Macintosh: Databases with Graphics Capability

Article Created: 21 August 1989

Article Change History

02/12/93 - UPDATED
          • Fox Software, Inc. acquired by Microsoft Corporation

TOPIC --

What database products for the Macintosh support a field type for vector
graphic objects?

DISCUSSION --

We assume that what you mean by vector graphic objects is anything other than
bitmapped objects. The PICT format is one example of a non-bitmapped graphics
file. If our assumption is correct, then you have a few solutions. If this is
not the case, we'll need to know specific details about the format of the
graphic object and the application that created it. Even within a single file
format there are often slight variations used by different applications that
can cause strange incompatibilities, so it's difficult to give a simple answer
to this kind of question.

PictureBase, from Symmetry Corp., is a database that manages pictures. It
can store both bitmapped images and PICT images. It lets you pull up these
images and search by keywords (which you input for each picture) or by
words in the filename. No other kinds of data can be stored along with the
picture.

FoxBase+/Mac, from Microsoft Corporation, also lets you store PICT images and
bitmapped images. This is a full-blown database that handles pictures as a
field type. It also has character, numeric, date, logical, and memo field
types. This information can be manipulated in many ways, which is typical
of a relational database management system.

To locate a vendor's address and phone numbers, use the vendor name as a search
string.
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Keywords: <None>

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Tech Info Library Article Number: 4171