SimplyTouch™
make it interactive

OpticalBar USB

User's Guide

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1. Welcome

It's so easy to make your screen interactive with the SimplyTouch OpticalBar. The links made available to you will simplify the use of your computer. Easier, faster and simpler, are the advantages the OpticalBar brings you.

You will have 14 icons always ready for you to use, while others are made available to you directly and a infinite number can be customized and configured as you please.

2. Box Contents

Your SimplyTouch OpticalBar box contains the following items:

1: OpticalBar USB

2: Adhesive pads

3: User guide

4: SimplyTouch Media Launcher software on CD-ROM

3. Installation

Insert the SimplyTouch Media Launcher CD-ROM into your drive. The software installation process should start automatically. If you have disabled the CD autorun function, double-click on the My Computer icon, then on your CD icon to start the installation.

Then follow the step by step instructions on-screen.

4. Using the Software for the First Time: Installing and Adjusting your OpticalBar

As soon as the software is installed, it will guide you through the installation and configuration of your OpticalBar. Three steps must be completed before you can use your OpticalBar:

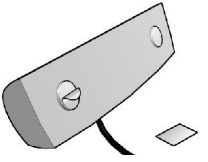
Correctly position it over the screen.

Adjust your screen if necessary.

Tell the software exactly where the OpticalBar is located.

4.1. Positioning the OpticalBar

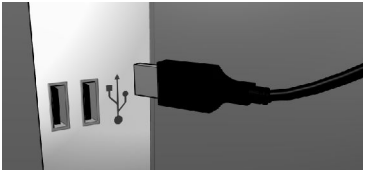
Use the self-adhesive pads to position the OpticalBar as shown below:



- Position the adhesive pads on the back of the OpticalBar, then remove the protective film.

- Mount the OpticalBar on the screen edge as follows:
  - Right at the edge of the display area (but not on it)
  - Parallel to the display area

Connect the OpticalBar to the USB port on your PC



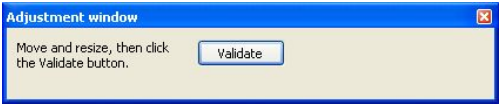
4.2. Adjusting your Screen

If the display area does not cover your entire screen, and especially if there are black stripes at the top of your screen that are too wide, you will not be able to correctly position the shortcut window. Make sure that the distance between your OpticalBar and the screen's display area does not exceed five millimeters. If not, you will have to adjust your screen so that the display area occupies as much screen area as possible.

Once the screen is adjusted, press the “Next” button to move onto the next step.

4.3. Positioning the Window

This third step displays a positioning window.



Move this window so that it occupies the following position:

The left and right hand window edges must be aligned with the left and right hand edges of the OpticalBar.

The lower edge of the window must be located three centimeters from the screen casing.

To make adjustment easier, you can use the marker found at the back of this guide to position the window.

Choose “Validate” to validate once the window is positioned.

5. The SimplyTouch Touch Palette

The palette is split into five zones:

1, 2: the two shortcut bars

These two bars comprise the shortcuts that you have chosen. Point a finger at one of these shortcuts and the related action (starting an Internet link, sending e-mail, starting a program, etc.) will start immediately.

3: the message bar

The text displayed in this bar shows the action currently taking place.

4: The “Minimize” icon

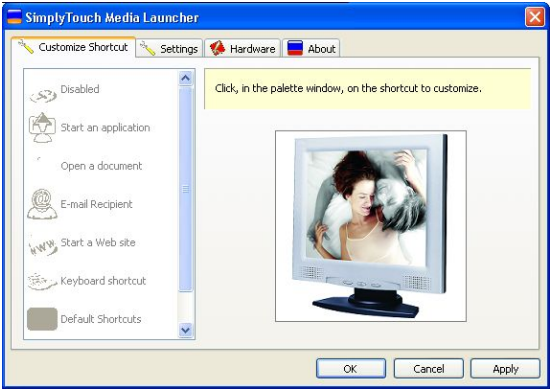
This icon minimizes the palette on your screen. Simply point a finger in front of your SimplyTouch optical bar and it will reappear.

5: The “Configure” icon

This icon lets you configure and change the shortcuts displayed in your palette.

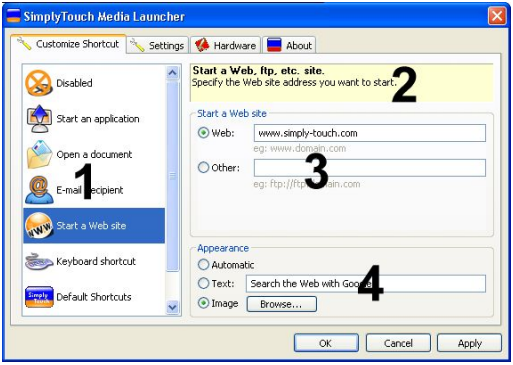
6. Changing Shortcuts

To configure your palette, use your mouse to click on the icon. The following window appears below it:



First click on the palette, then on the icon you wish to change or configure. The window will appear as shown on the next page.

6.1. Window Description



1. Action types

This zone lets you choose which action types will be triggered when you choose the selected icon.

2. Help

This window zone displays information reminding you what to do when configuring the chosen icon.

3. Configuring the chosen action

This window zone is the one where you can configure the action that you have chosen.

4. Configuring the icon's appearance

This zone lets you choose the appearance that your icon will have on screen (see page 19).

6.2. Choosing an Action

To choose the action that will be assigned to the icon that you have chosen, click on the desired action in the action bar.

Start an application: this type of action creates a shortcut that will directly open any application, program or game (see page 15).

Open a document: to gain direct access to any of your documents (see page 16).

Send an E-mail: to quickly send an e-mail message to an addressee (see page 17).

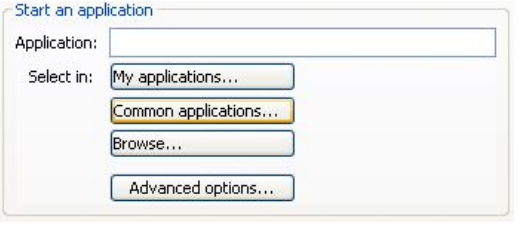
Go to a Web site: to access your favorite web sites or other Internet services (see page 17)

Keyboard shortcut: to define “keyboard shortcut” type links like performing a “Copy” action with its “Control+C” shortcut (see page 18).

Standard actions: so that you can directly use preset actions often used in Windows, such as “Copy”, “Paste” or “Print” (see page 19).

6.2.1. Starting an Application

When you choose the “start an application” action, the action configuration zone looks like this:



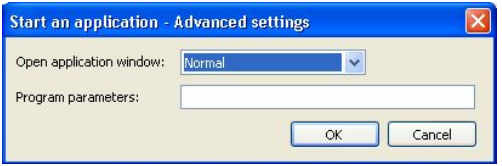
You have three choices, depending on the button you choose:

“My applications...”: This button lets you choose from among the applications installed just for you and not for other computer users.

“Common applications...”: This button lets you choose from among the applications installed for all computer users.

“Browse...”: This button lets you browse your computer's directory; you can use it if you know exactly where the application you wish to start is located.

The “Advanced options...” button provides access to advanced options for users who wish to run an application in a specific way:

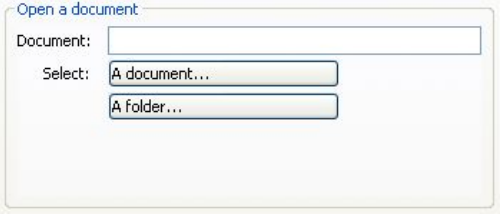


“Open application window”: lets you configure how the window will open when the link is activated: normal, maximized or minimized.

“Program parameters”: lets you specify parameters which will be sent to the program.

6.2.2. Opening a Document

When you choose the “open a document” action, the action configuration zone looks like this.



You have two choices, depending on which button you choose:

"A document...": lets you browse a list of your files; the application will open the corresponding document.

"A folder...": lets you browse the folders; the application will open an explorer within the selected folder.

6.2.3. Sending e-mail

When you choose the "send an e-mail" action, the action configuration zone looks like this:

Type the required e-mail address in the "Recipient" field.

6.2.4. Web Site

When you choose the "Start a web site" action, the action configuration zone looks like this:

Type the address of the web site you wish to open in the “Web” field. If you would like to open another kind of Internet address (FTP for example), choose the “Other” button and type the required address in the corresponding field.

6.2.5. Keyboard Shortcuts

You can assign a keyboard sequence (keyboard shortcut) to an icon in the bar. When you choose the “Keyboard shortcut” action, the action configuration zone looks like this:

To assign a keyboard shortcut to an icon in the palette that you have chosen, click on “Type a shortcut”, then enter your key sequence from the keyboard.

6.2.6. Standard Actions

The so-called standard actions comprise actions that are common to a number of programs, such as Cancel, Copy, Paste, Print, Save, etc. When you choose the “Standard actions” action, the action configuration zone looks like this:

Click on the action you would like to assign to the chosen icon.

6.3. Changing an Icon's Appearance

For each of the actions described above, there is an “Appearance” box under the action box that looks like this:

It lets you change the appearance of the corresponding icon.

Three options are available:

Automatic: Lets the application automatically choose a description text and/or picture.

Text: Enter a text to briefly describe your shortcut. This text will be displayed in the center of the palette when you activate it and in the shortcut button if no picture is assigned.

Image: Click on the “Browse...” button to browse the list of pictures available for display in the shortcut button.

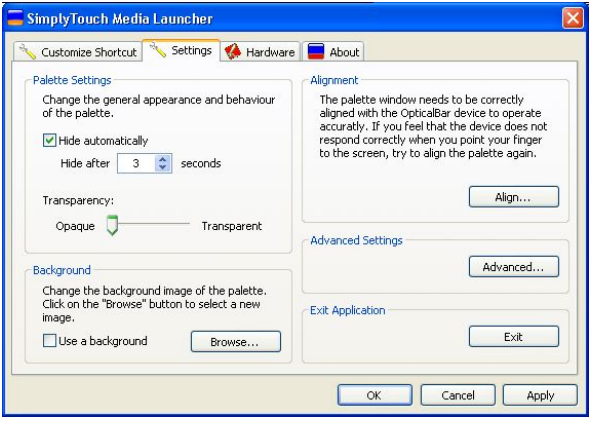
6.4. Validating Changes

Once you have finished configuring one of the programmable shortcuts, you can configure a new shortcut by clicking on its icon in the palette and by proceeding as described above.

Once the required changes have been made, you can validate all of the changes by choosing the OK button or return to the previous palette status by choosing the Cancel button.

7. Preferences

Just like for shortcuts, you can also customize the behavior and the appearance of the palette itself. To customize the palette, choose the icon, then click on the “Preferences” tab.



Palette options: use these options to change palette visibility.

Hide automatically: automatically hides the palette which disappears from the screen after a set number of seconds.

Transparency: lets you set the palette transparency level. If the cursor is not all the way to the left (“Opaque”), it will be possible to see through the palette. Note than a completely invisible palette will be invisible.

Background: palette dressing uses background pictures to decorate the palette. You can use the default dressing provided by the palette or use your own pictures. Choose “Use a background” to activate this function and “Browse...” to browse alternative dressing pictures.

Advanced settings: (for advanced options, see below).

Alignment: This button repeats the configuration and alignment procedure which is run when the program is used for the first time. You can use this function if you think that the palette was not correctly aligned when it was used for the first time or if you have moved your OpticalBar.

Exit application: This button lets you quit the SimplyTouch Media Launcher. Note that if you quit the application, you cannot recall the palette simply by pointing a finger in front of the OpticalBar; you will first need to restart the application to access your links and shortcuts.

7.1. Advanced Options

The so-called “advanced” configuration options are options reserved for advanced users. The following options are available.

“Run at Windows startup”: chosen by default, disabling this option means that the application will not start automatically when Windows starts.

“Show icon in system tray”: by default, a SimplyTouch icon appears in the taskbar. Disable this option if you do not want to see this icon.

“Ask before Exiting application”: By default, the application prompts you to confirm when quitting the application. Disable this option if you do not want to eliminate this message.

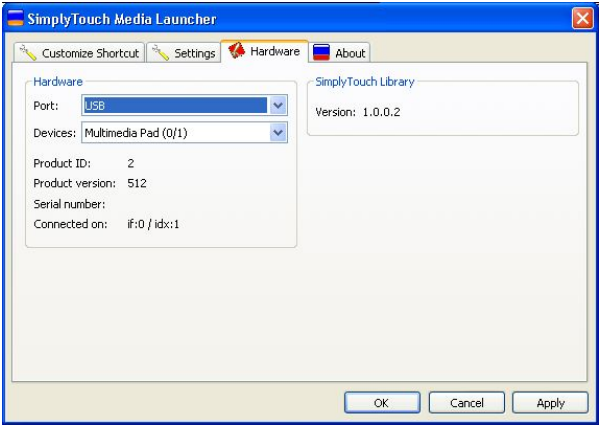
“Ask before discarding Shortcuts changes”: By default, the application prompts you to confirm when you cancel any changes made to the shortcuts. Disable this option if you do not want to eliminate this message.

“Ask before discarding Setting changes”: By default, the application prompts you to confirm when you cancel the changes made to palette preferences. Disable this option if you do not want to eliminate this message.

“LED Mode”: Lets you configure or disable the blinking of the LED that lights the OpticalBar.

8. Hardware Installed

Choose the “Hardware” tab to see the list of SimplyTouch hardware connected to your computer. You may be asked to provide this information if you contact technical support.



9. Care and Contact Information

9.1. Care During Use

Due to the optical technology that it uses, this product cannot work if the lighting conditions are too intense, such as for example when subject to direct sunlight. Lighting that is too intense will not cause damage to the system, simply move it to another location where lighting conditions are less intense and it will return to normal operation.

In compliance with USB standards, this product must be directly connected to a microcomputer or to a USB hub. Using extension cables is not at all advisable and is not supported; this may interfere with correct equipment operation and cause electromagnetic interference.

9.2. Contact and Support Information

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Technical contact (*hotline*): support@h2i-technologies.com