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QuickDraw GX: Discussion Of Key Features (7/96)

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TOPIC -----

This article discusses the key features of QuickDraw GX.

DISCUSSION -----

QuickDraw GX is a Macintosh system software extension that provides printing features as well as advanced graphics, type, and color capabilities. QuickDraw GX works with existing Macintosh applications and fonts and provides enhanced printing functionality and document portability.

KEY FEATURES

PostScript integration

QuickDraw GX automates the typographic process determining proper kerning, justification, and ligature sets. It also provides a number of ways of working with PostScript™:

- Enhanced font management

QuickDraw GX uses Adobe Type Manager GX (ATM GX) to provide complete support for Type 1 fonts. You can work directly with Multiple Master fonts, eliminating the need for multiple weights and instances.

- Smarter printing of type

QuickDraw GX controls the downloading of all font formats, including TrueType, to PostScript printers. QuickDraw GX downloads only the characters needed from any font so that more fonts can exist in the printer RAM.

- Extended functionality of existing PostScript devices

QuickDraw GX provides real-time color interaction between objects (transfer modes), perspective transforms on graphics and type, and high-level type features on existing PostScript devices through ColorSync color management technology.

Customizable, Extensible Printing

QuickDraw GX lets you use a printing enhancer background application to customize your printing process to provide increased control, security, and feedback. Examples of this feature are print multiple document pages to a single sheet of paper, or printing grayed "Confidential" across every page of a document.

Capabilities of QuickDraw GX drivers may be expanded by adding QuickDraw GX Extensions to a user's system folder.

Printing Interface

You can create a desktop icon of your printer then drag any document on top of the icon to have it printed. You can use the printer icon to reorder the print queue, postpone a print job, or transfer print jobs to other printers by dragging document icons to a new location or printer icon.

Printer Sharing

Using desktop printer icons, you can share any output device attached to an individual Macintosh across an entire network.

Password Protection

You can control access to output devices, such as film recorders, to control the use of costly consumables, such as color film, color toner, or expensive types of paper.

BUNDLED SOFTWARE

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- Drivers
 - LaserWriter GX
 - ImageWriter GX
 - ImageWriter LQ GX
 - StyleWriter GX
 - LaserWriter 300 GX
 - LaserWriter IIIS GX
 - Portable Digital Document Maker GX
 - Fonts
 - Apple Chancery
 - Skia
 - Tekton Plus
 - Hoefler & Hoefler Ornaments
 - Utilities
 - SimpleText 1.1.1
 - LaserWriter Utility 7.7
 - QuickDraw GX Helper 1.0
 - Type 1 Enabler 1.1.9
 - PaperType Editor 1.0
 - System Software
 - QuickDraw GX 1.0.1
 - ColorSync 1.0.5

COMPATIBILITY

System 7.5 is compatible with most applications that are compatible with System 7.1. However, in order to use some new features of System 7.5, application programs must be written to take advantage of its capabilities.

QuickDraw GX is compatible with Type 1 and TrueType fonts.

The LaserWriter GX driver is compatible with many third party laser printers that use the standard LaserWriter driver.

The following devices may not be compatible with QuickDraw GX until their manufacturers write and distribute suitable drivers or software:

Non-Apple products:

- fax modems
- laser printers
- ink jet printers
- color imagers
- plotters

Apple products:

- Express Modem (fax capabilities)
- LaserWriter PostScript Fax Cards
- Color StyleWriter Pro
- Apple Color Printer
- Portable StyleWriter

Check with the appropriate third party vendor for additional information about specific products.

USAGE REQUIREMENTS

QuickDraw GX requires a Macintosh, Performa, or PowerBook computer with 8MB DRAM and a 68020 microprocessor or better. It runs on all Power Macintosh computers with 16MB of DRAM.

QuickDraw GX runs with System 7.1 or later.

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Article Change History:

- 01 Jul 1996 - Added Fax Doc Word
- 22 Feb 1995 - Corrected typo in software utility name.
- 15 Feb 1995 - Reviewed for technical accuracy, revised System 7.5 keyword.
- 09 Dec 1994 - Added keywords and list of features; other minor corrections.

Support Information Services

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