

The Monitor



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DSI Introduces Windows 95 Versions of Their Product Family

Saskatoon, SK Canada

Excitement is in the air as Display Systems International introduces the Windows 95 versions of their character generator products. Product development on the new Windows 95 based line-up began in late 1997. This new line-up takes advantage of the advanced features offered by Windows 95. Notable changes include the use of long file names and the elimination of quirks that arose from using the Windows 3.11 products with the Windows 95 platform.

The Windows 95 products Main Menu has been redone with a more modern appearance. The structure of the menu remains the same, with Scheduling, Text Editing, Configuration, and Communications in the same order for continuity. Inside of each area, many changes quickly become apparent.

Mr. Chris Lock, in charge of product testing and development, notes "the quality of the blended backgrounds, the spellchecker and the reworking of Rectangle features are vast advancements of the new product versus the old. We are very excited about all of the way the new line-up handles all aspects of the features offered in the previous Windows 3.1 products." The spellchecker now makes suggestions as to proper spelling in a manner very similar to that used in word processors.

Program/Preview is a new feature that has been added. The advanced multi-tasking of Windows 95 allows us to set up a single unit to offer up to 5 channels of video from a single computer, in addition to the channel that is reserved for the creation and scheduling

of pages. On Display Only units, six video outputs are available.

According to Chris, "Customers will be able to do page creation and scheduling while the computer is displaying information on the other channels. Allowing people to use the computer system for multiple purposes gives greater product flexibility." Chris also notes that when you, "add in the additional feature of Program/Preview for true off line editing; the new products outshine all other products we have seen."

When asked which products will be available with this feature, Chris responded that "all the products (TEBBS, TextPro Sr. and ELITE2000) will be available in this configuration."

At the time this article was written, a fourth product was being tested as well. The ELITEGOLD is a new product which will feature text animation, automatic page creation and background communications. It will be released along with Windows 95 versions of the existing three products.

A future element of the ELITEGOLD is the feature of allowing text blocking. This feature will allow a block of text to be selected, edited, deleted or moved. This advancement will give the ELITEGOLD the feel that is associated with a word processor.

Additionally, there will be a media and handling fee if customers want the Windows 95 version on CD-ROM. Next day service will be offered for \$35.00, standard for \$15.00 while Internet upgrades are free.

If you would like information on any of the new DSI products, just give our office a call.?

DSI on the Road

Display Systems International will be attending several trade shows over the next 6 months. The first show was SCTE's Cable Tec Expo in Denver on June 10th through 12th. Our booth number was 192.

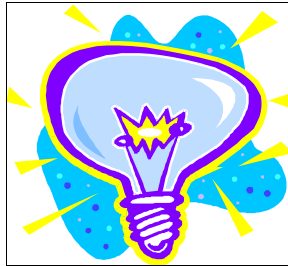
We are also attending the NECTA Show in Newport, Rhode Island in July and the Mid-America Show in Kansas City, Missouri in October. Our booth number for the NECTA Show is 89. More details will appear in future issues of the Monitor. ?

Tips and Tricks

Tips and Tricks is a section that may help you to create pages and schedules that offer a more professional look and feel or are ways of doing things in an easier fashion.

The first tip is for people that want text transitions in the Windows 3.1 product and in the Windows 95 products (other than the ELITEGOLD). This effect will make it look like the text is wiping onto the page.

First make a page with your graphics background, blended background or whatever. Next put any text that you want to appear with the page (before the transition) in the location that you want. Save the page.

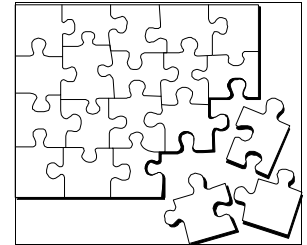


Second, with the page you just finished still on the screen type in the text that you want to have the transition take effect on. Save the page as a different file name. Next, go to the scheduler. Schedule the first page and then the second page. Insert a wipe in between the two pages. This wipe will provide the transition. A pixel wipe, or a directional wipe works well. Save the schedule or Red Range and test the section of the schedule with your text transition.

Note: You can also use this concept to make pictures appear or disappear in the same fashion.

The electric toothbrush was developed and tested on dogs. They reportedly enjoyed it. ?

Several of our customers have called us with questions about scheduling only pages that were recently created. This Tip will help you find only the pages that were created in a certain period of time. This will help you in those busy times like Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day, etc.. This saves you going through all the pages that you have created, but only those you created over the past day or week.



To use Date Ranges follow these steps:

In the Graphic Scheduler click on the icon beside the word File in the Files Window header. A pop-up menu will appear.

Click on Date Ranges. Set the Start Date. It should be set for how far back you want to start from. The end date should be today's date. Click on Date Ranges Enabled. Click on OK. At this point only the pages that were created in the time specified will display in the files window.

We would like anyone who has a good idea that they would like to share with others to let us know what your idea is. If we put it in a future issue of The Monitor, we will give you credit for the idea. Call us and let us know your idea. Our phone number is 306-934-6884 and ask for Richard. ?

Biography Corner

Mr. Seamus Paterson is the staff member we are looking at in this issue. Seamus has been with DSI for about three years.

Born: Calgary, Alberta

Education: Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (University of Calgary)

Interests: Games, Role Playing, Computers, Films.

Career Goal: To aspire to the top sales position at DSI by assuring continued customer satisfaction.

DSI Responsibilities: Internet Troubleshooting and Trouble Shooting Guide Compilation. ?

DSI Systems - An Increased Value

Display Systems International has either increased the specifications of computers or lowered pricing on several of the hardware components. The computer systems sent out by DSI now have CD-ROM drives, 16 Megabytes of RAM, Windows 95, Pentium Processors, and larger hard drive sizes.

The following products have dropped in price. Prices are listed in US dollars and were in effect at the time of the publication of this newsletter.

VGA Monitor (IB400)	295.00
Microjack Converter (IB305)	295.00
Flatbed Scanner (IB355)	595.00
VideoCommander II	595.00
Davis Weather Station	995.00

Display Systems International also offers an extended warranty. The extended warranty covers parts and labour on factory service for an additional two years beyond the original one year warranty. The extended warranty prices are:

TextPro Sr. and TEBBS	\$400.00
ELITE2000 and ELITEGOLD Creation ...	\$600.00
ELITE2000 and ELITEGOLD Display	\$500.00

Display Systems International is also offering a limited time upgrade of computer systems. Costs are:

Package #1. Motherboard upgrade to Pentium 200 MMX, Memory upgrade to 16 Meg of RAM, 24X CD-ROM Drive, Windows 95, loading, configuration and testing of Windows 95 version of your program (TEBBS, TextPro Sr. or ELITE2000)
\$895.00

Package #2. No Motherboard, Memory upgrade to 16 Meg of RAM, 24X CD-ROM Drive, Windows 95, loading, configuration and testing of Windows 95 version of your program (TEBBS, TextPro Sr. or ELITE2000)
\$549.00

Package #3. Loading, configuration and testing of Windows 95 version of your program (TEBBS, TextPro Sr. or ELITE2000) (Only for users with Windows 95 already installed and a CD-ROM Drive)
\$149.00

If you require a larger hard drive or more memory please contact DSI for further pricing. ?

Internet Troubleshooting Guide

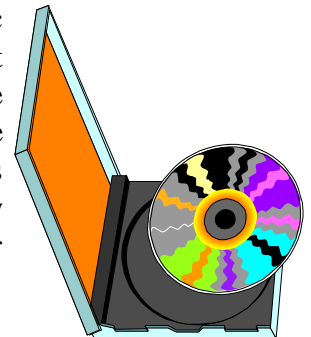
Display Systems International is affirming its commitment to good service by offering an Internet Troubleshooting Guide. This guide takes the form of an area on our web site. It offers solutions to many common problems found by the Technical Support Staff at DSI and will be available 24 hours a day. The staff feels this support system will be a valuable tool for all users of DSI products as it will be available after office hours. Compilation of the guide will continue on an ongoing basis. Solutions to future problems will also be posted.

Mr. Seamus Paterson is in charge of this area and is excited about the possibilities. "I think it will allow customers to more quickly and easily solve common problems without the costs of a long distance phone call. This, with the manual will solve all foreseeable technical issues that customers will encounter." ?

A bright young pupil looked long and thoughtfully at the second examination question, which read: "State the number of tons of coal shipped out of the United States in any given year." Then his brow cleared and he wrote: 1492 - none. ?

DSI Plans for Electronic Manual

Future DSI plans include an electronic version of the manual on CD-ROM. The manual would be created in the common Adobe pdf format and would include the Adobe pdf Reader. This manual would be a valuable help resource and would possibly be integrated as a help menu. At the time this article was written, we know that the manual will be in pdf form, but how it will appear on the CD is still being discussed. Possibilities include separate files for different sections of the manual (Text Editor, Graphic Scheduler, etc) all in different files) and a total guide with the entire manual in one file. We are interested in your opinions on this, so please contact us by email, fax or phone with your thoughts. ?



Display Systems International's web site address may have changed since your last visit. We are now located at www.promowarecorp.com. Our email address is now sales@promowarecorp.com. ?

Bill Gates, the Dali Lama, Bill Clinton and a Hippie are in a plane flying over the Atlantic Ocean. The pilot announces that the engines have just cut out and the plane is going down. The passengers must decide who gets the three available parachutes.

Bill Clinton: "As the Leader of the Free World, I will take one of the parachutes." He jumps out of the plane.

Bill Gates: "As the richest and smartest man in the world, I will take one of the parachutes." He jumps out of the plane.

Dali Lama: Says to the Hippie - "I am an old man, you are still young and have more of your life to live, you take the last parachute."

Hippie: To the Dali Lama - "Don't worry old dude, the smartest man in the world just jumped out of the plane with my backpack!" ?

TextPro Sr. - New Hardware & More

A series of new demo schedules have been created for the Windows 95 versions. The new demo schedules demonstrate the different capabilities of the products. The pages also explain the capabilities of each of the products. The demo schedules will only be available on CD-ROM.

Additionally, there are more free graphics for the TextPro Sr. and TEBBS Systems. The graphics are shipping on the CD-ROM as well. These free graphics can give a more polished appearance to pages created in these two products. There are 600 backgrounds shipping with the TextPro Sr. and TEBBS. TEBBS software is \$600.00 and the TextPro Sr. is \$795.00

On hardware systems, the TEBBS and TextPro Sr. are now available with an internal VGA converter and anti-aliasing. This converter offers a high quality video output. The price, with this new converter, for the TEBBS system is still under \$2000 and for the TextPro Sr. is under \$2500. ?

In our Next Issue

Our next issue of The Monitor should be coming out in September of 1998. Keep an eye out for it. The next issue will contain the following:

Anti-Aliasing - What it is and Why DSI supports it
The ELITEGOLD preliminary responses

More Tips and Tricks

Another Biography of a DSI Staff Member

More humour

Graphics and Library Disk Ordering Information

Upcoming Trips and Advertisements to Look For
Trivia



Animal Facts

Female killer whales teach their calves to swim right onto the beach to catch seals to eat. Two researchers saw one young whale strand itself on shore. The mother headed out to sea, seeming to leave her calf. But then she turned and swam back at top speed, straight at her calf. At the last moment, she turned to the side creating a huge wave that lifted the calf clear of the beach, so it could turn and splash its way out to deeper water. ?

Too Late for this issue

In development for the ELITE2000 and ELITEGOLD are multi-media tutorials. These tutorials will cover almost any task that needs to be undertaken with the ELITE2000 and ELITEGOLD. These tutorials will walk you through the steps necessary to accomplish different tasks.

Year 2000 Compliance is something that has been in the news as of late. All of our DSI products, both for Windows 3.1 and Windows 95 are year 2000 compliant. For more information get in touch with DSI. ?