

EGSPhotoAlbum

COLLABORATORS

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Chapter 1

EGSPhotoAlbum

1.1 Index

Welcome to EGSPhotoAlbum (V1.7)

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Disclaimer

Copyright and Distribution

Features of EGSPhotoAlbum (EGSPhotoAlbum is (c) by Helmut Hoffmann 1994)

What is EGS? (EGS is (c) by VIONA-Development)

Important requirements for EGSPhotoAlbum

Installing EGSPhotoAlbum

The fontsensitive user interface of EGSPhotoAlbum

Informations about the supported picture formats

>>> Using EGSPhotoAlbum <<<

How should I register to get the full version?

About the author

Hard- and Software used while developing EGSPhotoAlbum

Special Thanks

Information about other useful EGS programs

Version history

1.2 Disclaimer

I tried my best to make this program error-free. It has been checked with enforcer and mungwall and works without problems on my configuration. Nevertheless, as there are so many possible configurations of Amigas and EGS-Systems/graphic boards, I can not guarantee that this software will work on your configuration. Especially the complex EGS-System

does not have the desired stability in some situations. In cases where I found problems with EGS, I tried to workaround them, or explained them in this document.

This software (program and documentation) is provided "as is" and comes with no warranty, either expressed or implied. The author is in no way responsible for any damage or loss that may occur due to direct or indirect usage of this software. You use this software entirely at your own risk.

1.3 Copyright and Distribution

EGSPhotoAlbum software (program and documentation) is copyright by

Helmut Hoffmann
Rubensstrasse 4
D-41063 Mönchengladbach

Germany

The demo version of EGSPhotoAlbum may be freely distributed and used as long as the following conditions are met:

- 1) All files have to be kept together
- 2) No file may be modified or crunched/packed.

The only official way to distribute EGSPhotoAlbum demo packed is the original egsphotoalbum.lha archive.

EGSPhotoAlbum may not be disassembled or analysed. The limitations integrated in the demo version may under no circumstance be removed or bypassed.

- 3) Distributors may only charge for the duplication process (including media) and not for the software. These charges may not exceed the following limits:
 - a) Demo on a PD-disk: 8\$ (US-dollar) including postage&packing (in Germany: 12DM)
 - b) Demo on a PD-CD-ROM: 50\$ (US-dollar) including postage&packing (in Germany: 75DM)
 - c) Demo on a BBS/Mailbox/ftp-site or other electronically callable system: Maximum charge 4\$ (US-dollar) (in Germany: 6DM) for downloadingAnyway, it must be made explicitly clear to the buyer, that he does not pay for the program (demo) itself but only for the duplication service.
- 4) It is not allowed to distribute EGSPhotoAlbum with any commercial product without a written permission by me. One exception is the distribution of the demo version with products not exceeding the above price limits (e.g. a cover-disk magazine for 8\$ or less).

The following companies have my explicit permission to distribute the EGSPhotoAlbum demo with their products: NOVA Design, Ingenieurbüro Helfrich.

If you want to distribute EGSPhotoAlbum demo with your commercial product

(hardware or software) write to me for details.

- 5) The registered version may not be redistributed. It may only run on one machine per registration. It is allowed to make a backup copy of the original disk.

You can currently contact me by EMail:

hhoff@pool.informatik.rwth-aachen.de

If you want to register or have suggestions (and if you don't get an answer by EMail) please write by ordinary mails to my address above.

1.4 Features of EGSPhotoAlbum

EGSPhotoAlbum is a Shareware picture management and presentation software for EGS. To use EGSPhotoAlbum as full version you need a keyfile, which can be obtained by registering directly by me. Without keyfile EGSPhotoAlbum has some restrictions.

EGSPhotoAlbum is a pure EGS program. It offers easy access to large collections of picture files on your harddrive with a comfort similar to that of PhotoCDs.

The current version supports the following picture file formats:

- * Jpeg (for color and greyscale pictures)
- * IFF-ILBM24 (compressed and uncompressed)
- * PPM-P6
- * QRT (also known as dump format in the PD raytracer POV)

Other file formats (e.g. greyscale formats, more IFF formats, ...) will be implemented in future versions. Maybe datatypes will be supported under OS3.x in the future as well...

EGSPhotoAlbum shows whole directories of pictures with downscaled preview automatically. Special fast loading functions for downscaled loading are used. EGSPhotoAlbum offers

- * full automatic layout of the preview pages with fixed or variable field size (max. field size can be selected)
 - * Page turning functions to turn the page like in a real PhotoAlbum...
 - * Viewing of pictures in full size by mouse click (only in full version); an unlimited number of full size picture windows (limited only by memory) can be open at the same time.
 - * Pictures can easily be deleted by visual selection from your disk (only in full version)
 - * Pictures can be removed from the preview pages
 - * intelligent caching algorithms to hold preview images in memory to reduce waiting time when turning pages
-

- * asynchronous load function which preloads preview pictures during work with EGSPhotoAlbum
- * automatic generation of preview files to reduce waiting time for later use of EGSPhotoAlbum
 - *** new: now small Jpeg preview files can also be generated ***
 - *** new: now also creatable in separate preview directory! ***
 - (only in full version)
- * Saving of shown pictures in other file formats (currently IFF-ILBM24, Jpeg, PPM, QRT, Targa, DEEP) or direct transfer to other programs (as ImageFX, PicoPainter, BigPainter or general to the Clipboard) (only in full version). This makes EGSPhotoAlbum a comfortable 24Bit picture converter or easy picture selection front end for other programs...
- * Easy single or multiselect feature for pictures
- * Information display for selected picture (name, size, file format)

All this is done with a font sensitive EGS user interface which can be used even on largest Screens and in full 24Bit color quality.

Many extensions (as slideshow with transition effects, ...) could be integrated in the future, if there is enough response and the number of registered users will be high enough. The keyfile concept offers registered users the possibility to use future demo versions automatically as update for their full version.

1.5 What is EGS?

EGS is the quasi standard for Hi- & True-Color graphics on the Amiga computer. It is supported by different graphics cards and can display graphics on any supported screentype in a compatible way. Besides that, it offers a flexible user interface, which is much easier to program than the Amiga-Userinterface.

Some popular graphic boards which are delivered with EGS:

- * Piccolo
- * Piccolo SD64
- * Rainbow
- * EGS-Spectrum
- * EGS-110

Some graphic boards for which EGS is available separately:

- * EGS for all Amigas (no graphic board necessary!)
- * Retina
- * Picasso
- * Merlin
- * Impact Vision

EGSPhotoalbum does not depend on special graphics hardware. It should run in conjunction with all graphic cards (or even without) which support EGS. Only the speed and the available screen resolutions and colors might differ.

EGS is currently ported to some other graphics cards, so the number of EGS-users will hopefully increase in the future.

Since version 1.5 EGSPhotoAlbum can also be used with EGS demo versions, which can be used on all Amigas!

1.6 Important requirements for EGSPhotoAlbum

EGSPhotoAlbum currently has the following requirements:

- * Amiga-OS 2.04 or higher; OS3.x is recommended for future versions, if DataTypes are supported by EGSPhotoAlbum
- * EGS-System version 6.0 or higher for your graphics board or for Amigas without graphics board (also usable as demo version)
- * Much memory (at least 2MByte Fast-RAM; more is really recommended to use EGSPhotoAlbum comfortably; the caching algorithms can use lots of memory)

1.7 Installing EGSPhotoAlbum

1) Demo version

Currently no installation is necessary. EGSPhotoAlbum can be started from Workbench or shell (stack size should be at least 20000 Bytes!).

2) Full version

The keyfile for the registered full version is a library called "egsphotoalbum.library", which may not be distributed. This library can remain in the program directory or it can be moved to the LIBS: directory. I recommend to move it to the LIBS: directory if you are using a packing file system on your partition, as problems can show up with libraries on such file systems.

1.8 The fontsensitive user interface of EGSPhotoAlbum

EGSPhotoAlbum has a fontsensitive user interface, which means that the fonts which are used in windows and buttons can be selected with the EGS font preferences program "eFonts". You can change the size and appearance of the control windows by selecting several fonts. The EGS system distinguishes between 3 usage classes:

1) The Screen-Text-Font

This is used only for the screen title bar.

2) The Window-Text-Font

This is used for title bars, menus and user interface buttons in windows. The size of this font has great influence on the size of the control windows.

3) The System-Text-Font

This is used for all editable gadgets (e.g. number gadgets). The size of this font has influence on the control windows sizes too. This font must not be proportional. You should select a font size similar to the window font, so that the user interface appears well balanced.

Examples:

For 800x600 screens I recommend the following fonts:

for 1) Helvetica 15
for 2) Helvetica 13
for 3) Courier 15

For 640x480 screens I recommend the following fonts:

for 1) Helvetica 13
for 2) Helvetica 11
for 3) Courier 13

You can find these fonts on all original workbenches. You can certainly choose other fonts (and sizes), if you like.

1.9 Informations about the supported picture formats

EGSPhotoAlbum can currently read pictures in the following formats:

- 1) IFF-ILBM24 (compressed and uncompressed)
- 2) JPeg (color and greyscale pictures)
- 3) PPM-P6 (color pictures)
- 4) QRT

EGSPhotoAlbum can currently write pictures in the following formats (full version only):

- 1) IFF-ILBM24 (compressed and uncompressed)
- 2) JPeg (color and greyscale pictures with variable quality/smoothing/optim.)
- 3) PPM-P6
- 4) QRT
- 5) Targa (currently only uncompressed)
- 6) IFF-DEEP (special TVPaint format; currently only uncompressed)

Here is some information about the file formats:

- 1) IFF-ILBM24

This is the standard format for 24Bit color pictures on the Amiga.

Pictures can be saved compressed or uncompressed; the compression is normally quite bad for photorealistic pictures; pictures with large colored areas (e.g. from raytracing) can sometimes be compressed better. Unfortunately this format is slow to read and write because the 24Bit for each pixel are scattered on 24 bitplanes.

*** new: IFF can now also be used (in embedded form) for preview file generation ***

2) JPeg

This is a very high compressable format; the compression is not lossless, so a picture can normally be a bit different after loading, as before saving. This format is best suitable for long term archiving and not for pictures which are still to be changed or as temporary format. The compression is best for photorealistic pictures. Before saving the quality (and compression ratio) can be selected or smoothing can be applied.

*** new: JPeg can now also be used (in embedded form) for preview file generation to save lots of disk space ***

3) PPM

EGSPhotoAlbum currently only reads the PPM-P6 format, which uses an RGB triple for each pixel. This format is fastest to read and write (if the harddrive is fast enough for the large data amounts). This format can also used (in embedded form) for preview file generation, as so the preview loading can be very fast.

The PPM format is esp. used by the PD image processing system "PBM", which comes from workstations but has also been ported to the Amiga.

4) QRT

This format has similair advantages as PPM-P6. It is esp. used by some PD raytracers, e.g. by the very powerful PD raytracer "Persistence of Vision" (POV), which is also available for the Amiga. This format is also known as Dump format in such raytracers. The QRT support makes EGSPhotoAlbum an ideal converter for such raytracing pictures to convert them to IFF-ILBM24 or JPeg.

5) Targa

This format can currently only be saved but not loaded. No compression is currently available. This format can be used for transfers to other computer platforms, as Targa is used on many systems.

6) IFF-DEEP

This format has first been used by TVPaint. It can currently only be saved by EGSPhotoAlbum (without compression) and is useful for all who want to transfer pictures to TVPaint or TVPaint Junior quite fast.

1.10 Using EGSPhotoAlbum

EGSPhotoAlbum currently always runs on the EGSDefaultScreen. For highest quality and speed this should be selected to 24Bit.

After the start of EGSPhotoAlbum a file requester will appear. With this you should select a Path for your pictures (currently Jpeg, IFF-ILBM24, QRT and PPM-P6 are supported) and a search pattern if you want to restrict the search to some files. It won't be a problem if you select unsuitable files; these are quietly ignored.

Please note: Files with the extension ".pre" are always ignored, as such names are reserved for preview files.

After the path selection EGSPhotoAlbum starts to load little previews of all pictures asynchronously and shows them in an overview page. During the loading you can still control EGSPhotoAlbum as normal. To control EGSPhotoAlbum a control window exists with many functions. The overview window can be resized at any time; the pictures will then automatically rearranged. Picture previews need not to be reloaded (if enough memory exists) once they have been loaded.

Functions of the control window:

1) Field layout (variable or fixed)

If fixed layout is selected a rectangular area of fixed size will be reserved for all preview pictures. The actual preview pictures will then be scaled down (1:1, 1:2, 1:4 or 1:8) into this area. The area size can be selected upto 200x200. Pictures which are too big after 1:8 downscaling will only be partially visible.

At variable layout the pictures will also be downscaled, but only the actually needed place of the picture will be reserved. This normally allows more pictures to be shown on one page, but it might look slightly untidy. If pictures are too big after downscaling in this mode they may appear bigger than the selected area size.

2) max. field size

These gadgets specify the maximum size of a preview field. It can be selected as upto 200x200. The change of this size gadgets will result in a reloading of the preview pictures (as they might have to be scaled in another ratio).

3) Page changing buttons

If more pictures are found in a directory than can be shown on the actual page, you can "turn the pages" with these buttons.

Since version 1.6 there are similar functions in a menu in the preview overview window. These menu also has keyboard shortcuts for easy access. This is useful, if the control window was in your way and you placed it behind the picture window or iconified it (which is possible since EGS system version 7.0).

4) New directory button

This button opens the file requester again, so you can select a new path and pattern for your pictures. If you cancel this requester, no change will be done. A change of the directory will also close all full picture windows.

5) Configuration switches

If the "Auto View" button is pressed down, any selection of a preview image will result in an immediate opening of the full size picture. This is only possible in the registered version. In the demo you can deactivate this button. An image selection will then only result in the output of some picture information in the info lines.

If the "Preload" button is pushed down, the automatic preloading of preview images (on other pages) is permitted. If loading of new previews is started, it will only stop when all pictures have been read or no memory is free for more pictures. If you deselect this option (button not pushed down), the preview loading will stop, if the page is full.

6) Info lines

During loading of the preview images (and of full images) an info field shows how much (in percent) of the image is already loaded.

Below that there are field for information about the currently selected image. You can select a picture by a mouse click in it's preview image. Multiple pictures can be selected by multi select (with pressing the shift button during the mouse click). If the "Auto View" feature is selected, a selected picture will be shown in full size directly (only in full version).

The information currently includes the file type, file name and picture dimensions. If a separate preview file exists for the selected picture, the information about the picture will be read from the preview file. This can lead to wrong information, if the preview file does not belong to the corresponding full picture file.

7) Control field

The "View picture" button opens a full size picture window for all pictures which are selected in the preview pages. This is e.g. useful if the Auto View feature is not selected. The full size viewing is only available in the registered version.

The "Close pictures" button closes all full size windows. You can also close those windows individually with their close buttons.

The "Info" button displays the information window for EGSPhotoAlbum.

The "Select all" and "Deselect all" buttons can be used to select or deselect all pictures (on all pages). The selection can e.g. be used for the preview file generation. You can also select single pictures manually by mouseclick or multiple pictures with Shift and a mouseclick.

The "Generate previews" button can be used in the full version to save the downscaled images in a special format, so that they can be reloaded by EGSPhotoAlbum very quickly. This can save you a lot of time if you want to view directories regularly, esp. with complex picture formats, which are slow even for downscaled image loading. The generation will be performed for all selected pictures; to generate previews for a whole directory, just press "Select all" before the generation. The preview files will normally be located in the original directory with the additional file extension ".pre". *** new since V1.7 *** You can also select a separate preview directory with another button. This is esp. useful for CD-ROMs, where you can't create the previews on the disk. The preview files contain (in addition to the preview image) information about the original dimensions and file format.

The current field size is important for the creation of the preview files. If you have selected a small field size, the preview files will only contain a small picture (which takes low disk space). If you have selected a big field size, the preview image will be bigger (and occupy more disk space); those images can then appear later in big size too optionally; if you watch large preview images in small fields, they will automatically be downscaled as usual, so that this will be no problem. If you want to change the preview file image size, you just need to create them again. For the creation of new preview files the original image will be used.

*** New since V1.7 ***

The preview files are created in an embedded format. As basic picture format you can select PPM-P6 or (new) the JPEG or IFF format. JPEG preview files are certainly much smaller, but can normally not be loaded as fast as P6 pictures. For JPEG preview files you can select the usual JPEG parameters as well (quality, smoothing, optim., greyscale). IFF can be significantly smaller than P6 for certain picture types.

Selection of a preview directory:

With this button you can select a directory for preview files. If you press CANCEL in the path requester, the default condition will be used, which means that preview files will be loaded and saved in the normal picture directory. If you select another path (and press OK), preview files will only be loaded from and saved to that directory, until you change it again.

Deleting pictures:

In the full version selected pictures can be deleted comfortably. After a security warning the selected pictures will be removed from the preview page and deleted on disk (together with the preview file, if it exists).

Remove pictures:

This function removes pictures only from the preview pages (they are not deleted from disk). This function is e.g. useful for CD-ROM owners who want to get unwanted pictures out of the way.

Please note:

Some functions (as Delete Pictures and Generate Previews) can only be used, if no picture or preview loading is in progress, as the whole picture list is effected by thoose operations. To abort the preview loading (of not visible pictures) you can deselect the preload setting button.

8) Closing gadget / Exiting EGSPhotoAlbum

By closing the control window or the preview page window you can quit EGSPhotoAlbum. All open full view windows will then also be closed automatically. The quit button in the action field has the same effect.

Full view windows in the registered version

Pictures can be shown in full size by a simple mouse click (if automatic view is selected) or after selection with the "View picture" button. In the current version a separate window will be opened in full size for each selected picture.

Many extensions are possible here, if enought users register for EGSPhotoAlbum!

The full picture windows have a menu bar, which allows saving of the picture in different formats or fast transfers to other programs or to the Clipboard.

1) Direct transfer

Fast direct transfers are possible to the programs PicoPainter and BigPainter (as picture or as brush) and to the program (EGS-)ImageFX. Transfers to other programs could be possible, if the developers/manufacturers of thoose programs would be willing to cooperate with me.

The direct transfer functions allow the usage of EGSPhotoAlbum as comfortable front end for picture selection for other applications...

2) Save functions

Pictures can be saved in other formats. This makes EGSPhotoAlbum a comfortable picture converter as well...

Currently 24Bit pictures can be saved as IFF-ILBM24, JPeg, PPM, QRT, Targa and DEEP. For JPeg saving you can choose the quality (which also influences the compression ratio) and an optional smoothing or optimizing. You can also save color pictures as greyscale JPegs.

3) Clipboard transfer

Full pictures can be transferred directly to the Clipboard.

1.11 How should I register to get the full version?

The registration fee for EGSPhotoAlbum is currently 18US\$ (as cheque) or 15US\$ (as bank notes) for users outside of europe (see registration form for other possible currencies). Inside europe the registration fee is 20DM (see registration form for other possible currencies).

English and german versions are available.

Free updates are normally available due to the keyfile concept.

A registration form is supplied in this archiv (please print it with 12CPI and a left margin of 10).

Please send the filled in registration form to:

Helmut Hoffmann
Rubensstrasse 4
D-41063 Mönchengladbach

Germany

(no registrations by EMail!)

The delivery of the full version with the keyfile for future updates will normally not take very long, but under some circumstances (esp. from non european countries) it can take some weeks.

1.12 About the author

I am currently a student of computer science at the

Rheinisch Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen

in germany.

I am using and programming Amiga computers since more than six years now.

I wrote this program to get comfortable access to my large picture collections, which have been grabbed with VLab, scanned or rendered with raytracing programs...

You can reach me by EMail via Internet while I study in Aachen:

hhoff@pool.informatik.rwth-aachen.de

There are some holiday periods in the year, when I don't come to my EMail-account for some weeks.

My postal address is

Helmut Hoffmann
Rubensstrasse 4

D-41063 Mönchengladbach

Germany

This is valid through all the year.

1.13 Hard- and Software used while developing EGSPhotoAlbum

Most parts of this program are written in pure Assembler (using the german assembler O.M.A. 2.0). Only the lowlevel JPeg functions have been implemented in C (based on the portable C source of the Independent JPeg Group; This software is based in part on the work of the independent JPeg Group) and compiled with the german MaxonC++ system.

My development system is:

Amiga 3000/030/25MHz / 18 Megabytes RAM

OS version 3.1

EGS System 7.0 (yes, this does really exist)

4MByte Piccolo SD64 (64Bit) graphics board (running in Zorro III-mode).

To create picture files I used (beside others):

Classical VLab with vlab.library version 8.2

under control of EGS-TV Professional (my own Shareware video software for EGS)

Reisware scanner interface and Cameron Type 14 handy scanner

(used with EGS-TV Professional; this program also has some scanner support)

This program was tested with enforcer and mungwall running.

Transfer functions and file formats have been tested with PicoPainter, BigPainter, EGS-ImageFX, TV-Paint-Junior EGS and others.

1.14 Special Thanks

I want to thank Alexander Pratsch for providing me with BigPainter, the successor of PicoPainter. The picture transfer from EGSPhotoAlbum to PicoPainter and BigPainter is possible by a fast direct transfer interface.

I also want to thank Mr. Woodall from NOVA-Design for his support at the implementation of the direct transfer interface to ImageFX (EGS) by providing me with EGS-ImageFX.

My special thanks go to the Ingenieurbüro Helfrich and Jan-Claas Dirks for their great support.

I also want to thank the "Independent JPEG Group" for providing the portable C source code for JPeg compression. The JPeg functions are based on this code (This software is based in part on the work

of the independent JPeg Group).

I also want to thank all who registered during the development phase and had to wait a bit longer for the full version.

1.15 Information about other useful EGS programs

If you have to work with video and framegrabbers, I recommend to take a look at EGS-TV Professional, the shareware framegrabber and video software for EGS. This shareware program (which is also developed by me) offers a comfortable usage and special effects (e.g. Blue Screen Keying) or hard disk recording and sequence editing functions. Esp. VLab and IV24 users can experience new dimensions with EGS-TV. The possibility to save pictures in JPeg format makes EGS-TV Professional the ideal partner to generate pictures for your collection and usage with EGSPhotoAlbum...

EGS-TV Professional demos should be available on places where you found EGSPhotoAlbum.

Since version 3.6 EGS-TV can also be used comfortably without a framegrabber by load functions (the same formats as EGSPhotoAlbum) and import functions. You can use EGS-TV this way as animation generation and sequence editing of blue screen keying effect software.

1.16 Version history

- * Version 1.0 (31.10.94)
First demo version (only JPeg pictures are supported in this version)
 - * Version 1.1 (04.11.94)
Special version for the Computer 94 expo in Cologne:
Introduction of full picture windows (unlimited number of windows)
 - * Version 1.2 (11.11.94)
Support of the IFF-ILBM24 format (compressed and uncompresses)
Support of the PPM-P6 format
 - * Version 1.3 (14.11.94)
Speed-Up of the PPM loading functions by adaptive buffer alignment
Different "Pic-Load" display increment rates for previews and full pictures
Display fields for currently loaded picture number and total number of files
Full version:
Introduction of keyfile "egsphotoalbum.library"
Change of full picture view to "simple refresh" windows; this allows efficient use of the original full picture bitmap for transfers etc.
Introduction of fast direct transfers to Pico-(and Big-)Painter; full pictures can be transfered as picture or as brush
Introduction of fast direct transfer to (EGS-)ImageFX
 - * Version 1.4 (16.11.94) (First official full version)
Introduction of "Select all" and "Deselect all" functions
Full version:
-

Introduction of Clipboard transfer
Introduction of save operations for full pictures in the file formats
IFF-ILBM24 (compressed and uncompressed), JPeg, PPM-P6, QRT, Targa, DEEP
Improvement of the full picture loading management
Introduction of preview file generation and management

★ Version 1.5 (20.11.94)

Support of the QRT picture format for loading (also know as Dump format
by the PD raytracer "POV-Ray")
Fix of a bug in the selection frame drawing with "Select All" (occured
when the first page was not visible)
Introduction of a "Quit" button
Fix of a bug, which could lead to crashes, if libraries where missing
during program start
Change of the needed library versions to make EGSPhotoAlbum usable even
with old EGS6.0 demo versions

Full version:

Introduction of the delete function, to make deletion of pictures
(including preview file) possible in a comfortable way

★ Version 1.6 (02.12.94)

Introduction of a menu (incl. keyboard shortcuts) in the picture overview
window for comfortable page flipping even with hidden/overlapped control ↔
window
Introduction of a setting to omit or interrupt automatic preloading of
not yet visible preview pictures
More efficient directory management: files of unknown format are now removed
after the first access; this accelerates repeated access

Full version:

Fix of a bug with a wrong "out of memory" requester during preview file
creation in directories with unknown file formats
Field for number of files is now correctly decremented after delete operations

★ Version 1.7 (05.12.94)

Fix of a bug (in V1.6) which could let pictures disappear from a page if
the preview loading was interrupted
Introduction of a remove function, which can be used to remove pictures
from the pages (without deleting them on disk, so the removal is not
permanently and can also be used with read only media as CD-ROMs)
Fix of another bug with selection frame drawing (which could occur
when layout had changed and pictures where still reloading)

Full version:

Extension of the preview file generation by an embedded JPeg and IFF format;
together with the former used embedded PPM-P6 format there are now three
alternatives (with varying space requirements and loading speeds); for the
JPeg creation all usual JPeg parameters are available (e.g. quality).
Selectable directory for preview file generation: This feature allows
usage of preview generation also for read only media (as CD-ROM), where
you can keep all the previews on a separate harddrive directory.
Automatic prevention of preview file generation for files with file names
which are too long (30 characters); as the added ".pre" extension would
be ignored by the DOS, the preview file could overwrite the original
file in such situations.
