

THE MONITOR



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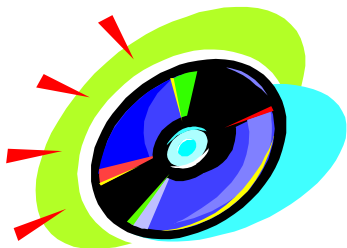
Spring 2001

Version 6.0 Boasts Fascinating New Features

New Version Makes Its Stunning Debut

The long-awaited version 6.0 has recently stepped out of Display System International's front doors. This new version has many new features, and as well has proved to be our sturdiest product ever.

There have been numerous changes in this new version which affect our entire product line. Brought back by popular demand, the Blended Background button has returned in the Text Scheduler. This button allows much easier access to the blended background option and its settings. New options in this classic effect include a transparency preference, and as well the possibility of pointing the blend in any direction. As well, it is now possible to move the positioning centers for the rectangle and circular blends anywhere on your page.



Another exciting brand new background advance is the Quilted Background effect, which is similar to the 'Tile' option in Windows. New effects have also been added to the text.

A captivating 3D text effect is now available, as well as a blend text effect. Both of these new features can be used to create eye-catching pages in your schedules. As well, it is now possible to use the blink effect to flash to transparent, which looks striking over graphics and blended backgrounds. Other new charming text options include customizable font settings buttons in the Font Settings toolbar, bullet history for custom bullet font settings, and transparent text for punch-through effects.

One of the additional features added to version 6.0 in the Text Editor is a multiple pages option, which

allows you to open several pages at once and toggle between them. The Cut, Copy and Paste functions can be used with the multiple page option, to make the creation of similar pages more proficient. Another new feature is the New Page button.

Also new to version 6.0 is the New Schedule button in the Scheduler. Furthermore, the Scheduler now offers a feature which allows automatic wipe insertion between your pages. This makes scheduling easier and more efficient.

Some of the changes to the TextPro Sr. and the ELITE products are the availability of multiple remote profiles, including network communications, and a new phone database, which requires no extra drivers. The ELITE products, among other advances, now have MP3 and MPEG-2 capabilities, operative with the proper drivers installed. ELITE Gold is also compatible with Power Point Show. One of our most exciting new features in the ELITE Gold, though still in the early testing phases, is the capability to display an html page from the internet in your schedule. DSI expects this feature to be available in early summer.

Version 6.0 is DSI's most stable version yet. Communications has notably improved. The software now uses its own dialer and phone database, which solidifies the connections between computers. One of the additions to our product, which aids in troubleshooting, is a View Profile button in the main menu. This allows easy access to all crucial information related to DSI software.

To obtain more information about our software products, ask for a FREE demo CD by contacting one of our salespeople by phone, fax or email. Our contact information is listed above. D

*"Age is unimportant unless you're a cheese."
-Helen Hayes*

A Little Story

This is a story about four people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was this important job to be done and everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure that somebody would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was everybody's job. Everybody thought that anybody could do it, but nobody realized that everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that everybody blamed somebody when actually nobody asked anybody. D

Biography Corner

Mr. Edgar Emond has been a valuable employee of DSI for one and a half years. During that time, he has worked in our technical support department, and has since moved on to sales.

Born: Oxbow, SK

Education: Electronics Technologists Diploma from Saskatchewan Technology Institute in Moose Jaw, SK

Interests: Cycling, Curling and Golfing

Career Goal: To receive MSCE certification.

DSI Responsibilities: Sales Account Executive, technical support, updating manual. D

VCR Control for an Affordable Price

Are you looking to control a single VCR for a reasonable amount of money? DSI now offers a **\$245 (US)** VCR controller that will control almost any consumer grade VCR. **Save money** on the controller; **Save money** on the VCRs; **Save worrying** about replacing your VCR. If you have to replace your VCR in a short period of time, just reconfigure the controller. Call DSI and inquire about the Spitfire Controller. D



DSI On The Road

Look for Display Systems International at the SCTE Show in Orlando from May 9 -11. We will be exhibiting at booth number 400, and representing our company will be Rob Lemky and Edgar Emond. We look forward to seeing you there!

DSI also hopes to attend a few of SCTE's vendor shows this year. We will keep you posted on the locations and times. D

Saying Good-Bye

DSI recently has said good-bye to two of our employees. Seamus Paterson left DSI in July of 2000, and has since taken up a new career path. Edgar Emond has taken over the sales accounts that Seamus previously handled.

Curtis Sears left DSI in early February. Curtis handled website updates and technical support. Technical support is now handled by David Falk.

DSI is sad to see both of these employees leave, and we wish them all the best in the future. D

Joke of the Day

One morning, a grandmother was surprised to find that her 7-year-old grandson had made her coffee! Smiling, she choked down the worst cup of her life.

When she finished, she found three little green Army men at the bottom. Puzzled, she asked, "Honey, what are these Army men doing in my coffee?"

Her grandson answered, "Like it says on TV, Grandma -- 'The best part of waking up is soldiers in your cup.'" D

Tips and Tricks

Tips and Tricks is a section that offers suggestions to make your pages look more professional, and provides short-cuts for saving time while using the DSI software.



For all users of the DSI products, our tip this issue is concerning all those out there who would like more graphic backgrounds. DSI will make a .gbp file available for download from our website every month starting April. Simply go to the Downloads section on our website, and download the latest graphics file for free to use in your schedules.

Our trick for this issue of the monitor will show you how to use the Text Animation button to animate your graphics in the Text Editor. This can be used to make spectacular pages for your schedules. Some things that have been done with this feature include making basketballs bounce, flying planes over a page, causing bubbles to rise above a glass of soda, and spinning a company logo end over end. Text Animation is only available to ELITE Gold users.

To start, open the graphic you wish to animate. This usually works better with smaller graphics, such as a logo or a small picture. Make sure your graphic is placed in the spot on your page where you would like it to be at the *end* of the entry animation. Next, select the graphic by **RIGHT-CLICKING** on it. This will bring up a drop-down menu. Leave the menu open, but click on the Text Animation button in the Editor Commands. Clicking anywhere else on the page will deselect the graphic.

Once you click on the Text Animation button, the Text Animation window will open. Start by deciding whether you want the effect visible on the whole page, or just part of it. For instance, on the page with the bubbling glass of soda, the bubbles were only visible above the cup, therefore the option 'Effect will be visible in a limited region of the screen' was selected. To set the region, handlebars will show up on the edges of your page, and you will be able to set the region while still being able to see our page. Press **ENTER** on your keyboard when you are done.

Next, select the option Enable Entry Effect. Enter the time you would like the entry effect to start and end. At the end of your entry effect, your page will display as is, until your exit effect begins or the next page displays. Also enter the size you which you would like your graphic to enter onto your page.

Next, choose what kind of effect you would like. The only effect which will not work with graphics is the spell effect, since it will look exactly the same as the travel effect.

For the page mentioned with the spinning company logo, the Wipe effect was used. This effect allows you to choose any wipe or transition, as listed in the Scheduler, and apply it to your text, or, in this case, graphic. Click on the Effect Properties button to select your wipe. The SPIN HORIZONTAL wipe was used for the spinning logo on the page referred to earlier.

The other effect which can be used to animate your graphics is the travel effect. This effect was used in the bouncing basketball, the flying plane and the rising bubbles pages. To use this effect, click on the Travel Path button. A window entitled Path Definition will pop up. The white square represents the area where the effect will be visible on your screen, and the white dot indicates the position where your graphic will sit at the end of your entry animation. Follow the easy instructions in the window to mark out your travel path. Click OK when you are done.

To also activate an exit effect, click on the Enable Exit Effect. The procedure is the same as the entry effect, only when it displays your graphic will leave the page with the effect. When you are finished editing the animation, click OK. Finally, to view your graphic animation, click on the View button at the top of the Text Editor. **D**

More Humor - How the Government Works

We would like anyone who has a good idea for our Tips and Tricks section to please get in touch with us and share your idea. If we put it in a future issue of The Monitor, we will give you credit for it. Please call us at 306.934.6884 and ask for Tanya. **D**

Once upon a time, the government had a vast scrap yard in the middle of a desert. Congress said, "Someone may steal from it at night." So they created a night watchman position and hired a person for the job.

Then Congress said, "How does the watchman do his job without instruction?" So they created a planning department and hired two people, one person to write the instructions, and one person to do time studies.

Then Congress said, "How will we know the night watchman is doing the tasks correctly?" So they created a Quality Control department and hired two people. One to do the studies and one to write the reports.

Then Congress said, "How are these people going to get paid?" So they created the following positions: a time keeper, and a payroll officer; then hired two people.

Then Congress said, "Who will be accountable for all of these people?" So they created an administrative section and hired three people, an Administrative Officer, Assistant Administrative Officer, and a Legal Secretary.

Then Congress said, "We have had this command in operation for one year and we are \$18,000 over budget, we must cutback overall cost."

So they laid off the night watchman. D

New Pricing Structure

As of October of 2000, DSI released a new price list. For instance, the ELITE 2000 software has been reduced in price, from \$1,995 to \$1,595 US. For upgrade costs and more details, contact your DSI representative. D

A New Shipping Address

This past fall, DSI moved to a new office. Our new shipping address, which is actually next door to our old location, reads as follows:

2214 Hanselman Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7L 6A4
Canada

Our mailing address still remains the same, however, at 203 Mallin Crescent in Saskatoon, SK, S7K 7W8.

We apologize for any inconveniences caused during our move. D



If you would like to hear more about DSI products, please fill in this form and send, fax or email it to DSI at 203 Mallin Crescent, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 7W8, Canada Fax#: 306.934.6447 sales@displaysystemsintl.com



I am interested in receiving information on the following DSI products: (Check all that apply.)

- IBM ELITE Gold
- IBM ELITE 2000
- IBM TextPro Sr.
- IBM TEBBS

Please send me a free DSI Demo CD.

I would like someone from DSI to contact me.

I would like to be removed from the DSI mailing list.

Please fill out the following so we can serve you better:

Name: _____

Company: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone#: _____

Email: _____