

Copy for PC Plus cover CD promotion

Welcome to your Test Drive version of Visio 3.0, the award-winning drawing and diagramming software program from Visio International. Visio enables Windows users to communicate concepts, processes and illustrations graphically in a totally intuitive manner. Just as most people have become accustomed to using word processors to deal with words and spreadsheets to present figures, Visio now enables users to present ideas visually.

Visio is designed for business users who have no drawing ability. It is a simple task to select SmartShapes from Visio's extensive library of Stencils and drag and drop them onto the page. Among the drawing types that can be accomplished with Visio are Flowcharting, Network Diagramming, Space Planning, Total Quality Management (ISO 9000 Standard) and Org Charting, to name but a few. And because Visio makes full use of OLE 2.0 (including in-place editing and OLE automation), the program integrates extremely well with existing Windows packages such as Microsoft Office and Lotus SmartSuite.

Visio is pioneering the exciting new category of drawing and diagramming software. Until recently, drawing packages have demanded that the user be able to draw. Even the most feature-packed, "easy-to-use" graphics programs require the user to initiate the drawing process with their own skills. As a result, most people do not produce drawings and diagrams on their computer. Conversely, most PC users have the need as part of their job to include drawings or diagrams in their day-to-day business documents. Visio takes away the need for artistic skills completely enabling all Windows users to convert ideas swiftly and effectively into graphic images.

In addition to the 750 SmartShapes in 22 stencils that are included with Visio 3.0 there are a number of additional SmartShape Libraries available which provide an even greater number of drawing types such as Advanced Network Diagrams, Advanced Flowcharting, Software Diagramming, Home Planning, Electrical Engineering and Advanced Marketing. Visio 3.0 has a typical buying price of £99 and the additional SmartShape libraries cost about £39 each.

The Visio Test Drive Kit that appears on the cover disk CD ROM is a special promotional version of Visio 3.0 which will allow you to test Visio's capabilities for yourself. It comes with one stencil, which contains a selection of the 750 SmartShapes that come with Visio 3.0. You can 'drag and drop' these pre-drawn Shapes and use Visio's tools to create your own Flowcharts, Org charts, Network Diagrams, Floor Plans, Maps and Technical Schematics which can then be included in your favourite Windows applications. Unlike the full version of Visio, the Test Drive Kit cannot save files, produce 'live' OLE 2.0 objects or allow users to create customised SmartShapes. Also on the CD ROM is a self running demo which will quickly take you through the way in which Visio works.

For further information about Visio or the name of your nearest reseller please call Visio Customer Services on Freephone 0800 834859 extension 115 (inside the UK) or +353 1 4590050 extension 115 (outside the UK). Site licences are available - for further information call Visio International (UK) on +44 1372 227904.

