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Tips and Hints in CorelCHART 4.0

CorelCHART 4.0 has had a major overhaul to the Data Manager, but the charting end of it has remained relatively constant. The following, are things that users had trouble with in CorelCHART 3.0, that can still lead to potential confusion.

It is important to note, that these are not bugs or problems, but the way the program works. These tips will help you to create charts quickly and easily.

System Recommendations

CorelCHART will run on the systems as defined within the package. However, CorelCHART requires a large amount of temporary space. Try to have at least 10 megabytes. It is also recommended that a permanent swap file of at least 16 megabytes be used. If you have a lot of fractal fills (especially for the background), it will require a large amount of temporary space when saving the file (check the SET TEMP= line in your Autoexec.bat file to determine where temp files are being written to by your programs).

Slow Redrawing of the Chart Screen

You may find that some of the redrawing of the screen in Chart view to be somewhat slow. To increase the speed, ensure that you have Windows optimized. Check chapter 14 of the Windows manual for information on how to do this. Having optimized your system you may still find some functions relatively slow. This is due to the inner links to CorelDRAW and cannot be avoided. All vector based information, calls or redraws, will request a hidden OLE link to the coreldrw.exe file. This file is opened up behind the scenes to create the graphic.

TIP: If you find working with 3D charts too slow on the redraw, go into the Chart menu under Display, and turn off all text option. After you have tweaked the chart the way you want, turn on the text for final output or saving.

Cannot Change Fonts or Size of Text

All text within a chart has been, by default, autofitted. This means that the text will always fit proportional to the size of the chart itself. This goes for the column and row headers, numbers, and the legends. Therefore, if you try to change the

size and in some cases the font of some of the text, nothing will change. If you go into the Chart menu, then the Display menu or right click on the text, you can turn off the autofitted text option and then change the text accordingly.

The only place this will not work is with Pie graphs, where the column information (these are the titles of the slices) are permanently set to autofit and cannot be changed.

Printing

Printing can take a long time, depending on the type of fills you use such as fractal fills, especially when used as a background fill. There are other shortcomings with printing to be aware of:

Postscript
- Custom fountain fills do not print properly
- Canceling a print job will cause a GPF

PCL
- Bitmap textures applied to 3D walls and risers do not print
- Full colour and two colour patterns applied to 3D walls don't print. Selecting Fit to Page corrects the problem.

Printing From the Data Manager

When printing from the Data Manager, all the tag information (the boxes and colours that designate what are the title, subtitle, etc.) will print out. You must disable the chart tags under the Options menu, Display Chart Tags if you do not wish to print this information.

If you want to print your data in colour, you must ensure you do have a colour printer and driver installed. When you are printing, after selecting Print from the File menu, select the Page Setup menu and choose Colour. It will not automatically select when you have a colour printer installed. This option is greyed out if you are printing to a black and white printer.

OLE

- Hatch, two colour, full colour bit map textures are not supported in non-Corel applications. These objects will be filled with grey.

- Inserting an object from Powerpoint does not work, the object will not display in Chart.

- All fountain fills pasted into CorelDRAW will have 20 steps.