

Date: Sun, 11 Dec 94 23:32:25 -0500
From: Garance A Drosehn <gad@eclipse.its.rpi.edu>
To: next-icon@gun.com
Subject: Quest for the perfect face-tiff icon (includes face-tiff frames)

Well, ever since joining this list I've been meaning to send out some face-tiff icon of myself, to join in the fun. However, there were some things I wanted to "get right" for the tiffs I sent out. I think I've finally got it about as good as I'm going to get it.

For one, I wanted to have a different icon for 2-bit greyscale, as most face-tiffs either look too dark on a greyscale NeXTstation, or look much too bright on a color NeXTSTEP machine. Tim Reed pointed out that the IconBuilder.app which NeXT distributes has the ability to create multi-image tiffs (by using the menu item "Document/New Layout"). I also liked the idea of the frame tiffs he recently posted, so I asked for some 64-pixel versions that could be used with a face tiff. Once I got the multi-image tiffs setup in IconBuilder (pasting them in from TIFFany II), I found I had to run them thru the tiffutil unix command, to get the lzw compression on them. I couldn't seem to get IconBuilder to do the compression, and I couldn't get other apps (TIFFany II and PixelMagician) to save away multi-image files once I modified them. It's entirely possible that I was just missing something obvious there, but in any case tiffutil did what I wanted.

Here's the frame-tiff icons that Timothy created:

NarrowFrame-64x64.face.tiff ↗ = NarrowFrame-64x64.face.tiff

WideFrame-64x64.face.tiff ↗ = WideFrame-64x64.face.tiff

When he posted the 48x48 versions, he pointed that you should use 'sover' compositing method when using these, to preserve the semi-opaque shadows.

And here's a selection of face-tiffs, all me, all email addresses mine:

gad.eclipse.its.rpi.edu.tiff ↗ = gad.eclipse.its.rpi.edu.tiff

drosehn.rpi.edu.tiff ↗ = drosehn.rpi.edu.tiff

gad.mlor.its.rpi.edu.tiff ↗ = gad.mlor.its.rpi.edu.tiff

In reality, about 95% of all my email and usenet articles come from the eclipse address, so that's got the image I personally prefer the most. I decided I might as well let everyone else choose the one that they prefer, mainly because I hated to just toss out all the work I did on the other two.

I'd hate to think of just how much time has been spent on this quest (over the last year or two!). Pity I didn't have a better looking subject to start with...

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