Tech Info Library

MacX Technical Notes (4/93)

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TOPIC ---

This article contains Technical notes from the MacX 1.1.7 Release Notes on:

• Full 256 Color Colormaps and Color Update
• Differences Between MacX and Other X11R4 Servers.

DISCUSSION --

Full 256 Color Colormaps and Color Update

MacX no longer requires that black and white colors occupy pixel values
#255 and #0 (respectively) in colormaps in order to animate colormaps.
Clients that require all 256 colormap entries and set entry #0 and/or entry
#255 to colors other than white and black, respectively, will cause the
Macintosh user interface to look strange while the client's windows are
front-most. This condition is temporary and can be alleviated to make the
menu bar and other Macintosh features more visible either by converting
such windows to an icon (using Command-I, for example) or by switching to
another MultiFinder application.

MacX updates the colors in windows displayed by other applications several
seconds after the last X11 colormap operation modifies the color
environment. This is to permit "batching together" of colormap operations
and updates of other applications' windows to improve MacX's color
performance.

Differences Between MacX and Other X11R4 Servers

MacX ignores X11 requests ChangeHosts, SetAccessControl, SetScreenSaver,
ForceScreenSaver, SetFontPath, ChangeKeyboardControl. For rootless
screens, MacX ignores GrabPointer and GrabButton (with a confine-to
window). In order to live comfortably in both the X11 and Macintosh
worlds, MacX must make a few concessions to both worlds' diverse
requirements and capabilities. Access control is implemented on MacX
solely based on a per-connection go/nogo decision made by the user. The
screen saver functionality in X11 is not present in MacX since this would
interfere with the Macintosh's other uses. Font path searching is not

present — MacX implements a hierarchical font directory scheme that does not require manually updating a master list of available fonts every time a change is made. All X11 requests for changing keyboard and bell sound settings or for confining the mouse pointer to a given portion of the screen are contrary to the Macintosh world and have no effect in MacX. Copyright 1993, Apple Computer, Inc.

Keywords: <None>

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