

## **NTI CD & DVD Maker 6 Platinum**

By Michael Hughes

**Product Information:** NTI CD & DVD Maker 6 Platinum is produced by NewTech Infosystems. The average cost at CDW.com and NTIus.com is \$60. This program is an inexpensively priced CD and DVD authoring application. While lacking several features of its higher priced competitors, it remains a player in the market with its simple user friendly interface. I feel that the name is a bit misleading as it lacks support to burn DVD video discs. Several features that I use quite often are not as easily reached as with some other programs on the market. Mainly the burn CD from CD image is several levels down, where as on its competitors programs there is a shortcut from the top menu. The support for burning includes DATA CD and DVD, Slide Show and Video CD formats, several Audio CD formats, as well as the option to create a custom CD layout and CD copying. I didn't find anything that it does better than any other program on the market; however it is a very nice alternative to the high priced burning programs out there. There isn't that much documentation included, but what is there is very good. The quick start guide has very detailed step by step guides that make the program easy to understand.

**Requirements:** IBM PC or compatibles Pentium 90 or higher (Pentium 4, 700MHz Recommended) Minimum 128 MB Main Memory. (256 MB and above Recommended) Windows® XP & Windows® 2000 Operating Systems may require at least 256 MB of Main Memory. 75 MB of available free disk space for software installation (125 MB required if Microsoft's DirectX is required to be installed.) However, it seems to be a bit slow on my system which is a P4 3.0 Ghz with 1GB of DDR and a 360GB RAID0 hard drive.

**Installation:** The install is fairly straight forward and to the point. The installer creates 3 icons on the desktop. Two of them are for a trial version backup application.

**Overall:** I am not overly impressed with this program; however I must give it credit for running correctly on Windows XP Media Center Edition. I can not say that for EasyCD/DVD creator by Roxio software which crashes MCE when it is installed. I personally didn't need to use the support that is available for the program; however I did search out a few users that had used support. They said there was nothing special about the support you receive, just expect the same level of support as you get from the majority of software companies out there. Translation, climb into your favorite chair with some food and a good movie ;) If you are looking for a low priced yet full featured burning app, then I would recommend it; but if you are looking for something that packs a bit more of a punch as far as features are concerned, I would say look elsewhere.