FAXX_Documentation

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	TITLE : FAXX_Documentation		
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WRITTEN BY		August 22, 2024	

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Contents

Chapter 1

FAXX_Documentation

1.1   FAXX : Documentation

```
                    FAXX.datatype V43.11

                        - FREEWARE -

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    A 'Joint Venture' product of GPSoftware and PerSuaSiVe SoftWorX.

                  Needs Kickstart V3.x

             Release Date : 10.04.1998


                        Copyright
                       Disclaimer
                      Distribution
                    Usage and Notes
                        Problems
                    Correspondence
                         Thanks
                    Version-History


                       _ //
             Only \X/ Amiga makes it possible!



                     Please visit:

                   WWW Support Sites
      http://home.t-online.de/home/Andreas_Kleinert/ (AWeb-II)
      http://www.gpsoft.com.au (AWeb-II)
```

The CHAOS theory:

"Like finding that bloody butterfly whose flapping
 wings cause all these storms we've been having lately
 and getting it to stop." (see "Witches Abroad" by Terry Pratchett)

Ahm...well:

...and thanks for all the fish.

1.2 copyright

The FAXX.datatype in this version and its documentation files are
(C) Copyright 1995-97 GPSoftware, (C) Copyright 1997-98 Andreas R. Kleinert.
All rights reserved.

akDT_Installer by Robert C. Reiswig ©1996-1998.
If you wish to use any part of this installer you must ask. May not be
integrated/placed into any other package! Changes, suggestions or problems:
akDatatype@vgr.com

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valid in conjunction with the law of certain countries this does not
affect the validity of the other clauses.

1.3 disclaimer

The author takes no responsibility for any results of the use of this
program.
This software is provided "AS IS" and there is no warranty of any kind,
so that you use this software at your own risk.

The author reserves the right to discontinue development of the program.

1.4 distribution

The FAXX.datatype in this version is freely distributable (FREEWARE).
You may copy it, if the copyright notice is left intact and
all of its parts are included in the distribution.

This program may not be included in commercial packages or commercial
program collections without written permission and must not be sold
commercially as a single program.

This program may be put on public domain disks or included in public

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put into mailboxes as long as the redistribution conditions are
respected in all points.

By using or distributing this program you automatically agree to
all of the above conditions and terms.

1.5   Usage and so on

```
Usage
-----
Just install the datatype files to their appropriate directories.


Program information
-------------------
FAXX.datatype is a datatype for reading the IFF-FAXX file format
as e.g. written by GPSoftware's GPFax software.

It does work as well with picture.datatype V39-42 as V43 and
produces 2 color black and white faxx images.

FAXX.datatype is FREEWARE – feel free to send any comments :-)


Fax software ?
--------------
For information on pricing and where to order GPFax, you may
visit GPSoftware's homepage at http://www.gpsoft.com.au

If you're also more interested in graphics in common, you may
as well take a look at PerSuaSiVe SoftWorX' homepage at
URL http://home.t-online.de/home/Andreas_Kleinert/  where you
can find some information on SViewNG/SuperView.
```

1.6   Problem fields

```
Out of memory
-------------
  It's probably a MultiView (MV) related problem.

  Schematics:

  Usually one can display FAXX' on a separate screen without
  problems (MV's SCREEN option), but on the WB screen
  always "out of memory" is the result.

  Obviously MV does need more RAM for remapping a given
```

bitmap to a given screen (additional bitmap copies ?!)
than for a new screen (maybe because FAXX ist just of
depth=1 and for on-WB copies depth may be greater).

MV does not seem to be 'intelligent' enough to recognize,
that both colors of FAXX, black and white, are already
present in the WB palette and thus there's no need for
remapping. Not only a memory loss, also a speed loss :-/

Maybe Roland Mainz' GMultiView (MV replacement, on Aminet)
or a newer MV version does fix the problem for most configurations.

Problems with foreign FAXX files

Note, that only IFF-FAXX files compliant to the official FAXX
(Facsimile image FORM) as registered at CATS 11/13/91
by Christopher E. Darsch (Atlantis Design Group, Inc.) are
supported. These files do consist of the three chunks FXHD,
PAGE and FLOG and may be extended by the GPHD chunk as defined
by GPSoftware.

NOT supported are the completely incompatible (and obviously
non-standard) files as written by MultiFax, which seem to
mainly consist of text and also may include an attached
IFF-FTXT file. MultiFax, as a second option, also seems to
output partly standard-compliant files, which in theory
should be read correctly - in practice there did occur
some problems with garbaged output though (yet it's not clear,
whether it's the fault of the MultiFax encoder or our decoder).

A typical file written by GPFax may look like this:

    FORM FAXX
      FXHD
      GPHD
      PAGE

A supported MultiFax file may look like this:

    FORM FAXX   (19102 data bytes)
      FXHD
      PCON
      PAGE

A non-supported MultiFax file may look like this:

    FORM FAXX
      TELE
      CNFG
      PFLG
      FDSC
    FORM FTXT
      MCMD
      MCMD
      MCMD
      MCMD
      CHRS

```
    In the meantime, Christian Kaben of TKR (MultiFax) did supply
    us with some information on the additional chunks written
    by MultiFax (see to have been registered at CATS later on),
    so this issue seems to be clearified. Still unsolved are the
    incompabilities between the two de/encoders.

 More datatypes ?
 ----------------
    On Aminet:util/dtype/ you can also find akJFIF, akPNG, akSVG and
    the experimental akLJPG datatype.

 No V43 with AGA ?
 -----------------
    There's a V43 picture.datatype coming with the Picasso96 RTG
    package (on Aminet), which works with plain AGA, too.

 Crashes ?
 ---------
    The first reason for a crash often is stack size. Not enough stack size.
    IPrefs/WBPatterns has this problem, and others as well.
    Checking this and/or using FastIPrefs (the replacement) is recommended.

    Using (Fast)IPrefs in PPC mode may not be a good idea at all,
    but for some people, the following did help in s:startup-sequence:

         Wait 8 secs
         C:FastIPrefs W M L A G

    For the others, the trick from the Picasso96 FAQ should do the job:
    put the tool "CPUBlit" (an old patch available on Aminet) to your
    s:startup-sequence *before* the monitors are started. You must
    call it as follows:

         CPUBlit -a -b

 No write support ?
 ------------------
    Sorry, there won't be write support (DTM_WRITE method), since I think,
    that datatypes are mainly a system for data exchange and not to do
    the job of existing conversion utilities.

 Odd screenmode selection
 ------------------------
    graphics.library's BestModeID function isn't so well designed.
    Try Patching to a better one, e.g. with Aminet:util/sys/ModeP.lha

 Unknown datatypes (V43)
 -----------------------
    If your datatypes stop working (unknown file format), please don't
    blame me, but at first check, whether you've still installed an already
    expired beta version of picture.datatype V43...
```

1.7 correspondence

```
    http://www.gpsoft.com.au

    GPSoftware
    c/o Dr Greg Perry
    PO Box 570
    Ashgrove, Qld Australia 4060
    Australia                       Ph/fax +61 7 33661402
                                    Email: greg@gpsoft.com.au


    AND


                            WWW Support Site
                http://home.t-online.de/home/Andreas_Kleinert/


    _____
    |       You may reach me the following way.               |
    |    Send bug-reports, money or whatever to:              |
    |---------------------------------------------------------|
    |        * SuperView Development & Registration *         |
    |          * DRAFU Development & Registration *           |
    |       * Image Engineer Registration Site Europe *       |
    |                                                         |
    |                                                         |
    |                   PerSuaSiVe SoftWorX                   |
    |                                                         |
    |                   Andreas R. Kleinert                   |
    |                   Sandstrasse 1                         |
    |                   D-57072 Siegen                        |
    |                   Germany, Europe                       |
    |                                                         |
    | Any snail mail to the old address will still be routed. |
    |                                                         |
    |                   Phone:  +49-271-22869 also FAX + AM   |
    |                                                         |
    |                   Weekdays after 18.00h.                |
    |                                                         |
    |        When calling via phone you may leave a message, |
    |        if I'm not available - but don't expect me      |
    |        calling back to USA, Australia, ... since        |
    |        german phone rates are HIGHLY expensive.         |
    |_____|

    EMail:

        Please send binaries via ARK@News.wwbnet.de, and keep
        them smaller than 16 KB. Please think twice before
        sending them - my postbox is not unlimited in size.

        * Do not send binaries via Fido or Fido-Gates ! *

           - Fido   Andreas Kleinert 2:2457/350.18
           - Usenet
                   ARK@superview.ftn.neckar-alb.de  (Fido-Gate)
                   Andreas_Kleinert@t-online.de     (T-Online)
```

```
                           ARK@News.wwbnet.de                    (Z-Netz)
                           ARK@amigaworld.com                    (AmigaWorld)

                  - If nothing else works, try one of these public
                    Fido-Usenet gateways:

                       In Germany:
                          Andreas_Kleinert@p18.f350.n2457.z2.fido.sub.org

                       From USA or elsewhere:
                          Andreas_Kleinert@p18.f350.n2457.z2.fidonet.org
```

1.8   thanks

```
Thanks go to (in order of appearance ;-)
=========================================

 - Robert C. Reiswig      - Frank Mariak     - Olaf Barthel
 - Todd A. Oberly         - Jürgen Urbanek   - Christian Kaben
```

1.9   history

```
There's a Datatype Developers Mailing List (DTA) running now.
If you are a datatypes programmer and want to join, please
don't contact me for further information, but maybe ask
info@amigaworld.com (Bodo) or simple visit the Datatype Association's
WWW homepage under http://www.amigaworld.com/support/dta/


Known Bugs: - Some people reported problems with the installation
              scripts in the past. If you encounter any problems or
              bugs, please report these directly to the script author
              Robert C. Reiswig <akDatatype@vgr.com>


History
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V43.11 (10.04.98) : - FAXX files without GPHD header would not
                      have been read at all (introduced in 43.10 ?)
                      (-> Jürgen Urbanek)
                    - FAXX files written by MultiFax sometimes seem
                      to be decoded badly. Reason unknown yet (decoder
                      bad or encoder faulty ?)
                      (-> Jürgen Urbanek)
                    - added note on problems with foreign, non-standard FAXX  ←
                       files
                      (and follow-up clearification by Tkr)
                    - 030/040/060 versions now generated from patches
                    - added new, improved Installer script by
                      Robert C. Reiswig (-> a lot of credits
                      hereby go to his address :-)
```

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V43.10 (11.03.98) : - fixed descriptor
                    - replaced buggy dispatcher code from 43.7
                    - improved code generation
                    - probably faster
                    - viewmode generation isn't finalized yet
                    - updated docs

V43.7 (29.09.97) :  - rewrote Dispatch() routine completely,
                      implemented new routines derived
                      from Roland Mainz' improved sample code
                    - DTM_WRITE now can be forced to its
                      old behaviour by specifying the hidden
                      prefs option "OLD_DTM_WRITE"
                      (IFF-ILBM then will be written without
                       any error code given because of
                       unsupported DTWR_RAW)
                    - updated docs

V43.6 (08.09.97) :  - updated docs
                    - updated akDT_Installer by Robert C. Reiswig
                    - installer icon was missing
                    - better (compiler) optimization

V43.5 (12.08.97) :  - recompiled with SAS/C V6.58
                    - updated URLs (GPSoftware)
                    - added akDT_Installer by Robert C. Reiswig
                      (-> Robert C. Reiswig, akDatatype@vgr.com)

V43.4 (04.07.97) :  - fixed "memory loss on LibInit failure" bug, #2

V43.3 (26.04.97) :  - fixed "memory loss on LibInit failure" bug
                    - Dispatcher code now gracefully handles
                      DTM_WRITE (rejection) and other source media
                      than supported (rejected, too)

V43.2 (10.6.97)  :  - public release on Aminet

V43.1            :  - internal version
```