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Third-Party Scanners: Macintosh Compatible

Revised: 6/24/90
Security: Everyone

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This article last reviewed: 2 March 1990

TOPIC -----

Is there a Macintosh-compatible scanner that scans 11 x 17 ink documents (like floor plans)?

DISCUSSION -----

You might look into the following products:

Houston Instrument's DMP-60 Series are professional, drafting-pen plotters that have a resolution of 0.0005 inches, accuracy of +/- 0.010 inches, and support HPGL and DM/PL. The DMP-61 plots at 32 inches per second axial speed and handles media from ANSI A to D sizes. The DMP-62 plots at 24 inches per second axial and handles media from ANSI A to E sizes. Both models accept the following options: MP-80 eight- pen changer, the Scan-CAD optical scanner accessory, a Kanji character set board and a 1MB expanded internal buffer.

Sharp Electronics's JX-450 Professional Color Scanner can scan images up to 11 by 17 inches in 24-bit color, 256 gray scales and monochrome. The scanning resolution of 300 dpi is adjustable from 30 to 300 in increments of one. An optional mirror unit lets users scan 35mm slides and transparencies up to 8.5 by 11 inches. The JX-450 uses a GPIB (IEEE 488) interface.

Howtek's Scanmaster is a flatbed scanner that provides an effective way of converting hard copy color images into data that can be entered into an image-capturing computer. It lets a user store, modify, and enhance color images. Input copy can be in the form of line art, text, continuous tone, or halftone documents.

The Scanmaster scans continuous-tone and half-tone images up to 11 by 17-inches and film transparencies up to 8 by 10-inches.

The Scanmaster employs a single CCD sensor and an all electronic Red-Green-Blue

(RGB) color separation method. It digitizes full-color or black and white images or color transparencies at 30 to 300 dpi and transmits the data over a GPIB interface.

Application software is also provided. A menu-driven package, Scan-It, provides immediate access to all of the scanner's features. Using a pull-down menu, a user can select an area to scan, zoom, crop, and size the image. A contrast and color correction menu lets an operator adjust the gamma correction (contrast) in the scanner to match a specific output display device and to color correct an image by modifying the scanner's internal color look-up tables (LUTs).

You can output color-corrected and sized images to one of three file formats: PICT II, RIFF (Raster Image File Format), and Howtek's SIM (Scanned Imaged file format).

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Tech Info Library Article Number:5253