



The Toronto OS/2 User's Group's Newsletter

August, 1997 Vol. 3 / Iss. 5

Price: \$1.00

Omnifile for OS/2
by Lynelle Hamilton

Omnifile calls itself a 3-in-1 Data Manager, combining a personal information manager (PIM), database and contact manager. It is all these things, to an extent, although it falls a bit short of what we have come to expect from a PIM or contact manager, lacking alarms and pop-up reminders. As version 1.00 (1.05 is available for download by registered users from the company's web site), it's also a bit rough around the edges.

The bit of overstatement and the rough edges unfortunately detract from Omnifile's qualities and flexibility as a data manager. Omnifile is a remarkably easy to use program to catalogue information about people, companies, your office equipment, documents, books, magazines, software...you get the idea. It won't pop up a reminder that the library book you borrowed is due, but it will let you (relatively) easily record information about the book and from where you borrowed it. It's also a native OS/2 program.

The program is essentially a database with many predefined modules (ways of grouping data). The program comes in three flavours: Home, Pro and Office. Home and Pro versions vary by the types of predefined modules included. The Office version is essentially a multi-user Pro, offering up to five users the ability to share the same database. All versions offer users the opportunity to do (in my

case, learn) some programming and create their own modules.

The Pro version contains the following predefined modules: an action list, (basically a to-do list), a contact manager, document tracker, electronic file cabinet, librarian, hour tracking, inventory manager, meeting planner, note book, phone message filer, and software inventory. (The Home version omits many of these, but adds a property manager, recipe box, and personal planner.)

The program is very straightforward and easy to understand. Links can easily be created between modules, allowing you to, for example, link that library book with the person who recommended it. In my case, it lets me keep track of articles I send to various people.

Because all the program's modules share the same database, items generally need only be entered once to be accessible from any view using that field. This goodie is somewhat offset by the lack of shortcut keys for things like dates. If you're entering 8 items with today's date, you'll have to type that date 8 times -- a frustration that could have been avoided. Also, the program does not allow you to enter predefined values for variables. Typing an area code or province name over and over can get pretty tiring.



Omnifile offers relatively strong search and report capabilities. Searches I tried seemed to execute quickly, but I used a relatively small database. It's hard to predict its speed when sorting a few years' worth of contacts. There are a number of predefined reports, as well as the ability to create others.

The program's export/import could use some improvement. Despite being a native OS/2 program, Omnifile offers no automatic import for the IBM Works or Relish PIM files. Automatic imports are offered for Goldmine and Act! (popular Windows programs), but those of use who use Relish or the IBM PIM have the option of 1) fiddling with

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Omnifile for OS/2

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ASCII files; 2) creating a REXX file to automate the import; or 3) exporting the data to a Goldmine or Act! file, then importing the data into Omnifile. Tantalizing options, to be sure. When I asked Omnifile's technical support about this, they said they'd not had any requests for automated imports for these programs. If you're interested, let them know.

The manual is well written and organized -- a pleasant surprise. One nice touch is the spiral binding, allowing you to lay the book flat to read/type without having to force the manual to stay open. A lengthy chapter is devoted to creating a module, explaining the process as well as the various functions you could use. Data entry, import and export are also well explained. Tech support, although not provided by a toll-free number, is helpful and will provide as detailed information as you'd like.

In short, Omnifile is a good framework in which to organize your data. Its lack of alarms and pop up reminders for appointments, action items, and contacts limits its use for people who need those reminders. If you don't, or are just looking for something to help you track the masses of paper we all seem to generate, Omnifile is worth a look. A demo version is available from their web site at:

<http://www.computerinterface.com>.

lynelleh@lahamilton.com

Coming Soon

September, 1997 - Come and celebrate OS/2's 10th Birthday at a special TO/2 Birthday Bash! Cake and goodies!!

October, 1997 - To be announced.

November, 1997 - To be announced.

Come on out and be part of the best OS/2 User Group in Canada!



MD+F Web Animation Kit Release

<http://www.modulardreams.com/>

May 22, 1997 - Modular Dreams Incorporated today announces the release of MD+F Web Animation Kit (MD+F WebAK), their first SX based graphics application as well as the most capable World Wide Web graphics program for IBM OS/2 Warp.

MD+F WebAK is the one OS/2 tool which no web site administrator can be without. Features of WebAK are:

GIF Animations

WebAK provides the ability to load and take apart GIF animations, construct them by simple drag-and-drop, test animations by playing them (even supporting the Restore Previous method yet supported by Netscape), or save them using a highly optimized algorithm for the smallest file size possible. And unlike most other applications, WebAK is designed to also create and work with GIF Animations containing hundreds of frames.

Pattern Generation

WebAK's Pattern Generator lets you create seamless patterns for use as backgrounds or for inclusion in your animations. With additional tools such as an Image Holder to store your patterns, a variety of filters for touching-up, and an Image Tile tester, creating backgrounds for web pages has never been any easier.

This Month's Agenda

August 14, 1997 - General Meeting. Topics: Latest News and Gossip

August 28, 1997 - Programmer's SIG
Topic: to be announced.

Imagemaps

WebAK's Imagemap Writer lets you highlight areas on an image, specify links, and creates Server-side or Client-side imagemaps for you, with or without HTML test code. Once you use this tool, you will never want to hand-code Imagemaps again.

Scripting

WebAK's easy to use scripting language simplifies the tasks needed for more complex animations, even for the most casual computer users. For more advanced users, the scripting language (actually a C++ style interpreter) provides more features such as the ability to create or destroy objects, variables, test conditions, and looping constructs. Either way, you can find dozens of interesting example scripts on Modular Dreams' web site.

Image Formats and Alpha Channel

WebAK supports a variety of image formats including GIF, JPEG, and lossless JPEG for loading images and some of the more common formats should you wish to save single images.

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Contacting TO/2

WWW: <http://www.to2.org/>

BBS: Node 1: 416-422-4351
Node 2: 416- 422-4599

E-Mail: to2@to2.org

Mailing List: to2ug-l@to2.org

Meetings are the second Thursday of every month at:

IBM Canada
Main Auditorium
3600 Steeles Avenue East
Markham, Ontario

Meetings begin at 7:00 PM

MD+F Web Animation Kit Release

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It also supports Alpha channels for specifying transparency.

Collapse and Resurrect

By using WebAK's unique Collapse and Resurrect feature, you can store not only the end result of your work, such as a GIF animation, but also the steps that went into it, for example the GIF Animator window and its settings, the various effect dialogs which you have open and even any links you created by drag-and-dropping between objects. If you create something neat, don't just tell others how to do it, give them your whole environment. Everything, even images being displayed, will be neatly stored in one file! Once you use the Collapse and Resurrect feature provided by WebAK, you will wish all your other programs did this.

You can get current information about the MD+F WebAK from Modular Dreams at their web site located at <http://www.modulardreams.com>. The web site also contains usage information and screen shots of the product. To purchase MD+F WebAK, contact your favorite OS/2 dealer. The MSRP for MD+F WebAK is \$69.99 (US).

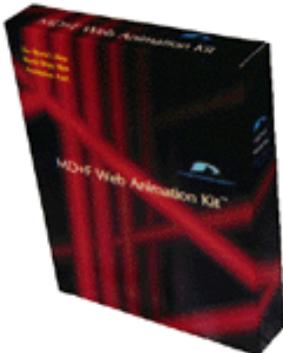
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Phone: (703)968-6221,

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MD+F Plug-ins for ColorWorks V2

<http://www.modulardreams.com/>

Modular Dreams Incorporated provides powerful and easy to use plug-in packages for SPG ColorWorks V2 (<http://www.spg-net.com>). To find more about these plug-ins, follow the appropriate links below.

The MD+F Plug-ins for ColorWorks V2 currently consists of three volumes:

★ **Effects, Volume 1** (\$27.99 US MSRP)

MD+F Effects, Volume 1 provides eight plug-in effects:

Equate Exposure, Flicker, Halo, Offcolor, Picasso, Spiral, Swirl, Waves.

★ **Animated GIF Writer** (\$37.99 US MSRP)

The Animated GIF Writer plug-ins allow you to create GIF Animations and support all the features such as the Netscape 2.0 extension block, sub-images, transparency, and color optimization.

▲ *Upgrade #1 (agifu1.zip)*

This upgrade improves the Animated GIF Writer plug-ins by adding a color reduction field and a more optimized color compression algorithm.

▲ *Upgrade #2 (agifu2.zip)*

This upgrade provides a new plug-in which allow reading and disassembly of GIF animations as well as a plug-in to float image parts for easier transparency creation.

▲ *Support Tools #1 (mdfgifto.zip)*

This zip file supplies two tools: An executable which damages GIF's for WebExplorer viewing and a Netscape Extension 2.0 remover if a very old viewer is being used.

★ **Renderers** (\$47.99 US MSRP)

Modular Dreams Renderers package currently provides 20 plug-ins for creating background patterns. The patterns generated range from simple sand to more exotic images such as Pulsars. Most of the plug-ins supplied by this package create seamless images for creation of tiles.

The plug-ins currently included are: Bars, Fire, Foil, Loops, Magnetic Waves, Moire, OPC Stars, Parquet, Pulsars, Radial Stars, Rings, Rods, Sand, Sinewave, Spheres, Stars, Strands, Strings, Waves, and Weave.

There are also two plug-ins on our Auxiliary Plug-ins page which could be useful in conjunction with the render plug-ins.

Packaging

Each package consists of a shrink-wrapped 12 page manual and software supplied on 3.5" diskette(s).

You can also find more technical or pricing information about these plug-ins by visiting these review pages:

OS/2 e-Zine! January 16th review of Effects, Volume 1

<http://www.os2ezine.com/v2n1/plugins.htm>

or these retailer pages:

Indelible Blue MD+F Plug-ins page

<http://www.webpress.net/ib/multimedia/mdfplugins.htm>

J3 Computer Technologies MD+F Effects, Volume 1

<http://www.os2store.com/proddes/mdfvolume1.html>,

Animated GIF Writer

<http://www.os2store.com/proddes/mdfanimatorgif.html>,

or Renderers plug-in pages

<http://www.os2store.com/proddes/mdrenders.html>.

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Hot Flash!

Date: 05 June 97

Tucows now has OS/2 software online.

Bruce Coffill
Member Toronto OS/2 User Group
klington@idirect.com

News from the 'Net

Download Free Visible Watermarking Plug-In for Adobe Photoshop: A new Visible Watermarking plug-in for Adobe Photoshop** identifies the designer or owner of digitized intellectual property. Download it from

<http://www.software.ibm.com/is/dig-lib/>

First Java Foundation Classes Available to Developers for Download: The developer release of the Java Foundation Classes** (JFC), a comprehensive set of GUI components and foundation services, simplifies development of commercial-quality, 100% Pure Java** applications for the Internet, Intranet, and desktops.

<http://java.sun.com/pr/1997/july/pr970708-01.html>

Making e-business a Reality: VisualAge for Java Now Available: Whether you want to integrate your legacy applications with Java or to construct Web pages from pre-built Java components, and whatever your level of Java expertise, IBM's VisualAge* products deliver the productivity and cross-platform benefits of Java** along with the ease of use you expect from IBM, the world's top-ranked software provider.

<http://www.software.ibm.com/ad/features/vajavapro.html>

IBM Technology Lets Novices Build Java Components in 90 Seconds: New IBM technology lets non-experienced software developers build JavaBeans**, or Java components, in as few as 90 seconds. By broadening the pool of Java developers, the new technologies put e-business within the reach of more companies. IBM's new Java-based technologies include JavaBean components and Java-based development tools. Also, IBM's new "Bean Dipping" technology allows enterprises to customize existing JavaBeans with functionality such as printing, purchasing, and security.

<http://www.software.ibm.com/ad/features/vajavapro.html>

IBM Ships Developer Tools for Building Java Solutions for the Enterprise: Powerful productivity tools let Java developers fully integrate enterprise data with new Web applications for e-business. VisualAge for Java* is the first integrated environment for writing, compiling, and testing 100% Pure Java "applets", JavaBeans, or applications for the enterprise. VisualAge WebRunner**, a toolkit of Java productivity aids offered by subscription, enables Java developers to receive updates of wizards, frameworks, utilities, and other cool WebRunner technologies.

<http://www.software.ibm.com/news/2722.htm>

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Toronto OS/2 User Group: Networking SIG

Proposed Networking Special Interest Group (SIG)

Coordinator: Brian Erdelyi (From TO/2 Q&A sessions during general meetings)

Audience: Beginners to Advanced.

Purpose: Explore OS/2 as a Universal Network Client. Learn networking concepts as we install and configure a small ethernet network. This can be applied to those wanting to connect two computers at home or setup an office LAN.

Hardware: Preferably attendants bring in a computer with ethernet card. 8 port ethernet hub w/BNC connector to 'bridge' 10base2 (coax) segment. Additional IBM computers may be made available. Additional IBM monitors may be made available to those bringing in a computer. Currently 4 spare SMC ethernet cards are available.

Software: OS/2 Warp Connect, OS/2 Warp 4.0, OS/2 Warp Server. Any other IBM Software can be made available for testing. Socks and Proxy servers can be setup with Warp 3.0 and up with software freely available on The Internet. Various FixPaks and CSD's will be made available on a file server.

To help plan our first Networking SIG please review the following survey. Discuss this with Brian at the meetings or send him e-mail at briane@ca.ibm.com. This survey should be online shortly at www.to2.org. Once results have been reviewed a date and agenda will be posted.

☞ When do you prefer to attend the Networking SIG?

- Weekend Afternoon?
- Weekday Evening?

☞ What type of Networking SIG do you prefer?

- Hands-on workshop?
- Discussion and theory?

☞ What network protocol/services do you wish to focus on?

- TCP/IP based LAN?
- IP Addressing?
- Subnetting?
- Dynamic IP (DHCP/DDNS)?
- Share WWW access on your LAN with a proxy server (i.e.. IBM Internet Connection Server)?
- Share an Internet connection at home with a Socks Server (SOCKD)?
- Troubleshoot your TCP/IP network (using PING, ARP and IPTRACE)?

☞ Peer Services

- Peer based LAN?
- Sharing printers, drives, directories and modems?
- Manage network resources?
- Manage users?
- Netbios over TCP/IP?
- Adding Win95/NT workstations?
- Adding Windows for workgroup workstations?
- Adding DOS workstations?

☞ Warp Server

- File and Print Services (Similar to Peer)?
- Concept of Domains?
- User Administration?
- Dynamic IP (DHCP/DDNS Server)?
- Warp Server Backup/Restore Facility (PSnS)?
- Warp Server Remote Access (LAN Distance and PPP Server)?
- Warp Server System Management (SystemView/TME10 Netfinity)?



News from the 'Net

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VisualAge WebRunner's Java Productivity Aids Simplify Development: Taligent's VisualAge WebRunner is a complementary toolkit of Java productivity aids, including wizards, frameworks, utilities, and other technologies that simplify and speed development of Web applications.

<http://www.software.ibm.com/ad/webrunner/>

Navigate the Java API in a Whole New Way with Mapuccino: IBM has created visual maps of the Java Developer Kit** 1.1.1 API documentation using Mapuccino, a new Website mapping tool from IBM Research. You can explore the relationships between Java classes and interfaces with any Java-enabled browser, and double-click on any class or interface title for a full description.

<http://www.ibm.com/java/education/mapuccino/dk1.1.1/docs/api/packages.html>

ZDNet AnchorDesk Offers "The Whole Truth about Windows NT": ZDNet AnchorDesk's technical director says "Windows NT is not suitable for all applications. It's not the best answer for mission-critical applications or for highly scaled applications."

<http://www.software.ibm.com/news/273e.html>

IBM offers its own views on scalability, manageability, and other business-computing considerations at

<http://www.software.ibm.com/scalability/>

Demo Cryptolope Service Packs Content; Beta Program Opens: Cryptolope* technology dramatically changes the way information is delivered, distributed, protected, and paid for on the Internet, intranets, and extranets. You can test-drive IBM's new Demo Cryptolope Service and pack your content into demo Cryptolope containers right from your desktop. Also, apply to participate in IBM's new Cryptolope Service for Commerce* Beta program and see how to commerce-enable your Website.

<http://www.cryptolope.ibm.com/packer.htm>

Neural Network Techniques Used in "Deep Blue" Aid Virus Detection : The Deep Blue supercomputer that recently beat chess champion Gary Kasparov used neural network techniques to improve its play. Neural networks also figure into championship virus detection, as explained in an item on IBM's AntiVirus Website. Two other items discuss why you need IBM AntiVirus software to detect and disinfect viruses in Microsoft Office 97**, and give results of IBM AntiVirus protection speed tests.

<http://www.av.ibm.com/>

June 1997 Edition of IBM Networking Glossary Available: The IBM Networking Software Glossary has just been updated, and its main Web page now includes a search engine for terms carried in the glossary.

<http://www.networking.ibm.com/nsg/nsgmain.htm>

Using Notes to Collaborate, PC Magazine Editors Rank IBM High: Using a Lotus Notes** database in their cross-discussion, the editors of PC Magazine ranked IBM third in their list of 100 Most Influential Companies. The criteria included companies that, because of their size, scale, and presence, influence the industry and the world's economy. About IBM, the editors said "Also a major player in software, IBM sells more software than even Microsoft, and has a new emphasis on Java and electronic commerce". Details are at

http://www8.zdnet.com/pcmag/features/perfectpc/top100/_open.htm

Heard about "Code Name Bluebird" Yet?: A new IBM software technology, code-named "Bluebird", demonstrates IBM's direction in addressing emerging Intel-based hardware environments such as managed PCs and thin clients. "Bluebird" consolidates applications and data on the server. Administrators can add applications or make updates to many client systems at a single server rather than at multiple client machines. "Bluebird" can help customers make transition from a client/server model to a network computing environment optimized for 100% Pure Java, the Internet, and intranets. It also supports existing application and hardware investments

<http://www.software.ibm.com/os/warp/bluebird/>

Trial and Online Sale of IBM VisualAge for Java Professional Edition: IBM VisualAge* for Java is the development tool to use when building Java**-compatible applications, applets, and JavaBean** components. VisualAge for Java Professional Edition* features a robust editor, debugger, browser, and a powerful Visual Composition Editor that uses IBM's VisualAge programming paradigm. Try it for free from

<http://www.software.ibm.com/ad/vajava/entry.htm>

then buy it online (for OS/2 Warp* or Windows 95**/Windows NT**) from

<http://www.software.ibm.com/ad/features/vajavapro.html>

IBM Software Agent Technology Helps Users Control Web Information: New IBM software agent technology and services make it easier for users to obtain, distribute, and control information on the Web. WBI (Web Browser Intelligence*, pronounced Webby) serves as an intermediary between a Web browser and a Web server. It remembers patterns of usage, alerts users to changes,

and could be used, for example, to assist in order tracking and history of purchases between suppliers and customers. Download a trial version of WBI for personal use from

<http://www.networking.ibm.com/wbi/wbisoft.htm>

Several New IBM Solutions Expand Efficient, Secure e-business: New IBM services make it easier to safely harness the power of the Internet and to do business over networks cost-effectively and confidently. New IBM network computers give customers simple-to-manage desktop systems that easily connect to networks. IBM and leading-edge software companies unveiled the first Java**-based software building blocks for creating business server applications. Lotus' new software developer kit for the Domino Instant! Host** platform enables business partners to develop for the emerging rentable applications market.

<http://www.software.ibm.com/news/278e.html>

IBM Helps Build Next-Generation Accessibility Features into Java: Sun Microsystems has announced the preview specification for its Java Accessibility API. The API enables Java developers to address special needs of people with disabilities through screen readers, screen magnifiers, speech recognition systems, and Braille terminals. IBM Special Needs Systems has been working with Sun's accessibility group to build next-generation accessibility features into Java.

<http://www.software.ibm.com/news/27ae.html>

Get Customized Electronic Information Delivered by IBM's iSource: With IBM's iSource electronic information service, you can receive electronic updates customized to your specific areas of interest in IBM's products, services, and solutions. You can choose to

- receive IBM Announcement Letters and Redbook summaries
- receive the weekly "Focusing on You" news digest
- add your name to IBM's special promotions mailing list

To create your tailored subscription, visit our Website or send a note to info@isource.ibm.com with the word "subscribe" in the body.

<http://www.ibm.com/iSource/>

Get IBM Software & Network Computing News at Your Desktop via PointCast: You can have the latest news highlights from IBM Software sent directly to your computer screen by the PointCast "Webcasting" program. The new IBM Software channel on PointCast is updated several times a week with the five to ten most important news items from IBM Software. For details and to download the

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News from the 'Net

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required software, click on the PointCast button at

<http://www.software.ibm.com/general/pcn/>

Lotus, Microsoft Promote Interoperability on the Web: Lotus and Microsoft will undertake new initiatives aimed at meeting customers' needs for great interoperability and integration among their Internet software products. Lotus will ship Microsoft Internet Explorer** 4.0 with the Lotus Notes** 4.6 client package and with the forthcoming release of SmartSuite**, Lotus' integrated suite of desktop applications. Lotus will also deliver tight integration between Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0 and the upcoming release of Lotus Notes.

<http://www.lotus.com/corpcomm/3e1e.htm>

IBM Offers New Upgrade Services for OS/2 Customers: A new IBM service offering helps OS/2* customers upgrade to the latest versions of OS/2 Warp and to exploit the benefits of network computing. The Rapid Deployment Team, a group of highly skilled OS/2 lab engineers, will provide OS/2 customers worldwide with specialized talent and skills for a smooth upgrade process. The team offers customized planning, application development, integration, testing, piloting, and deployment.

<http://www.software.ibm.com/news/2772.html>

IBM OS/2 Presence Grows in the U.S. Banking Industry: According to a new study from the Mentis Group, a research firm for the financial services industry, IBM's OS/2 Warp operating system strengthened its place among large banking institutions in the U.S. in 1996. The group reported that use of OS/2 for servers increased from 32 to 42 percent in U.S. banks, and use of OS/2 as a primary client increased from 25 to 35 percent.

<http://www.software.ibm.com/news/27ca.html>

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** indicates trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders



August/1997 Shareware Disk Readme

Disclaimer: Nothing verified for anything. Your mileage may vary. You get what you pay for. Don't blame us if your system self-destructs.

cbarz101.zip Titlebar changer (SW)
drawcat1.zip Vector imaging software (SW)
ezirc12j.zip IRC client (FW)
memgam22.zip Memory Game (SW)
nolist2a.zip Remove programs from the tasklist (SW)
quickeye.zip QuickCam viewer (SW)
srthbt12.zip Sort CONFIG.SYS for "faster" boot time (FW)
winkey02.zip Keyboard driver for Windows keyboard (FW)
zippy.zip ZIP utilities and batch files (FW)

Kevin Linfield Preferred e-mail: linfield@torfree.net

*** Permission DENIED to add my name to ANY mailing list ***



TRUE SPECTRA

PHOTO>GRAPHICS FEATURES...
Common Bitmap File Format Support
Unlimited Layers, Masks, Effects
True Transparencies
Edit in full 24-bit Colour
Resolution Independent

NEW in PHOTO>GRAPHICS PRO V2...
REXX Scripting
TWIN for OS/2 Scanning
Transparent, Interlaced, Netscape GIFs
Optimized POSTSCRIPT Printing
Even more Tools and Effects

\$249.95 MSRP
Dealers may sell for less
\$99.95 Upgrade until
July 31st 1997

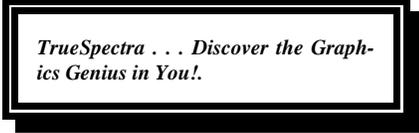
Photo> GRAPHICS PRO

The Advanced Graphics Application for OS/2



by Terry C. Hamilton
terryh@truespectra.com

TrueSpectra Photo>Graphics PRO V2.x Specs



July 07, 1997 - TrueSpectra Photo>Graphics PRO for OS/2 adds even more features to the best selling Photo>Graphics for OS/2 (c) product.

Now, on top of all the existing features we have added as many customer requested features as time would allow.

Photo>Graphics Features

- Loads common bitmap formats like BMP, JPEG, GIF, TIFF, TGA, etc.
- Export bitmap formats like BMP, JPEG, GIF, TIFF, TGA, etc.
- Print to any OS/2 supported printer.
- Cut and Paste, or Drag and Drop from other OS/2 applications.
- All editing in full 24-bit colour.
- Multi-threaded fully 32-bit fast code for best performance.
- Non-modal user's interface, supporting direct manipulation and context menus.

NEW

Photo>Graphics PRO for OS/2(c) V2.0 Features:

- Loads new bitmap formats: PNG, PhotoShop, MPT/MAC
- Export new bitmap formats like EPS, Progressive JPEG, PhotoShop, PNG
- Enhanced GIF including selective transparency & custom palettes
- FAST! printing using Custom Postscript
- REXX Language scripting interface
- New Fisheye Lens effects
- New Curve editing tool
- TWAIN Scanner support (including OS/2 Drivers!)
- Larger Clipart library
- Larger Image library
- Includes powerful and useful REXX Scripts
- Includes the TrueSpectra OpenDoc component (5 user license)

Easy to Use

Use the Power Panel to select your desired effects and then simply drag and drop to apply. Effects can be added, edited and removed with a simple click of the mouse.

Powerful

Photo>Graphics supports most common image formats including JPEG and advanced GIF formats for the Internet. You can work with images and effects at different resolutions all at the same time. And, the advanced .GDO file format makes efficient use of computer memory and disk storage resources.

Special Effects

Photo>Graphics includes a full range of regions and tools which are easily combined to form powerful objects. When layered, these objects interact to produce millions of possible effects, textures, and warps -- no matter how complex! And, you can save your new effects for later use.

Draw

Choose from a robust set of drawing tools and combine them with special effects to create fantastic, resolution-independent clipart. Complete freehand, line and paint roller support. All with adjustable line width, softness, stroke, fill, cap style and join style for complete flexibility and creative freedom.

Text

Effects may also be applied to text to create dazzling results with ease. Make your text float, add 3D effects, skew, warp, rotate or mirror for truly professional results.

Business, Internet or Home

Create graphics for enhancing business presentation, publishing on the Internet, or for family entertainment. Photo>Graphics outperforms all traditional pixel editors and draw packages. Even complex projects are easy and fun!

Photo>Graphics PRO for OS/2(c) V2.x

Features List

- Ease of Use
- interactive user interface facilitates true on-the-fly design
- informative, color Tutorial Guide
- full documentation on-line
- cut & paste clipboard support

Architecture

- true object-oriented design
- multithreaded 32-bit
- memory & storage efficient
- original image preservation
- unlimited layers (masks/effects)
- true transparency for all object types (photo, text and draw)
- Completely resolution independent
- Fully scriptable REXX interface

Object Definition

- Regions
- rectangle
- ramp
- ellipse
- ellipse fade
- custom mask

- basic shapes
- lines & curves
- freehand drawing

Tools

- bitmap
- emboss
- color fade
- blur
- solid color
- noise
- sharpen
- pixelate
- grayscale
- wave
- button
- lens
- custom
- contrast & brightness

Photo/Image

- unlimited open images
- automatic smoothing
- resolution independent

Text

- headline
- block
- complete justification options
- full font support

Draw

- freehand
- line
- bezier curves
- resolution independent painting
- innovative softness control!

Object Manipulation

- unlimited floating-point canvas
- rotate
- flip
- mirror
- move
- stretch
- skew
- resize
- group & ungroup

File Support

- GDO - ColorWave Project
- ORC - ColorWave Object
- JPEG
- GIF - transparent, interlaced, custom palette
- PhotoCD
- PhotoShop PSD
- Targa
- PCX
- BMP
- TIFF

Continued on page 8 ...

TrueSpectra Photo>Graphics Pro

Continued from page 7 ...

System Requirements

- OS/2 WARP
- 486DX or better
- 8 MB RAM
- 40 MB Hard Disk free space (primarily for swap space)
- Mouse or other pointing Device
- VGA monitor or better
- CD-ROM drive

Order Information

When you are ready to order your full version of TrueSpectra Photo>Graphics, you can contact your favourite OS/2 reseller, or direct from TrueSpectra. Suggested Retail Price for Photo>Graphics PRO for OS/2(c) is \$249.95. Dealers may sell for less. For a limited time only TrueSpectra is offering two upgrade specials to Photo>Graphics PRO for OS/2(c).

- Upgrade Special for Photo>Graphics for OS/2(c) Users
- Upgrade Special for Users of Other Graphics Apps

See our page for a list of resellers or ordering information.

- Additional Information
- Supported File Format List
- Supported Scanners List
- REXX Scripting Documentation
- README File

For an additional, printable, flyer with product information you can download an Adobe Acrobat document.

Toronto OS/2 User's Group

>> **PROGRAMMERS SIG** <<

Thursday, July 24th. 7:00 PM

Meeting included:

Java meets HTTP

Dale Wick showed how to write a Java application that will fetch a HTTP URL and display the contents in its raw form (ASCII, bmp, gif, etc...)

VisualAge Visual Builder

Leigh McRae went through how to make a useful application (not an MLE editor) using IBM's Visual Builder. How to use your native C with VB. Also tested IBM's claim that code generated with VB for OS/2 will compile on the VB for windows!

From the Warped Mind of the Editor

by Joe Johnson, Editor at Large

Welcome to another issue of the Toronto OS/2 User's Group Newsletter. Noticed the new title, did ya? I thought, along with a few others, that the title could use a bit of an upgrade. We haven't take away from the content, and am trying to keep the Newsletter to about 8 pages. Without you, the readers and members out there, I am having lots of fun trying to get it to a full 8 pages. I need more input from you people, so I can keep the content fresh, and not just rehash the stuff on the Internet.

Some of you may have noticed the advertisement for TrueSpectra's Photo>Graphics Pro. As TrueSpectra supplies us with a meeting place for our TO/2 Executive meetings, the advertisement space covers this off. If you are interested in advertising in the TO/2 Newsletter, please see Terry

Hamilton, TO/2 President, myself, Joe Johnson, TO/2 NL Editor, or any of the other members of the TO/2 Executive.

Some of you who have visited the TO/2 web site at www.to2.org have probably noticed that not everything is updated and new. I have passed on the electronic versions of the Newsletter's to our Prez Terry, but they don't seem to get onto the web site. We are keeping a 2 month difference between the printed issue and the online version for publication, out of respect for our paying TO/2 User's Group Members. Stay current, join the membership!

I haven't got too many Newsletters returned to me, but a few do come back. Are you missing yours? Let Kevin Quinn know, or myself, and we will correct your mailing address. I haven't heard any complaints on the packaging of the Newsletters either, so I do believe they are arriving in good shape. Got any stories, beefs, or other interesting things you would like to see in print and it's OS/2 related (well sort of), then send me a note! It's your Newsletter!

Enjoy!!!!!!

TO/2 Executive

President: Terry Hamilton *president@to2.org*

Vice-president: Rambod Larajani *vp@to2.org*

Treasurer: Tony Carter *treasurer@to2.org*

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Networking SIG Leader: To be announced (Brian Erdelyi??)

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Warp Zone

A monthly publication of the Toronto OS/2 User's Group

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