods, or tend to use too many commas to string together sentence fragments, this is the feature for you. If you put too many commas, or too many words in a single sentence, it speaks a warning aloud to remind you.

Punctuation Monitoring

If you put together a sentence that starts in who, what, where, when, why or how, and you don't end it in a question mark, Echo will speak aloud to let you know so you are sure that is what you meant.

And More...

We recommend you read through the following sections to find more about Aurora Echo.

5.2. Echo Toolbar

The Echo Toolbar gives you quick access to the key features of Aurora Echo at any time. Each of the toolbar buttons are discussed below. The Echo Toolbar is completely customizable, you can control which buttons appear, whether it is vertical or horizontal, and whether the small or large icons are used. For information on customizing the toolbar, see Echo Toolbar Options. Many of the features included on the toolbar are also available from the Echo Menu.
Read Marked Block

Mark a block of text in your word processor, then click on this button. The block will be read. Note that this button will not work with applications that do not support the standard windows shortcut key for copying to the clipboard (Ctrl-Ins.).

Read Button or Window

When this button is clicked Aurora Echo will read most buttons, icons or windows that you move the mouse cursor over and then stop for a second. Be warned that if you put the mouse over a word processor window, it may take quite a while to read everything in the window. Once you are done reading items, click the Read Button or Window button again to turn reading off.

Read Clipboard

This button lets you read back the contents of the clipboard. This is useful if your application doesn't work with Read Marked Block above. To use this feature, mark the section you want read with the mouse or keyboard, then use the program's menus or keyboard shortcuts to copy the text to the clipboard, then click this button. If you prefer you can have the contents of the clipboard read automatically each time it changes with Echo Clipboard.

Read Word So Far

This is a convenience button that lets you read back the word that you have typed so far. If you prefer you can have the word read back to you after each keypress with Echo Partial Words.

Read Sentence So Far

This is a convenience button that lets you read back the sentence that you have typed so far. If you prefer you can have the sentence read back to you at the end of the sentence with Echo Sentences.

Read Paragraph So Far

This is a convenience button that lets you read back the paragraph that you have typed so far. If you prefer you can have the paragraph read back to you at the end of the paragraph (when you press Enter) with Echo Paragraphs.

Stop Speaking

This button causes the speech synthesizer to stop speaking if it is speaking. Also available on the Echo Menu.
Turn Echo Off
This button changes as you use it and indicates whether Aurora Echo's voice feedback is on or off. Click it to turn Aurora Echo off. Also available on the Echo Menu.

Turn Echo On
This button changes as you use it and indicates whether Aurora Echo's voice feedback is on or off. Click it to turn Aurora Echo on. Also available on the Echo Menu.

Echo Options
This provides access to the options dialog for Aurora Echo. For information on the options, see Echo Options. Also available on the Echo Menu.

Voice Options
This provides access to the Voice Options dialog that allows you to choose and set up your speech synthesizer. Also available on the Echo Menu.

Echo Help
This provides access to the Aurora Echo online help. Also available on the Echo Menu.

About Aurora Echo
This displays the version information for Aurora Echo. Also available on the Echo Menu.

Close Aurora Echo
This button closes Aurora Echo. This is one button you may wish to remove from the toolbar in Toolbar Options if you are likely to hit it accidentally. Also available on the Echo Menu.
Tip: If you hold down the shift key when you press this button, all Aurora Suite windows will close.

5.3. Echo Toolbar Mouse Actions

To access the Echo menu, right click anywhere on the toolbar. With the keyboard, switch to Echo using Alt-Tab, then press Alt-Space to bring up the Echo menu. The Echo menu provides access to important features if you have disabled the toolbar tools for those features.

You can use either the mouse or the keyboard to move the Echo Toolbar. To use the mouse, right click anywhere on the toolbar and drag it to where you want it. To use the keyboard, switch to Echo using Alt-Tab, then press Alt-Space to bring up the Echo Menu, then choose Move and use the arrow keys to move the toolbar where you want it. When you are done moving it, press Enter.

5.4. Echo Options

Letters
Letters causes Echo to say each letter, punctuation, bracket or any other character on the keyboard.

Numbers
Numbers causes Echo to say each number. Many users will wish to have this feature turned off so that Echo does not echo the numbers typed to select words from the Prediction window.

Punctuation
Punctuation causes Echo to say each punctuation character on the keyboard.

Gray Keys
Gray Keys causes Echo to say all of the gray keys on the keyboard including arrows, Enter, function keys etc. We recommend that most users turn this option off, it can be quite distracting and the speech synthesizer may have trouble keeping up.

**Keystrokes**

Keystrokes causes Echo to say all of the non-alphabetic, non-gray and non-numeric keys on the keyboard including the symbol and bracket keys. We recommend that most users turn this option off, it can be quite distracting and the speech synthesizer may have trouble keeping up.

**Words**

Words causes Echo to read each word when you end it with a space or punctuation character.

**Partial Words**

Partial Words causes Echo to read the word you have typed so far each time you press a character.

**Sentences**

Sentences causes Echo to read each sentence when you end it with a punctuation character.

*Note:* Pressing arrows, Del, PgUp or PgDn will cause Echo to forget the current sentence, and the sentence so far will not be read.

**Paragraphs**

Paragraphs causes Echo to read back the sentences typed since you last hit the Enter key when you press Enter to end a paragraph. Due to a minor conflict with the Talk program (described below), this feature defaults to off.

*Note:* Pressing arrows, Del, PgUp or PgDn will cause Echo to forget the current paragraph.

*Note:* We recommend you do not use the Echo Paragraphs feature if you are also using the Talk program, as typing a sentence into Talk and pressing Enter will cause Talk to read the talk phrase, and then cause Echo to read the talk phrase again, since pressing Enter also ends a paragraph.

**Clipboard**

Clipboard causes Echo to read back any text cut or copied to the Windows clipboard. Due to the somewhat intrusive behavior of this feature, it defaults to off. When turned on, a dialog box will pop up each time the clipboard changes, offering to read it for you. Select Yes to read the contents of the clipboard, No to not read them. This dialog will appear when you cut or copy to the clipboard, and quite often when a new application starts or one ends.

**Every # words (0 is off)**

Every # Words causes Aurora Echo to read back every so many words. This is useful for writers who do not use punctuation but don't want feedback after each word. If this value is set to 0, this feature is disabled.

**Speech Recognition Delay**
Speech Recognition Delay is for use with speech recognition programs that do not put a space after they type a word. If you are typing and you wait longer than the speech recognition delay, the word typed so far will be read. This delay is in milliseconds, so setting this field to 1000 will cause Echo to wait 1 complete second before reading a word with no space after it. If you are using this feature, we recommend a value of 100.

**Toolbar Options**
For information on setting up the toolbar see [Toolbar Options](#).

**Run-on Sentence Monitoring**
Aurora Echo can warn writers when they construct a run-on sentence that has too many commas or words. It is not fooled if the person constructs a list of items following a colon.

**Commas before warning (0 is off)**
This is the number of commas in one sentence before Aurora Echo will speak the warning below. The default for this is 3.

**Words before warning (0 is off)**
This is the number of words in one sentence before Aurora Echo will speak the warning below. The default for this is 30.

**Warning**
This is the message that will be spoken by the speech synthesizer if a run-on sentence is detected.

**Punctuation Monitoring**

Tip: You can add additional words to this list by editing the [aurora.set](#) file to add additional QuestionWord# entries where # is the next higher number for example:

```plaintext
QuestionWord7 C Whatever
```

You can also use this same mechanism to change the question words to words appropriate for other languages.

**Check question sentence punctuation**
Check this box to turn on Punctuation Monitoring.

**Warning**
This is the message that will be spoken by the speech synthesizer if an incorrectly punctuated question is detected.

Click OK to save changes, or Cancel to abort without saving changes.
5.5. Echo Toolbar Options

The Echo Toolbar is completely customizable. You can choose the size of the icons, whether the toolbar is horizontal or vertical, and which buttons appear on it. For information on the individual tools available in the toolbar click here.

Large Buttons on Toolbar

Aurora Echo includes two icon sizes, the 32x32 small icons and the 64x64 large icons. Check this checkbox to use the large icons.

Horizontal Toolbar

The Echo Toolbar can be either vertical or horizontal. Check this box to have the toolbar display horizontally.

Available Tools

This list contains the list of toolbar tools that you are not currently using. Highlight any tool in this list and click on the Add button to add it to the toolbar. Note that many tools are also available on the Echo Menu.

Read Marked Block, Read Button or Window and Read Clipboard are not available in the Value Edition although they do appear in the Available Tools list.

Tools in Toolbar

This list contains the list of toolbar tools that you are currently using. Highlight any tool in this list and click on the Remove button to remove it from the toolbar. Note that many tools are also available on the Echo Menu.

Click on OK to save your changes or Cancel to abort without saving changes.
Chapter 6: Talk

6.1. What is Talk

Aurora Talk provides the ability to "Type and Talk," do public speaking or carry on a conversation at home, school or work. It is simple to operate, just type what you want to say, and press the Enter key to have it spoken.

Conversations
Talk provides the ability to have multiple conversations, so that you can have one set of phrases for at home, one for school, one for work and so on. And you can switch between them quickly.

History
Talk keeps the phrases you type for as long as you need, so you can arrow up to repeat any phrase you've spoken before without having to retype it. You can even make phrases permanent so they are kept forever rather than scrolling off the top of the conversation.

Function Key Phrases
Talk allows you to assign frequently used phrases like "yes," "no," and "thank you" to function keys for speech at the press of a key.

Public Speaking
If you need to do public speaking, Talk is a great tool. You can import pre-written presentations, answer questions and more, easily.

And More...
We recommend you read through the following sections to find more about Aurora Talk.

6.2. Operation

The Talk window allows you to add, change, delete and speak phrases. Each phrase is contained on a single line although partial or multiple phrases can be selected to be spoken at one time using the keyboard or mouse.

Speaking Phrases
To speak a phrase, move the cursor to the line containing the phrase using either the keyboard or mouse, and press Enter. You can also double click on a phrase to speak it.

**Combining Phrases**
You can highlight multiple phrases, or parts of phrases using the mouse, or by holding down the shift key while pressing the arrow keys. When the entire combined phrase you want to speak is highlighted, press the Enter key to speak it.

**Function Keys**
You can assign the most common phrases you speak to function keys so that all you have to do say any of those preprogrammed phrases is to press a function key.

**Stopping Speech**
If you speak something and then change your mind, you can stop the speaking by choosing Stop Speaking from the menu.

**Clipboard**
Any passage you select can also be copied to the clipboard or deleted by pressing Del. If you paste text from a word processor, email or web page, into Talk, each sentence will be made into a separate phrase, one per line. This allows you to easily import presentations and control the speed of you talk on a per-sentence basis.

**History**
*Talk Options* allows you to specify the number of History lines each conversation should maintain. Each new phrase you type at the end of a conversation counts as one towards that total. When a conversation has that many phrases, any new phrases you add will cause a phrase to be removed from the top of the conversation, thus maintaining a constant size for your conversations. If you prefer to have some phrases kept forever, you can increase the Permanent Lines setting so that rather than the top line being removed, the first line after the number of Permanent Lines you've selected will be removed and the Permanent Lines will remain.

**Conversations**
Conversations are much like documents in other applications, they can be Closed, Opened and even Deleted. A very fast way to switch between open conversations is to use the F11 and F12 keys.

---

### 6.3. Keys

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F1</td>
<td>Online help (key assignment may be changed by user.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F2</td>
<td>Delete all phrases except permanent ones (key assignment may be changed by user.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shift-F2</td>
<td>Delete all phrases including permanent ones (key assignment may be changed by user.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F3</td>
<td>Mute Voice (key assignment may be changed by user.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F9</td>
<td>Stop Speaking (key assignment may be changed by user.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F11</td>
<td>Switch to previous conversation (key assignment may be changed by user.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
F12  Switch to next conversation (key assignment may be changed by user.)
Enter  Speak phrase under the cursor
Ctrl-Enter  Break line at cursor
Ins  Toggle insert/overwrite mode
Del  Delete the character under the cursor
Home  Move cursor to the start of the phrase
End  Move the cursor to the end of the phrase
PgUp  Move the cursor up one screen
PgDn  Move the cursor down one screen
Backspace  Delete the character to the left of the cursor
Shift+Arrows  Select partial or multiple phrases for speaking.
Ctrl-Ins  Copy marked text to clipboard
Ctrl-Del  Cut marked text to clipboard
Shift-Ins  Paste contents of clipboard into Talk window and split into sentences
Ctrl-L  Select all text in conversation
Ctrl-F  Find text in conversation
Ctrl-A  Find same text Again
Ctrl-W  New Conversation
Ctrl-O  Open existing conversation
Ctrl-N  Switch to Next conversation
Ctrl-P  Switch to Previous conversation
Ctrl-S  Select conversation to switch to from list
Ctrl-H  Help!
Ctrl-R  Display registration information
Ctrl-X  Close Aurora Talk

6.4. Conversations

Aurora Talk allows you to split your phrases into groups for easier management. Each group of phrases is called a Conversation. You can have as many as 25 conversations.

Each time you open a new conversation, you will be prompted to enter the name of the new conversation that will show up in the Talk title bar and in the conversation selection list.

All of your conversations are stored in a single file, TALK.PHR in your Documents and Settings\%USERNAME%\My Documents\Aurora Suite 2005 directory.

Switching Between Conversations
You can quickly switch between conversations with the menus or use the shortcut keys (F11/F12) or (Ctrl-P/Ctrl-N) or choose Select (Ctrl-S) from the Window menu to choose the conversation to switch to by name.

Open Conversations
You can control which conversations show up in the Select list by opening (Ctrl-O) and closing them from the Conversation menu. If you need to get back to a closed conversation, you can open it again.

Delete Conversations
If you have more than one conversation you have created, you can delete any one with the Conversations|Delete option. This option will be grayed if you only have one conversation created.

6.5. Talk Options

History Lines
History lines specifies how many phrases Talk maintains in its history buffer. If you have history lines set to 10, when you add phrase number 11, the first phrase after the permanent lines is automatically deleted so that only ten phrases are available and saved when you quit Talk. History lines must be between 10 and 1000 and 3 more than Permanent lines or you will not be able to leave this dialog.

Permanent Lines
Talk can preserve a set number of phrases at the top of the phrase history buffer so that they never get deleted. This is useful if you have phrases that you say regularly that you do not want deleted when you add a new phrase and the history buffer is full. Permanent lines must be 3 less than History lines or you will not be able to leave this dialog. All Permanent lines may be deleted by pressing Shift-F2.

Save History
Talk automatically saves what you have typed previously in a file called TALK.PHR in your Documents and Settings\%USERNAME%\My Documents\Aurora Suite 2005 directory. If this checkbox is not checked, when you start Talk, previous phrases will not be loaded into the Talk window for you.

Choose Font
Choose Font allows you to select the font that is displayed in the Talk window. If you want to change the font used in Talk's dialog boxes and menus, you will have to change the fonts used by Windows. This setting may be in control panel, however many video cards have a separate utility program that lets you set Windows' font size.

Function Key Phrases
See Function Key Phrases below for more information.

Show Function Keys Help
If Show Function Keys Help is checked Aurora Talk will list the phrases assigned to function keys at the top of the Talk window for easy reference.

6.6. Function Key Phrases

The Talk window allows you to preprogram phrases and attach them to function keys for very quick output of frequently used phrases like "Yes", "No", "My name is..." etc. If you don't like having part of your screen used to display the function keys, you can get rid of this display in the Talk Options dialog by turning off Show Function Keys Help.

Adding New/Editing Phrases
To add a new phrase or edit an existing one, press one of the *-Fn buttons in the "Function Key Phrases" group box in the Talk Options dialog box. This will bring up the function key phrase assignment dialog where you can enter phrases to be spoken when you press the Function key, Shift and Function Key combination, or Ctrl and Function key combination. This dialog contains a list of the key combinations down the left hand side, and the phrase to be spoken down the right hand side.

**Special Function Keys**

There are six function keys which are preprogrammed to perform special functions. You may change these key assignments, or remove function key access to these features by using the keys for other messages. To change the key assignments for these features, put the reserved message (listed in quotations below) into another key entry.

- **F1** Online Help (Message is "Help!"
- **F2** Clear all messages from the Talk Window except permanent ones. (Message is "Clear!")
- **Shift-F2** Clear all messages from the Talk Window INCLUDING permanent ones. (Message is "ClearAll!")
- **F3** Mute voice (Message is MuteVoice!)
- **F9** Stop Speaking (Message is Quiet!)
- **F11** Previous conversation (Message is Previous!)
- **F12** Next conversation (Message is Next!)

---

**6.7. Talk Menu**

The Aurora Talk menus allow you mouse access to most program features. The menus are discussed below. There are also shortcut keys for many menu features. These are accessed by holding down the Ctrl key and pressing a letter. These shortcut keys are listed next to the menu items.

**Conversations**

**New (Ctrl-W)**

Create a new conversation and give it a name. You can create at most 25 conversations before you will have to delete one to make room. This option is grayed if you have already created 25 conversations.
Open (Ctrl-O)

Open a conversation that you have closed previously for use. This option is grayed if you do not have any closed conversations.

Close

Close a conversation to remove it from the Select list if you aren't going to need it for a while. This option will not do anything if you have only one open conversation.

Delete

Delete a conversation you have created. This option is grayed if you only have one conversation created.

Stop Speaking

Tells the speech synthesizer to stop speaking whatever is currently being spoken.

Exit (Ctrl-X)

Exit Aurora Talk and save all conversations (if Save History checkbox is checked in Talk Options.)

Edit

Copy (Ctrl-Ins)

Copy the marked text to the clipboard. If no text is marked, this option is grayed.

Paste (Shift-Ins)

Paste the contents of the clipboard into the Talk window at the current cursor position. If there is more than one sentence in the clipboard, the clipboard data will be split up, one sentence per line in Talk. If the clipboard is empty, this option is grayed.

Cut (Shift-Del)

Copy the marked text to the clipboard and delete it from the Talk window. If no text is marked, this option is grayed.

Insert (Ins)

Toggle insert/overwrite mode in the Talk window.

Delete (Del)

Delete the character at the caret, or the marked block.

Select All (Ctrl-L)

Select all the text in the current conversation.

Find (Ctrl-F)

Find a word or string in the current conversation starting at the first line of the conversation.
Find Next (Ctrl-A)
Find the word or string that was last searched for again. This can be used to find a word if it exists several times throughout a conversation.

Options

Talk Options...
Open the Aurora Talk Options dialog to set the features of Aurora Talk.

Voice Options...
Open the Aurora Voice Options dialog to set the features for voice output in any Aurora program.

Window Options...
Open the Window Options dialog to specify what Aurora Suite windows should open when Aurora Suite starts.

Feature Options...
Open the Feature Options dialog to customize what Aurora Suite features are available to the user.

Change Language...
Open the Language Selection dialog to change the language used by the application user interface including dialogs and menus.

Window

Next (Ctrl-N)
Switch to the next open conversation.

Previous (Ctrl-P)
Switch to the previous open conversation.

Select (Ctrl-S)
Switch to an open conversation by selecting from a list of all open conversations.

Show Predict...
Open the Prediction window if it is closed.

Show Echo...
Open Echo if it is closed.

Help

Help Contents (Ctrl-H)
Open the online help.
Registration Info...
Show the current registration status.

Buy Online...
Open Aurora's built-in online store to purchase your own copy of Aurora Suite and support Aurora Systems development of affordable, effective solutions for people with special needs.

About
Display the Aurora Suite version number and copyright information.

6.8. New Conversation

Each time you create a new conversation, you will be prompted to enter the name of the new conversation that will show up in the Talk title bar and in the conversation selection list. This is not a file name, so don't worry about paths etc, just type a name you like.

See Conversations for more information.

6.9. Open Conversation

You can control which conversations show up in the Select list by opening (Ctrl-O) and closing them from the Conversation menu. If you need to get back to a closed conversation, you can open it again.
To open a conversation from this dialog, select it with the mouse or keyboard, then press Enter or click on OK. Click Cancel to skip opening a conversation.

See [Conversations](#) for more information.

---

### 6.10. Delete Conversation

⚠️ If you have more than one conversation you have created, you can delete any one with the Conversations|Delete option. This option will be grayed if you only have one conversation created.

To delete a conversation from this dialog, select it with the mouse or keyboard, then press Enter or click on OK. Click Cancel to skip deleting a conversation.

See [Conversations](#) for more information.

---

### 6.11. Select Conversation

⚠️ You can quickly switch between conversations with the menus or use the shortcut keys (F11/F12) or (Ctrl-P/Ctrl-N) or choose Select (Ctrl-S) from the Window menu to choose the conversation to switch to by name.
To select a conversation to be active from this dialog, select it with the mouse or keyboard, then press Enter or click on OK. Click Cancel to skip changing to a conversation.

See Conversations for more information.

6.12. Find Text

Enter the word or string you wish to find in the current conversation. Press Enter or click on OK to search, or press Esc or click on Cancel to skip searching. You can get to this dialog fastest by using the shortcut key (Ctrl-F).

Find Next (Ctrl-A)

Find the word or string that was last searched for again. This can be used to find a word if it exists several times throughout a conversation.
Chapter 7: Voice

7.1. What is Voice

Voice provides speech output for Aurora Suite. It supports a number of different speech synthesizers and allows you to set settings for each speech synthesizer often including volume speed and pitch.

Pronunciation Correction

The Exception Editor allows you to change the pronunciation of mispronounced words. This is particularly useful for names.

Visual Highlighting

Visual Highlighting allows you to have visual feedback when the speech synthesizer is speaking. Often this is helpful in improving understanding and reinforcing relationships between spelling and spoken language. Voice allows you to choose whether regular speech, feedback speech, or both are highlighted. You can also change the font and colors in the highlighting window.

And More...

We recommend you read through the following sections to find more about Voice.

7.2. Voice Options

The Aurora Voice Options dialog box allows you to choose which speech synthesizer you want to use and if you want to use Aurora's pronunciation exception system to correct the synthesizer's pronunciation. It also allows you to configure the selected speech synthesizer.
Select a Voice Driver from the list below.

Choose the speech synthesizer you want to use. By default, Voice will offer all Microsoft Speech API 5 (SAPI) speech synthesizers that you have installed on your computer.

**Autodetect**

If you press this button, Aurora will search for all installed speech synthesizer drivers on the computer. After autodetection is complete, you will be given the option to choose from the list of synthesizers it was able to locate.

**Voice Setup**

Press this button to set up the options for the selected speech synthesizer. For detailed help setting up the selected speech synthesizer, press F1 or click on the Help button when in the Voice Setup dialog for the synthesizer.

**Try it!**

Press this button to test your synthesizer to make sure it is working. If it is working correctly, you should hear it speak "This is a test." If nothing happens and the buttons on the Aurora Voice Options dialog
remain grayed, wait up to a minute, the voice driver should time out and return control or an error message. You can then adjust the voice settings or choose another synthesizer.

**Note:** If you are using a Microsoft Speech API 4 (SAPI) synthesizer, you may experience static or halting speech. If this occurs, go into Voice Setup and adjust the Speed setting downwards. This symptom occurs when the speech synthesizer requires more computer horsepower than you have.

**Use an Exception file to do Pronunciation Correction**

If this checkbox is checked, Aurora will attempt to use the currently selected exception file to correct the pronunciation of words. If the Edit Exception file button is grayed, no exception file is currently selected and pronunciation correction is disabled.

**Select Exception File**

Aurora's voice drivers support generic pronunciation exception handling to correct the pronunciation of words mispronounced by the speech synthesizer. Use this option to select the exception file to use with your speech synthesizer. Exception file names have the extension .X. For this option to have any effect, you must also check the **Use an Exception file to do Pronunciation Correction** checkbox.

**Tip:** .X files from previous Aurora releases are not compatible with Aurora Suite.

**New Exception File**

To create a new, empty exception file, choose Select Exception File and then rather than selecting a pre-existing .X file, type in the name of a new one to be created and select Ok.

**Edit Exception File**

Press this button to start the Aurora [Exception Editor](#) to edit the exception file you have selected in Select Exception File above. If this button is grayed, you have not selected an exception file in Select Exception file above.

**Highlight Speech**

If this is checked, the Aurora Visual Highlighting window will appear on the desktop, displaying the text to be spoken and highlighting each word as it is spoken. Speech generated by deliberate actions such as using Aurora Talk, or manual reading features in Echo will be displayed.

**Highlight Feedback**

If this is checked, the Aurora Visual Highlighting window will appear on the desktop, displaying the text to be spoken and highlighting each word as it is spoken. Speech generated by spoken feedback features in Aurora Echo will be displayed.

**Note:** If both Highlight Speech and Highlight Feedback are unchecked, the Aurora Visual Highlighting window will not appear.

**Font**
This allows you to select the font face and size to be used in the Visual Highlighting window.

![Font dialog box]

**Text Color/Back Color/Highlight Color**

⚠️ This allows you to select the colors to be used in the Voice Feedback Window for the text, the window background, and the color used to highlight the current word being spoken.

![Color dialog box]

Press Ok to save changes, or Cancel to not save changes.

7.3. Exception Editor

⚠️ The Exception Editor allows you to edit the pronunciation of any word or phrase spoken by your speech synthesizer. These pronunciation exceptions are stored in exception files that have the file name extension .X.

**Note:** .X files for Aurora Suite are not compatible with .X files from Aurora for Windows. If you have an existing .X file, you will need to recreate it for use with Aurora Suite.

By default, the Aurora Exception Editor loads the currently active exception (*.X) file.
7.4. Exceptions

Exceptions allow you to customize the pronunciation of your speech synthesizer, to correct mispronunciations - especially names, to adjust the pacing of your speech synthesizer's speech for specific phrases, and even make it incapable of saying certain words, such as cursing.

Pronunciation Correction

Each exception is made up of two parts, the Word that is pronounced incorrectly, and the Exception or phonetic spelling that the speech synthesizer pronounces correctly. For example, on one early speech synthesizer, the word "are" was pronounced like "air", so it needed a pronunciation exception of "r" to make it pronounce "are" correctly. Typically getting a good pronunciation for the exception is a matter of trial and error - try a spelling variation, have the synthesizer say it, try another variation and so on until an optimal variation is found.

Adjusting Synthesizer Pacing

On some synthesizers the pacing of the voice is very mechanical "I - WANT - TO - GO - TO - THE - STORE". Exceptions can be entered that slur words together to make them more natural sounding, so you could enter exceptions for "I want to" like "I wantoo" and "go to" like "gotoo" and "the store" like "thuhstore" to get "I wanto - go - to - the - store" which sounds nicer. For this technique to be successful, a large number of exceptions need to be entered that cover the most common phrases used by the user.

Censoring

You can prevent your speech synthesizer from saying certain words by entering the words as the Word, and nothing or "fudge" as the exception. It is a good idea if you are doing this to also do the same thing for any spelling variations you can think of.

7.5. Edit Exception
To edit or add an exception, you need to move to the **Mispronounced Word** field and type the word.

**Mispronounced Word**

Enter the word that is being pronounced incorrectly as we have entered **ROBERT** below. A word may not be longer than 32 characters. Click on the Say button to hear your synthesizer say the word in the Word field. This will generally tell you if the word needs to have an exception entered for it.

**Correction**

Enter a phonetic variation of the word that is being pronounced incorrectly. Click on the Say button to hear your synthesizer say the exception in the Correction field. This will generally tell you if the exception you have entered is pronounced as desired. An exception may be 0 characters long, but not longer than 32 characters.

**Ok**

Click on Ok to save the new correction for the mispronounced word. Note that if you later click on the No Save button, your changes will be lost.

**Delete**

Click on the Delete button to delete the correction for the word that is in the Mispronounced Word field.

**No Save**

Click on the No Save button to leave the exception editor without saving any of the changes you have made while editing pronunciation exceptions. This will close the Edit Pronunciation Exceptions dialog.

**Save**

Click on the Save button to save all the changes you have made while in the pronunciation exception editor to disk. This will close the Edit Pronunciation Exceptions dialog.

**See Also**

[About Exceptions](#)
7.6. Troubleshooting Speech

If you have problems with speech output in Aurora, there are a number of common problems described below with solutions.

No Speech Output
If you have a sound card, and the volume setting for WAV audio is turned up, and the speakers are working, select a Voice Driver from the list in Voice Options and see if the Test button works afterwards. If it doesn't try another voice driver until you find one that works.

Crackling or Halting Speech
If you are using a Microsoft Speech API (SAPI) synthesizer, you may experience static or halting speech. If this occurs, go into the Voice Options dialog and click on the Voice Setup button and adjust the Speed setting downwards. This symptom occurs when the speech synthesizer requires more computer horsepower than you have.

Aurora Suite Takes Forever to Start

Often long delays starting Aurora Suite are caused by the Microsoft Speech API Version 4 (SAPI) driver. If you are not using a SAPI 4 speech synthesizer you can get rid of this delay by renaming or deleting the file PCV_SAPI4.DLL from your \Program Files\Aurora Suite 2005 directory.

7.7. Microsoft Speech 4

This voice driver supports speech output using any speech synthesizer supported by the Microsoft Speech API Version 4 (SAPI) on Windows 2000 and XP. If your speech synthesizer software supports SAPI Version 5, we recommend you use that driver instead.

Note: This driver is rather unstable and operates strangely or extremely slowly on some systems. Our testing has shown the exact same problems in the Microsoft supplied test programs for the Speech API which indicates the problem is not within our software. We have done everything we can to mitigate crashes and provide dialog boxes to warn you of trouble spots. We're sorry this driver is so unreliable but there isn't anything we can do about it.

Tip: If you experience static or halting speech, adjust the Speed setting downwards. This symptom occurs when the speech synthesizer requires more computer horsepower than you have.

Free SAPI4 Speech Synthesizers from Microsoft
Microsoft has made a number of languages available for their free L&H speech synthesis engine available at the Microsoft Agent website.

Windows XP: You need to install Microsoft Speech API 4.0a (here (850K)) from the Aurora Suite CD before these voices will work.
French (2.3M)
Spanish (2.4M)
Russian (3M)
Portuguese (2.5M)
Korean (3.1M)
Japanese (3.1M)
Italian (2.0M)
German (2.3M)
Dutch (2.7M)

**SAPI 4 Options**

The basic options dialog for SAPI 4 offers a volume control. To get voice-specific options, select the Driver Setup button.

**Driver Setup Options**

The Microsoft Speech API dialog will change depending on the options available on the SAPI compatible synthesizer you have chosen.

**General**

General voice options specific to the synthesizer you have chosen. This button is grayed if the speech synthesizer you have chosen does not support this setup feature.

**Country**

Country specific voice options for the synthesizer you have chosen. This button is grayed if the speech synthesizer you have chosen does not support this setup feature.

**Pronunciation**
Word Pronunciation adjustments. This button is grayed if the speech synthesizer you have chosen does not support this setup feature.

About
Version information on the selected speech syntheszer. This button is grayed if the speech synthesizer you have chosen does not support this setup feature.

Volume
Volume allows you to set the output volume of the speech synthesizer you have chosen.

Note: This setting is also affected by Windows volume control. If you do not get any sound out when you speak, and this volume is not zero, check that the volume control is set to maximum in Windows, and that the volume dial on the back of your sound card (if available) is not at zero.

Speed
Speed allows you to set the speed of speech of the speech synthesizer you have chosen.

Note: If you experience static or halting speech, adjust the Speed setting downwards. This symptom occurs when the speech synthesizer requires more computer horsepower than you have.

Pitch
Pitch allows you to adjust the pitch of the speech of the synthesizer you have chosen.

Use DirectSound for Output
On some systems this checkbox may provide better performance or may allow the synthesizer to work where it otherwise doesn't.

Don't Crash, Leak Instead
Some SAPI synthesizers have a bug in them that will make them crash from time to time. If you have crash problems, check this checkbox, the quit the Aurora programs and restart Windows. This will limit the number of times that speech applications may be started, but should get rid of crashes.

7.8. Microsoft Speech 5

The Microsoft Speech API Version 5 (SAPI5) driver provides support for all synthesizers that support Microsoft Speech API 5. Most modern software speech synthesizers include support for SAPI 5.

Aurora Suite installs a number of SAPI5 speech synthesizers from Microsoft.

Options
The SAPI5 driver only supports changing the volume and speed of synthesizers. See individual speech synthesizer documentation for additional options that may be provided by the speech synthesizer software.
Microsoft Speech API 5 Settings:
You can set up global settings for SAPI here.

Speech Rate:

OK  Cancel
Chapter 8: Feature Options

8.1. Feature Options

Aurora Suite's Feature Options Editor allows teachers or parents to selectively enable or disable features within Aurora Suite. This can be used to control what features are available in a testing situation, or to streamline and simplify Aurora Suite for the cognitively challenged user.

To enable or disable a feature, double click on it. When you are done, press Ok to save your changes, or Cancel to exit without saving. You can push Reset Defaults at any time to restore all settings to their default values.

**Tip:** If a feature's default value is Disabled, you will not be able to Enable it.

**Warning:** It is possible to disable the Feature Options Editor itself, if you need to get it back, delete the file \Documents and Settings\%USERNAME%\My Documents\Aurora Suite 2005\Features.set which stores the settings defined in the Feature Options Editor.
Chapter 9: Window Options

9.1. Window Options

Window Options allows you to specify which Aurora Suite windows open when Aurora Suite starts.

After Aurora Suite is running, you can close individual Aurora Suite windows by closing them through their menus or by clicking on their Close buttons.

Once all three Aurora Suite windows are closed, Aurora Suite will exit.

You can open any Aurora Suite window from the menus of any other Aurora Suite window.

**Tip:** You can close all Aurora Suite windows simultaneously by holding down the Shift key when you close Prediction, Talk or Echo.
Chapter 10: Languages

10.1. Language Selection

Language Selection allows you to select the language to be used for the application user interface. The language to be used by speech synthesizers can be selected in Voice Options and the language for word prediction is selected by opening a dictionary for the appropriate language.

You Can Help: If you would like to help other Aurora users and you have a gift for a language that isn't supported by Aurora, we have made it easy to translate Aurora's user interface to other languages. If you send us the messages.txt file for a new language, we will make it available to other Aurora Suite users. If you need any assistance, please feel free to contact us.

10.2. Internationalization

Flexible support for multiple languages was a key design element of Aurora Suite. This section discusses existing support for individual languages and provides specific information and examples to help individuals translate some or all of the software. Additional support for specific languages will be added as translations can be arranged.

UNICODE and International Characters

Aurora supports entering characters using Alt+Numpad and typing in the character's decimal code with the Numeric Pad keys. You can get the decimal codes of characters you wish to type by using Windows Character Map tool. This can be found by clicking on Start|All Programs|Accessories|System Tools.

To type international characters:

- Alt+<xxx>, where xxx is the decimal value of a code point, generates an OEM-encoded character.
- Alt+<0xxx>, where xxx is the decimal value of a code point, generates a Windows-encoded character.
- Alt+<+>+<xxxx>, where xxxx is the hexadecimal Unicode code point, generates a Unicode-encoded (UTF-16) character.
Note: In Microsoft Word, the NumLock key must be on for this to work.

Note: WordPad incorrectly processes Alt+<xxx> as if it was Alt+<0xxx>.

Aurora currently does not support the Alt-X feature of Wordpad and Microsoft Word for converting hex values to UNICODE characters.

Translation
The Aurora Suite software is designed to be able to be translated by end-users and overseas distributors with only minimal assistance from Aurora Systems. The application supports both ANSI ASCII and UNICODE (little-endian) character sets, all language-specific files are user-accessible, speech synthesizer drivers are implemented as executable plugins, and there is a speech synthesizer toolkit that will allow overseas developers to add their own language speech synthesizers to Aurora Suite if they are not already supported by the SAPI drivers.

You Can Help
If you would like to help other Aurora users and you have a gift for a language that isn't supported by Aurora, we have made it is easy to translate Aurora's user interface to other languages. If you send us the messages.txt file for a new language, we will make it available to other Aurora Suite users. If you need any assistance, please feel free to contact us.

10.3. User Translation

Translating the Menus and Messages
The first step in making your own translation of Aurora Suite is to go to the \Program Files\Aurora Suite 2005\resources\lang folder and create a new folder that is the name of the language you are going to translate.

Once that folder is made, go to the english folder and copy the messages.txt file to the new language folder of the language you are translating to. So if you were translating to Spanish, you would copy messages.txt from \Program Files\Aurora Suite 2005\resources\lang\english to \Program Files\Aurora Suite 2005\resources\etalk2\lang\spanish to start.

Selecting an Editor
To edit the messages.txt file, any ASCII editor such as Windows Notepad will work, however if you require accented characters, you may need to instead use an editor that supports UNICODE. Windows Notepad in Windows 2000 and later support UNICODE as an option when you save the file and this is the editor we recommend. Note that if you use UNICODE rather than ASCII, the messages file will take longer to load at startup as it will take double the disk space of the ASCII version. We recommend you do not use Microsoft Word or other word processor to edit this file, it will most likely damage the formatting rendering your work difficult and possibly unusable. Be very careful of using any editor that does automatic line-length wrapping, since each line must stay intact for the translated file to work.

Anatomy of messages.txt
The messages.txt file contains instructions throughout to assist you in your translation. Here is some additional information about the file:
• When there are instructions or when you want to add additional information to the file that you want the program to ignore, place them on comment lines. Comment lines start with a ; in the first column and are shown in red here. Such lines will be ignored by the application. You can place a semicolon anywhere else in a line and it will be treated as a semicolon as shown in this example:

; This is a comment that the program will ignore.
Name But this is a message that includes a semicolon; you follow?

• Each line in the file is a single string (or text element) from the program such as a button label, error message, or line of instructions. Each string is organized on a single line where the first word on the line is the name of the string used internally by the program. These names are blue in the examples. The rest of the line is the string value (shown in green.)

Support For technical support see http://www.aurora-systems.com

Warning: Do not split lines to make them more readable. The following won't work:

Support For technical support see
http://www.aurora-systems.com

Warning: Do NOT translate, or in any way change the name of the string (the first word on each line as shown in blue in the examples.) The following won't work:

Assistance Pour assistance aller au http://www.aurora-systems.com

• Sections are labeled with either LOCALIZE or DO NOT LOCALIZE and we recommend you follow these guidelines. For DO NOT LOCALIZE sections additional information is provided if you insist on localizing them anyway. It is most likely that we will be unable to support translations that do not follow our guidelines and you will find compatibility problems with other translations if you do not follow the guidelines.

Defining the Language Name
Within the messages.txt file there is one line that looks like:

LanguageEnglish English (U.S.A./Canada)

This is the one exception to the "don't change the name rule." The name of this line must be modified to include the folder of the language you are translating to, and the string part (green) must be changed to the language name you wish to have presented to the user in the language selection dialog. So for example, for French, change the line to:

LanguageFrench Francais (Quebec)

The word added to the end of "Language" MUST be the name of the language directory that this version of messages.txt is stored in.

An Example
Below are three lines taken from the top of the messages.txt file. These lines are colored to make it clearer the two parts of each line. In the messages.txt file when you are editing, unfortunately the lines are not colored. To translate these, ignore the first (blue) word on each line which is the name of the string, and translate the rest (green).

MSGNOTFOUND >> Message not found, sorry. <<
Copyright Copyright (C)2004 Aurora Systems, Inc., All Rights Reserved.
Support For technical support see http://www.aurora-systems.com

So if I were translating these into imaginary language (since my high school French is very rusty,) they would become:

MSGNOTFOUND >> Gleeker nada founda, toobadda. <<
Copyright Na maken da copies (C)2004 Aurora Systems, Inc., All stufsa reserven.
Support Whensuh broken goda http://www.aurora-systems.com

Note that the blue name parts on each line in both the original and the translated versions are identical.

Parameters
Some strings in the file have special characters within them, they are a % sign followed by a case-sensitive letter or sequence of letters. These %x markers will be replaced by other information when the string is displayed.

Do not remove, add, or rearrange the order of these markers. Doing so will result in incorrect displays on the screen. There is a possibility that these parameters may need to be rearranged for optimal translation, however in this release this is not supported. Please work with them in the order provided.

SMsg1 Script Error: %S 'S' on line %i

would translate in imaginary language to:

SMsg1 Written Boo Boo: %S 'S' atsa locashun %i

If your language's syntax would better be served by a translation like:

SMsg1 Written atsa locashun %i Boo Boo: %S 'S'

Don't! You've rearranged the parameters and the resulting string will either display incorrectly or cause Aurora Suite to crash. Find a way to work your translation around the requirement that these parameters stay in the right order. We have endeavoured to minimize the number of such strings.

When the message is presented to the user, the % markers will be replaced and the resulting message will look something like:

Script Error: Missing Identifier 'strcpy' on line 4

Context
You may find determining context within the messages.txt file difficult. To aid in this, each section of strings has some information before them about where they will end up in Aurora Suite when you run it.

; Speech error messages
SynthTitle Speech Synthesizer Warning
SynthNoneFoundPC No Speech drivers (PCV*.DLL) found. Speech output will be disabled.
SDE_NONE No error.
SDE_ERROR Generic error.
SDE_BADPARM Bad Parameter for Function
SDE_NOTIMPLEMENTED Not Implemented
SDE_BADERRORCODE Bad Driver Error code returned

As indicated by the red comment line, all of the above messages are related to speech synthesis and are error messages.

Technical Terms
There are computer technical terms and terms related to this program that are used throughout the messages.txt file. Translating these terms can be difficult if you are not familiar with their meaning. Most of the terms can be found in this manual with some looking. I'd suggest using your web browser's "find" feature on the Printer Friendly version. For computer and other technical terms, you might find a computer related online glossary such as this one to help you.

Testing your Translation
Once you have started your translation and have moved the messages.txt file to the correct directory and changed the LanguageXXX line as described above, you are ready to test your new translation. Start Aurora Suite, go into Setup, and select your new language on the Language page. The user interface should immediately change to use your translation.

Fit
One issue that will come up during testing is that you will most likely find that some of the translations do not fit in the space provided. All that can be done is to look for these problem areas and try to adjust them to fit.

Efficiency
If there are sections of the file which you are not going to translate, we recommend that you delete those lines from the translated messages.txt file. Any messages that do not exist in the translated file will be taken from the English resources, and a smaller language-specific file will load faster.
Chapter 11: Buy Online

11.1. Buy Online

Aurora Suite includes the Aurora Systems Online Services (ASOS) secure purchasing system. This system allows users to quickly, easily and securely purchase an Aurora Systems product through their internet connection. Once you make a purchase, the purchased product's serial number will operate in All-Day Demo mode. As soon as payment has been processed, your product will become available for activation, often long before the software could show up by regular shipping.

Reseller Tip: If you are a reseller, you can obtain a reseller ID from Aurora Systems so that when you are at a customer's location and they decide to buy, you can install the software from your demo CD, and then purchase and activate the software for full operation while the customer watches. Once your order is submitted the user will get full access to the software they've chosen to buy without having to wait for order processing, and the software and manual can be shipped directly to the customer with the invoice going straight to the reseller with no additional paperwork.

Note: There may be times when ASOS is not available due to network outages, system maintenance, or other unforeseen circumstances. If this is the case when you try, please try again later.

Security

Aurora's online purchasing is secured by industry standard 1024-bit RSA encryption. All information entered in the purchasing system is encrypted during transit to Aurora Systems servers, rendering it unreadable to anyone trying to intercept the information. We take extra steps to protect your credit card information, ensuring it is always encrypted from the time you submit your order, even after it has been transmitted to Aurora Systems servers. The lock icon shown below is your indication that the information you are entering will be transmitted securely to Aurora Systems via the internet.

Your Privacy
Aurora Systems respects your privacy. We have a corporate privacy policy that explains what information we collect and what we use it for. If you are connected to the internet, you can click on Your Privacy to view our privacy policy.

11.2. Start Shopping

The first step is to use Start Shopping to retrieve the current product and price list from Aurora Systems Servers.

Note: An active internet connection is required to use this service.

Retrieve Product List

Push this button to connect to Aurora Systems over the internet and retrieve the current product and price list. A status window will appear to let you know how the download is proceeding.

I am a registered Aurora Systems reseller

If you are a registered Aurora Systems reseller and have a reseller ID and password, and you want to purchase a product using ASOS, check this box so that you will be prompted to enter your ID and password.

Cancel

Press Cancel to return to the previous page.

Your Privacy

Push this button to view Aurora Systems privacy policy. The privacy policy is a web page and requires an active internet connection to retrieve.

11.3. Reseller Information
If you have selected the I am a registered Aurora Systems reseller box on the Retrieve Pricelist page you will be prompted to enter your Reseller ID and password. If you did not check the box, you will skip to Select Payment Means.

Please carefully protect your reseller password, as it confirms your identity as an Aurora Reseller and its use conveys your authorization for Aurora Systems to charge purchases against your company's account.

If for any reason you think your reseller password may have been compromised or lost, please contact Aurora Systems customer service IMMEDIATELY to prevent any unauthorized charges against your account.

**Warning:** Make sure you are very careful entering the Reseller ID and password, these will not be verified until you submit the purchase for processing, and an error may cause your purchase to be rejected.

**Reseller ID**

Enter your reseller ID.

**Password**

Enter your reseller password. The password will not display, asterisks will be shown for each letter typed.

**Next**

Press Next to submit your information and proceed to the next step. If there is an error in the information or you have not entered all required information, you will not be able to proceed.

**Cancel**

Leave the purchasing system.

---

**11.4. Select Payment Means**
Once the pricelist has been retrieved, you will be prompted to select how you wish to pay for your purchase.

Highlight the payment means you choose using the mouse or keyboard.

**Credit Card**
If you choose a credit card payment, once you submit your order for processing, you will be provided a serial number that will operate in All-Day Demo mode for up to 30 days. Once your credit card payment has been processed, the software will become available for activation the next time you start Aurora Suite, typically within 24 hours.

**Bill Me**
If you choose Bill Me, once you submit your order for processing, you will be provided a serial number that will operate in All-Day Demo mode for up to 30 days. You will also be sent an invoice for your purchase via mail. Once payment for the invoice has been processed by Aurora Systems, your software will become available for activation the next time you start Aurora Suite.

**Reseller Purchase**
If you are a reseller, you may choose either payment method. Once your order has been processed and accepted by Aurora Systems, the software will be available for activation immediately.

**Previous**
Press this button to return to the previous step.

**Next**
Press this button to confirm your selection and move to the next step. If you have not made a selection, you will not be able to proceed.

**Cancel**
Leave the purchasing system.

### 11.5. Select Currency

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Once the payment method has been selected, you may be prompted to select a currency if your payment method supports multiple currencies. If your payment method does not support multiple currencies, you will skip directly to Select Products.

Highlight the currency you choose using the mouse or keyboard.

**Previous**
Press this button to return to the previous step.

**Next**
Press this button to confirm your selection and move to the next step. If you have not made a selection, you will not be able to proceed.

**Cancel**
Leave the purchasing system.

### 11.6. Select Products

Select the Products you wish to purchase by entering the quantity of each item you would like to purchase.
Each line displays the product name, single unit price, and the total price of the number of product copies selected. To view the complete list of products, use the scroll bar. The currency of the prices is stated at the bottom.

**Product Info**

If you have an active internet connection, you can get detailed information on any of the products by clicking on the i buttons.

**Subtotal**

This is the total price of the products you have selected, not including shipping charges and taxes.

**Previous**

Press this button to return to the previous step.

**Next**

Press this button to confirm your selection and move to the next step. If you have not set the quantity for any of the products greater than zero, you will not be able to proceed.

**Cancel**

Leave the purchasing system.

### 11.7. Shipping Country

Select the Country you are going to have the products shipped to. This is used to calculate shipping charges and any applicable taxes.

**Note:** If your country is not listed, you will not be able to use the automated purchasing system to make your purchase. Please contact [Aurora Systems Customer Service](mailto:aurora.systems.customer.service@aurora.com) for assistance with your purchase.
11.8. Shipping Territory

Some countries have shipping charges and taxes that are specific to individual provinces, states or territories. If your selected country does not have such territories, you will skip directly to select a Shipping Method. Select the Territory the product will be shipped to.
Next
Press this button to confirm your selection and move to the next step. If you have not selected a territory, you will not be able to proceed.

Cancel
Leave the purchasing system.

11.9. Shipping Method

Select the Shipping Method you prefer. Depending on your shipping destination, you may have different choices here. This also provides a detailed summary of the total charge for the order including all fees and taxes in the currency specified.

The prices for each shipping method are listed and the currency for those prices is specified at the bottom of the dialog.

Shipping Costs and Taxes
Any applicable taxes for your selected territory will be listed in the specified currency. On the screenshot above, Canadian GST applies to the shipping charges for the purchase. If there are no taxes that Aurora Systems is responsible for collecting, this area will not be visible.

Software Total
This is the total price of the products you have selected to purchase in the specified currency.

Order Total
This is the total of your order including products and shipping

Previous
Press this button to return to the previous step.

Next
Press this button to confirm your selection and move to the next step.

Cancel
Leave the purchasing system.

11.10. Credit Card

Once you are satisfied with your selections and are ready to make a purchase, if you have selected to pay via credit card, you will be prompted to enter your credit card information. If not, you will skip directly to entering your Billing Address.

**Note:** Currently Aurora Systems is only able to accept VISA cards. If you do not have a VISA card, please go back and select a different Payment Means.

**Security**

Aurora's online purchasing is secured by industry standard 1024-bit RSA encryption. We take extra steps to protect your credit card information, ensuring it is always encrypted from the time you submit your order, even after it has been transmitted to Aurora Systems servers.

![Credit Card Information]

**Card Number**
Enter the number from your VISA card.

**Good Thru (Expiry) Date**
Select the month and year that your VISA card is good thru.

**Good From Date**
Select the month and year that your VISA card is good from. This is optional, however it may help prevent submission of an invalid card.

**Card Verification Value**
The Card Verification Value (CVV) is the three digit number from the back of your VISA card as shown in the picture. The CVV is optional, but it can help speed credit card processing.
Previous
Press this button to return to the previous step.

Next
Press this button to confirm your selection and move to the next step. If the card number or good thru date is invalid you will not be able to proceed. If the good thru date is correct and Aurora Suite will still not let you continue, check that the date on your computer is set correctly.

Cancel
Leave the purchasing system.

11.11. Card Billing Address

Enter your Credit Card billing address exactly as it appears on your bill.

Shipping Address for purchase is same as Credit Card Billing Address
Check this box if the address you would like your product shipped to is the same as the Credit Card billing address, this will save you re-entering the information.

Billing Address for purchase is same as Credit Card Billing Address
Check this box if the address you would like the invoice for your product sent to is the same as the Credit Card billing address, this will save you re-entering the information.

Previous
Press this button to return to the previous step.

Next
Press this button to confirm your selection and move to the next step. If the address entered is incomplete you will not be able to proceed.

Cancel
Leave the purchasing system.

11.12. Billing Address

Enter the address where you would like the invoice for your purchase to be sent to.

Shipping Address for purchase is same as Billing Address

Check this box if the address you would like your product shipped to is the same as the address you would like the invoice for your purchase sent to, this will save you re-entering the information.

Previous

Press this button to return to the previous step.

Next

Press this button to confirm your selection and move to the next step. If the address entered is incomplete you will not be able to proceed.

Cancel

Leave the purchasing system.

11.13. Shipping Address

Enter the address where you would like your purchase to be sent to.
Previous
Press this button to return to the previous step.

Next
Press this button to confirm your selection and move to the next step. If the address entered is incomplete you will not be able to proceed.

Cancel
Leave the purchasing system.

11.14. Contact Information

Enter Contact Information to be used to complete the purchase.

Telephone
Enter the daytime telephone number where you can be reached in case there is any question while processing your order.

Email Address
Enter an Email Address in case there is any question processing your order. This is optional unless you check Please notify me of new products and product updates below. If you wish to be able to check the status of your order online, you must enter an email address.

**Password**

Enter a password to be used when you want to check the status of your order online.

**Please notify me of new products and product updates.**

If you have entered an Email Address above and you wish to be notified when product updates or new products from Aurora Systems become available, check this box.

**Your Privacy**

Aurora Systems respects your privacy. We have a corporate privacy policy that explains what information we collect and what we use it for. If you are connected to the internet, you can click on Your Privacy to view our [privacy policy](#).

**Previous**

Press this button to return to the previous step.

**Next**

Press this button to confirm your entries and move to the next step. You must enter a telephone number before you will be able to proceed.

**Cancel**

Leave the purchasing system.

---

**11.15. Complete Purchase**

You have now entered all the information needed to process your purchase. Please verify the information is correct and when you are ready to make your purchase and authorize payment with the selected payment means, press Complete Purchase to send your order to Aurora Systems for processing.

**Note:** Before you continue, you must have an active internet connection.
Ship To
This is the Ship To address you entered.

Bill To
This is the Bill To address you entered.

Selected Product(s)
This is a summary of the products you have selected to purchase.

Shipping
This is the shipping method you have selected.

Payment Means
This is the means of payment you have selected.

Currency
This is the currency that your order will be processed in.

Total
This is the total of your order including all shipping charges and taxes and the amount that you will be billed for this purchase.

Previous
Press this button to return to the previous step.

Complete Purchase

Warning: This is your last chance to cancel this purchase. Once you press this button, your order will be processed.
Press this button to confirm your selections and send your order to Aurora Systems for processing. By pressing this button, you are authorizing Aurora Systems or its suppliers to process your order and payment with the selected payment means.

Cancel
Leave the purchasing system.

### 11.16. Purchase Result

Once your order has been submitted for processing, after a few moments the result will be returned. Assuming the order is successful, please make a note of this information, you may need your order number and serial number in the future. If there is a problem with the order, an error message will be provided.

![Aurora Systems Secure Online Purchasing Result](image)

**Print**
Press this button to open the result of your purchase in Internet Explorer so it can be printed. We strongly recommend you print a copy of this document.

**Previous**
Press this button to return to the previous step.

**Next**
Press this button to confirm your selection and move to the next step. If you have not set the quantity for any of the products greater than zero, you will not be able to proceed.

**Cancel**
Leave the purchasing system.

### 11.17. Select Serial
If you wish to activate the products you have purchased for full operation on the computer you have purchased them on, select the serial number for the product you wish to activate.

Aurora Activation sends your serial number along with a special Hardware Code unique to your computer to Aurora Systems servers which provide an Activation Code which enables the software for full operation. You can learn more about activation from our online Activation FAQ.

Please Note: your Aurora Suite serial number is your key to access the software and services you have purchased from Aurora Systems. Aurora Systems is a small company and we rely on the support of customers like you to continue in our mission to produce affordable, effective solutions for people with special needs. Please do not share your serial number with others and be sure to protect it like your Social Security Number (SSN), Social Insurance Number (SIN) or other confidential personal information.

Select Users for this Serial Number

Most users will select Use this serial number for all users so that any subsequent Windows users added to the system will be able to use this serial number.

Tip: Network administrators should select to use the serial number for all users so that Aurora Suite will work for roaming users.

If only a single Windows user will be using the software, or if different users are using unique installations of Aurora Suite, choose Use this serial number only for the current user.

Previous

Press this button to return to the previous step.

Next

Press this button to confirm your selection and submit the serial number over the internet to Aurora Systems for activation on this computer.

Once the automatic activation has been processed, the process with continue with registration. For additional information, please see Registration.

Cancel
If you do not wish to activate the serial number automatically, press this button to leave the purchasing system without activating a serial number.

**Your Privacy**

Push this button to view Aurora Systems privacy policy. The privacy policy is a web page and requires an active internet connection to retrieve.
Chapter 12: Advanced Topics

12.1. Export Warning

This software product uses strong cryptography. Import, export and/or use of this software may be illegal or subject to restrictions in some parts of the world.

Details
RSA encryption with a 1024 bit modulus is used to protect personal and financial information transmitted over the internet during financial transactions, and during product activation and registration.

The encryption software included in this product is not directly available for use by the end user.

12.2. File Locations

Aurora Suite places files in the following locations:

\Program Files\Aurora Suite 2005 - Program files and settings
\Program Files\Aurora Suite 2005\UserFiles - Default User Files
\Documents and Settings\%USERNAME%\My Documents\Aurora Suite 2005 - User Specific Files

12.3. Settings & Data Files

Common Settings File
The common aurora.set file can be found in the \Program Files\Aurora Suite 2005 folder. This file contains settings common to all users of Aurora Suite on this computer.

Private Settings File
There is also an aurora.set file for each user. This is stored in the \Documents and Settings\%USERNAME%\My Documents\Aurora Suite 2005 folder. This file contains the bulk of the settings for each user. This folder will not exist unless Aurora Suite has been started with the given %USERNAME% logged in to Windows.

User-Specific Files
Each time a new Windows user starts Aurora Suite, a new Aurora Suite 2005 folder will be created under the My Documents folder of that user. This folder contains dictionary files, type and talk history, settings, and other files created during the operation of Aurora Suite.

12.4. MS-DOS Windows
Aurora Suite does not provide support for DOS applications running under the Windows Operating Environment.

12.5. Import Dictionary Utility

**Note:** This tool is no longer supported, and is not included with Aurora Suite, it is available upon request from Aurora Systems Technical support and provided on an as-is basis.

The Aurora Dictionary Import Tool allows you to import words from Aurora 1.0 for Windows or Aurora for DOS dictionaries. Aurora Suite will read Aurora 2.0 and 3.0 for Windows dictionaries directly, so you do not need to use this tool if you are upgrading from Aurora 2.0 for Windows or later.

This program does not import prediction information, so any next word prediction information from the previous version's dictionaries will be lost.

This program may take several hours to run so we recommend running it overnight. Don't forget to plug in your computer if it is a portable system.

**Note:** This tool comes bundled with the dictionaries from Aurora for Windows 3.0. This tool does not support Aurora Suite format dictionaries directly, so to import an Aurora for Windows 1.0 dictionary or Aurora for DOS dictionary, it must first be converted to version 3 format using this tool, and finally opened with Aurora Suite which will then convert it to Aurora Suite format.

**Aurora 1.0 for Windows or Aurora for DOS Dictionary File to Import Words From**

Enter the full path and file name of the Aurora for DOS or Aurora 1.0 for Windows dictionary file that you wish to import vocabulary words and macros from. You do not need to import Aurora 2.0 for Windows or later dictionaries, Aurora Suite will read them directly.

Example:
C:\AWIN\DCTSMALL.DCT

Aurora 3.0 for Windows Dictionary File to Receive Imported Words
Enter the full path and file name of the Aurora 3.0 for Windows dictionary file (provided with this tool, NOT an Aurora Suite dictionary file) that you wish to add words from the Aurora 1.0 for Windows or Aurora for DOS dictionary to. You may also enter a new dictionary file name to create a new Aurora 3.0 for Windows dictionary file containing the vocabulary from the old dictionary but this dictionary will not contain any next word prediction statistics.

Example:
C:\AWIN3\PREDICT.DCT

Import Standard Words
If this checkbox is unchecked, Import will complete much more quickly because it will only import words and macros that you have added, or that have been learned. Words that are part of the standard vocabulary will not be added.

Note that some words that were standard in the Aurora 1.0 for Windows dictionaries are not standard in the Aurora 3.0 for Windows dictionaries and to add those words to your dictionaries, you will need to check this checkbox.

Memory Limit
This is the amount of memory that the Import tool is allowed to use. We recommend you set this value to at most 2048K less than the amount of memory in your computer. The larger the value here, the faster this program will complete.

If you have 4M of RAM (memory) in your computer set this to 2048.
If you have 8M of RAM (memory) in your computer set this to 6144.
If you have 12M of RAM (memory) in your computer set this to 10240.
If you have 16M of RAM (memory) in your computer set this to 12288.
If you have 24M of RAM (memory) in your computer set this to 20480.
If you have 32M of RAM (memory) in your computer set this to 20480.

Optimize Dictionary
If this checkbox is checked, after the words have been imported, the Aurora 3.0 for Windows dictionary file will be optimized for best performance. If this checkbox is not checked, all options in the Optimization Options group will be disabled.

Cache Size Target
This should be set to the same value as Cache Size in Aurora Prediction's Prediction Options dialog. For an 8M RAM system, we recommend 1536 for this setting. For a 16M RAM system, we recommend 2048, 3072 or 4096 where larger values will give better performance.

Statistics Thinning Factor
This should be set to 0. Setting this to any other value will remove prediction statistics information from the dictionary reducing its ability to predict next words.
Save Backup Copy of Dictionary
If you check this checkbox, a backup copy of the Aurora 3.0 for Windows dictionary file will be made during optimization. Note: You will need enough free disk space to contain two complete dictionary files for optimization to complete.

Delete Unused Words, Phrases, Macros
Delete learned but unused words, phrases, and macros from the dictionary. It is generally good to check words and phrases, and uncheck macros.

Compress Dictionary
Do not select this option, older compressed dictionaries are not compatible with Aurora Suite. After conversion to Aurora Suite format, the dictionary can then be compressed using dictionary optimization.
Chapter 13: Technical Support

13.1. Glossary

**Activate Window** - Before Aurora Prediction will do word prediction for a window, the window must be activated. This can be automatic in Aurora Suite.

**Aurora Prediction** - A program that attempts to guess what you are typing to help speed input and improve spelling.

**Cache** - Memory used to improve the performance of the Aurora Prediction program.

**Compression** - A technique used to make dictionary files smaller on disk in exchange for a performance loss on slower computers.

**Deactivate Window** - If you no longer want Aurora Prediction to do word prediction for a window, it must be deactivated.

**Dictionary** - Collection of words, phrases, macros and other information used by Aurora Prediction, usually in a .DCT file on disk.

**Grammatical Rules** - Set of English grammatical rules applied to the words in the dictionary to reduce the number of inappropriate words offered to the user in the prediction window.

**Homonyms/Homophones** - Words that sound similar but have different spellings and meanings, for example their, they're and there or too, two, and to.

**Logical Letter Coding** - See Text Macro.

**Macro** - Preprogrammed short code used to expand a longer phrase.

**Macro Code** - Preprogrammed short code used to expand a longer phrase.

**Macro Expansion** - Phrase generated when a macro code is typed. Can be speech or text output.

**Multiple Word Prediction** - Technique which allows Aurora Prediction to learn phrases as they are used as opposed to traditional preprogrammed techniques.

**Optimization** - Feature of Aurora Prediction that can improve dictionary performance by improving dictionary files' internal structure.

**Phrase** - Two or more words treated as a single word, can be preprogrammed or learned automatically.

**Priority** - Determines which words and phrases are offered first by Aurora Prediction. Priority changes dynamically as Aurora Prediction is used to adjust the dictionary to the individual user's writing style.
**Phonetic Spelling** - Aurora Prediction uses a technique to attempt to guess the word the user is typing if the word is not one already in the dictionary. It presents the user with words that sound like or have similar spellings to the word they are typing.

**Speech Macro** - Short macro code and expansion that are spoken.

**Spelling Autocorrection** - Special text macros that correct the spelling of commonly misspelled words.

**Text Macro** - Short macro code and expansion that are typed into the current application.

**WAV Macro** - Short macro code and expansion that cause a sound effect WAV file to be played.

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### 13.2. System Requirements

Minimum system requirements for Aurora Suite 2005 for Windows are:

- Windows 2000 or Windows XP.
- A 400MHz Pentium compatible CPU.
- 64M of RAM.
- 50M of disk space.
- A display resolution of at least 800x600.
- Speech output requires a windows supported sound card and speakers.
- Some program features require an internet connection.

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### 13.3. Support Resources

If you can't find the information you need in this user's guide, technical support regarding the installation, features and operation of this product is available from Aurora Systems or your reseller.

**Free Support**

The first place to look for support, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from anywhere in the world is our [online support resources](#). These include software updates, lists of known problems, frequently asked questions, and more.

**Registered Users Support**

Registered users with a valid support contract can get the fastest response to specific questions by contacting our development team directly via e-mail on the Internet at service@aurora-systems.com or by fax 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at (604)291-6310.

Support requests MUST include the following information:

- Your name.
- Product Serial Number.
• Contact e-mail address, telephone number or fax.
• Where you are calling from, and when is the best time to call back.
• Detailed description of problem, including the EXACT text of any error messages.

For fastest results, also include the following:

• File \Program Files\Aurora Suite 2005\aurora.set
• File \Documents and Settings\%USERNAME%\My Documents\Aurora 2005\aurora.set

Professional Edition users can receive voice technical support Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm Pacific time (12:00pm to 8:00pm Eastern time) at (604)291-6310. For most questions you will receive the quickest response and best information if you use our online resources or email or fax our development team.

Technical support questions cannot be answered by our toll-free order line staff. Please do not call them for technical support questions.
13.4. Notices

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