

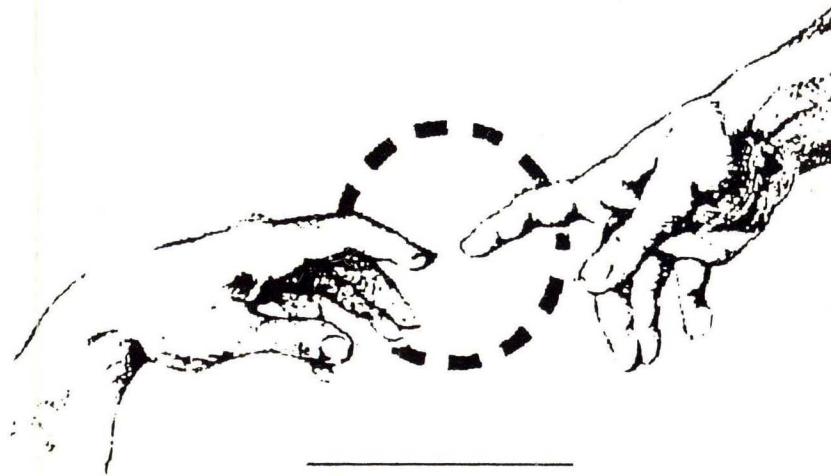
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**STOP PRESS**

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**HINTS AND TIPS  
BOOKLET**

For the  
**AMSTRAD PCW**



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Written By  
John Simpson

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## INSTALLING CP/M ONTO THE STOP PRESS SYSTEM DISC FOR 8256/8512 USERS ONLY!

Before using STOP PRESS you **must** copy CP/M onto the STOP PRESS system disc in order that the disc can autoboot! If this is not done then when the STOP PRESS disc is inserted into the drive the machine will only produce a **bleep** sound! Many users are inadvertently missing the section on installation of CP/M onto the STOP PRESS system disc. This section is covered in more detail on page ix directly after the contents page, this section **must** be referred to before attempting to autoboot STOP PRESS.

### INSTALLING STOP PRESS FOR THE 9512 RANGE

Installation of STOP PRESS for the 9512 is **not** the same as for the 8000 range. Format one of your own disks ready for use. Use the 8000COPY program supplied on your CP/M disk in order to copy the TWO STOP PRESS DISKS onto your newly formatted 9512 disks (if in doubt consult your AMSTRAD PCW USER MANUAL for details of copying 8000 series formatted disks) it should be possible to copy TWO sides of one of the STOP PRESS disks onto ONE side of your newly formatted 9512 disk. When prompted whether you require the disk to be "Auto bootable" then select Y, this will configure the disk to autoboot from drive A when inserted.

Ensure that when autobooting STOP PRESS, if using an additional dot matrix printer, both printers are online when entering STOP PRESS or the message "PRINTER NOT READY" will appear.

### ERROR: MAKE FILE R/O DISK - A:J14CPM3.\$\$\$

This error occurs because the STOP PRESS SYSTEM disc is write protected when trying to copy CP/M onto the disc using PIP. Simply ensure that the STOP PRESS write protect notch is **up** otherwise the disc cannot be written to! This will resolve the problem.

The following is information from STOP PRESS version 2.7.

### THE README FILE

The README file supplied on side 2 of the system disk is used to detail any improvements or modifications made to the STOP PRESS software.

The README file may be loaded into either LocoScript or directly into STOP PRESS. To load the file into STOP PRESS follow the procedure outlined on pages 69 & 70 of the STOP PRESS user guide.

To load the file into LocoScript the following steps should be taken:-

- (i) First of all load LocoScript
- (ii) Then insert the DEMO FILE disc side 2 into drive A.
- (iii) To inspect the files on the disc select F1 for Locoscript or F7 for Locoscript II.
- (iv) All the files on the disc will be listed.
- (v) Simply move the control bar down using the cursor keys until it is over the README.TXT file.
- (vi) Select E for Edit existing document.
- (vii) A window will appear containing the following details:-  
Edit document Name: README.TXT Group: group 0 drive:A  
Simply press <ENTER> and the window will disappear and the file will then be displayed to the screen. The procedure is now complete!

### STOP PRESS VERSION 2.3 "BUGS"

STOP PRESS version 2.3 had a number of small "bugs" as is to be expected with first

release copies. Probably the most annoying "bug" is with the Column identifiers (CIDs). The problem appears to be when setting more than two columns, the second or third column for example sets itself incorrectly and as a result of this text appears incorrectly.

### STOP PRESS VERSION 2.5 "BUGS"

Text imported or typed directly into STOP PRESS may occasionally be "sprinkled" across the screen, this is an intermittent "bug" and so may occur at random intervals or not at all.

Due to a kerning "bug" it is possible that at random intervals text may be split where not required.

There are also intermittent PAGE and WINDOW printing "bugs" which may result in either the misprinting or non printing of graphics/text on certain lines.

The "bug" amongst others has since been corrected. In order to obtain a free upgrade simply return the STOP PRESS system disc only marked "UPGRADE" with a short covering note requesting an upgrade. This will be dealt with accordingly!

### LOCOSCRIPT FILE IMPORT PROBLEMS

Both LocoScript 1 and 2 files may be imported into STOP PRESS. Text files created with both these versions have been successfully tested with STOP PRESS (version 2.6 onwards).

However there are a number of guidelines to adhere to in order to avoid problems.

STOP PRESS is **not** a wordprocessor, it is a versatile page composition program.

Due to this it is more convenient to produce large amounts of text (or even small amounts of text!) using LocoScript as it is easier to edit the text using the full word processing facilities of LocoScript which STOP PRESS does not possess.

The file may then be saved to disc and imported into STOP PRESS in columns or whatever layout has been composed from within STOP PRESS.

REMEMBER! STOP PRESS will **only** accept style and emphasis control codes. Many control codes are irrelevant to STOP PRESS and while some may be stripped from the text files on import STOP PRESS cannot strip all LocoScript control codes. Control codes that are **not** stripped may well appear as "garbage" characters within STOP PRESS. It is advisable to ensure that text files contain absolutely no embedded commands other than style and emphasis to avoid any unusual problems.

Text files that are to be used within STOP PRESS should be saved with .TXT file extensions for easy import.

Keep text files to certain sizes so as to avoid overfilling a STOP PRESS page as no editing facilities are provided in the event that the text file is too long.

STOP PRESS will only accept files from LocoScript which is provided with every PCW machine other word processors are **not** supported, however certain word processors may allow files to be saved in pure Ascii format from which they may then be imported into LocoScript and saved as a LocoScript file. This would allow import into STOP PRESS as a LocoScript file.

### LOCOSCRIPT USER GROUPS

Due to the internal sub-directory structure of LocoScript, files may be stored in more than one user group. For our purposes it would be an idea to ensure that text files to be imported into STOP PRESS are kept in user group 0 as STOP PRESS will not be able to distinguish the LocoScript sub-directory structure.

## EXTRA CLIPART, FONTS & UTILITIES FOR STOP PRESS!!

TECNATION, the authors of STOP PRESS have produced an excellent compilation of new and varied Clipart covering a host of subjects under the title Getset Typeset! Also included are a selection of high quality fonts ranging in size from the standard size fonts normally supplied with STOP PRESS down to much smaller sleeker typefaces more in keeping with the standard LocoScript body face. Utilities include an Ascii to LocoScript convertor that would allow files from word processors other than LocoScript to be imported, and a handy page previewer.

This package is only available direct from Tecnation who may be contacted at:- 23 The Nursery, High Street, Sutton Courtenay, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 4UA, Tel.(0235) 848755, Fax (0235) 847596.

### PRINTER DRIVERS

The STOP PRESS printer driver is a screen dump routine hence the normal printer fonts Pica, Elite etc. associated with LocoScript and the like are not available as it is not possible to mix the two modes successfully and would seriously limit the existing facilities of STOP PRESS as well as affecting the combination of text and graphics.

Laser printer and 24 pin printers are **not** supported by STOP PRESS as these were not available to us during the allocated software development period.

STOP PRESS supports both the PCW printer and full Epson compatible parallel printers.

Should printing problems occur, the chances are that the printer in question may not be fully Epson compatible.

### SAVING PAGES FROM STOP PRESS

The procedure for saving Pages is detailed on page 19 of the User Guide but is as follows:-

- (i) Insert your own PAGE disk into the relevant drive.
- (ii) Activate the Control Panel.
- (iii) Click the PAGE file icon [A - 1 & 2]
- (iv) 8512 Users may click the drive select icon [A - 6] to select lower drive B if required.
- (v) Click the SAVE icon [A - 5]
- (vii) A message prompt will appear prompting you for a PAGE name. The previous PAGE name will be displayed or it will be blank if a new disc is being used and you should enter a new name (up to 16 characters long).

If it is an existing PAGE which you wish to retain do not enter a new name but simply press <RETURN> and then <EXECUTE>, pressing <EXIT> or <CANCEL> will quit. The date can then be entered in the same fashion.

Once the name and date have been entered a catalogue window will appear. Now you can either save your PAGE on top of an existing PAGE file by clicking over the name of it or create a NEW PAGE by clicking the NEW PAGE OPTION.

When saving PAGES to disc unless the NEW PAGE option is selected from the catalogue window then one of the existing PAGE files already on the disc will be overwritten.

So remember: When you wish to add a new page to a PAGE disc select the NEW PAGE option.

### AMX MOUSE AND INTERFACE

The AMX Mouse and interface are designed to simply slot onto the through connector at the rear of the AMSTRAD PCW machine. There are **no** screws supplied with which to affix the interface as they are not required.

This text file will be updated periodically to keep you informed of the latest developments in the PCW Stop Press world. Most of the information will only make sense to those familiar with Stop Press. Please skip through the headings to look for anything that looks appropriate to you. Some of the information given here is as important as that in the User Guide so it is strongly advised that you print this file from LocoScript and keep it handy.

## 1 - KEMPSTON MOUSE USERS (18:10:87)

### 1.1 Selecting the mouse

In order to tell Stop Press that you are using the Kempston Mouse you must press either of the two mouse buttons at the WELCOME prompt. This appears after the title screen.

### 1.2 Which buttons do what ?

As the Kempston Mouse has two buttons you must use the keyboard to perform <MOVE> operations. Either use the <SPACE BAR> or the <8> key on the numeric keypad.

The LHS mouse button is the <EXECUTE> key, while the RHS button is the <CANCEL> key.

To activate the control panel, hold down <CANCEL> and press <EXECUTE>.

## 2 - DATABASE SOFTWARE 'MASTERSCAN' USERS (18:10:87)

In order that MasterScan screens can be loaded into Stop Press they must be saved using the FSE or NEWSDESK option from the MasterScan software. Use the CANVAS LOAD icons [B-1] and [B-4] to load them into Stop Press. Screens from MasterPaint can also be loaded. You may need to invert the Stop Press canvas using [K-2].

## 3 - DATABASE SOFTWARE DESKTOP PUBLISHER USERS (18:10:87)

Graphics Windows from The Desktop Publisher can be loaded into Stop Press. Use the CANVAS LOAD icons [B-1] and [B-4]. The Windows will be shown with a .GRF filetype. If they are larger than the Stop Press Canvas area then they will wrap around. Therefore avoid loading large Windows.

The Windows will have to be pasted in the same manner as Stop Press Cutouts. See the Stop Press User Guide!  
Use [K-2] if the canvas needs inverting.

#### 4 - AMSTRAD CPC 464/664 & 6128 STOP PRESS USERS (18:10:87)

Good News! Cutouts from CPC Stop Press can be loaded into PCW Stop Press. Simply insert your CPC disk into Drive A on your PCW machine and use CUTOUT LOAD [B-2] + [B-4] to load the cutout into PCW Stop Press.

#### 5 - SUPPLIED DISK LABEL CUTOUT (18:10:87)

Side B of the System Disk contains a demo cutout. This is a full size disk label for your own Stop Press disks. We suggest you print one or two, photocopy them and then cut them out with some scissors. A suitable glue for bonding plastic can then be used to stick the labels to your disks.

#### 6 - TEXT KERNING (18:10:87)

When Stop Press is run Kerning is ON by default. We did not mention in the User Guide that a few characters in some typefaces will appear in strange places when typed onto the canvas. This is caused because their very small size or odd shape confuses the Kerning routine. Hence switch Kerning OFF if this problem occurs.

Secondly, text appears on the canvas much faster with Kerning OFF. This will be most noticeable when loading text files from disk.

Generally Kerning is used for BANNER HEADLINES, HEADINGS and LOGO's. Therefore switch it OFF once you have produced all your headings. This will ensure far faster text output making Pagemakeup very quick. We switch Kerning ON by default as most users will produce their headings first.

#### 7 - PCW 9512 USERS (18:10:87)

As this issue of the README file goes to duplication Amstrad have just launched the new PCW 9512 series of Daisywheel printer based Wordprocessors.

Initial tests show that Stop Press will work on these machines. Of course you cannot print onto the Daisywheel printer using Stop Press, however if you connect an Epson compatible Dot Matrix printer to the Parallel/Centronics port on the 9512 and check icon [M-8] is highlighted then all should be OK.

#### 8 - NEWSDESK INTERNATIONAL USERS (24:10:87)

Screens from Newsdesk may be loaded into Stop Press using the CANVAS LOAD option [B-1] + [B-4]. Once loaded into Stop Press the canvas will have to be inverted using [K-2].

#### 9 - FLEET STREET EDITOR USERS (24:10:87)

Graphics Windows from FSE may be loaded into Stop Press using the CANVAS LOAD option [B-1] + [B-4]. Please note that if the FSE windows are larger than the Stop Press Canvas area then they will be distorted when

loaded into Stop Press. Hence make sure the FSE windows are saved no larger than the screen size.  
Use [K-2] if the canvas needs inverting.

#### 10 - TYPEFACE SIZE CONTROL (26:10:87)

In the Stop Press User Guide we omit to mention that the POINT SIZE selection values within [F-7] are only accurate when using large typefaces. If you are using the AMSTRAD, HITEC-70 or your own small typeface then the POINT SIZE values will not tie up to the actual character size. We strongly advise using the adjustment arrows to manually size small typefaces.

#### THE FUTURE OF PCW STOP PRESS (18:10:87)

We will be producing extra Clip-Art and Typefaces for use within Stop Press. If you produce anything of equal or better quality than that of our present selection, then do write to us as there may be a chance that if we really like it we shall buy it for possible marketing.

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That concludes this update.  
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Many thanks to Marc Evans of On-Q Productions. We are also grateful to Ab Pandaal of Kempston Data Ltd and Electric Studio Products Ltd for their invaluable help in helping us compile the above information on their products.

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**TO: Owners of STOP PRESS**

We hope you are enjoying and are impressed with your **STOP PRESS**

When used with the AMX MOUSE it will give you even greater satisfaction and can be operated faster and more effectively.

We are therefore offering you the AMX Mouse at a very special price

Tick appropriate box:

Please supply the following hardware.

- One AMX Mouse, and interface for Amstrad PCW at £49.99 (5055)
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# Special Offer

## ROMBO VIDI-PCW DIGITISER - MAGAZINE MAKER FOR AMSTRAD PCW RANGE

To: Owners of STOP PRESS



We hope you are enjoying and are impressed with your **STOP PRESS**.

When combined with the **Rombo VIDI - PCW Digitiser**, pictures such as the ones above can be captured via any video source and used within your pages to bring them alive and give a professional look.

We are therefore offering you a special deal for buying one **Rombo VIDI - PCW Digitiser** to make up a complete **MAGAZINE MAKER** at a price of £79.99 including VAT and P&P.

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