TIFF Assembler

Release 1.2

Release Notes

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Software Release 1.2

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CREO

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INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to send you the TIFF Assembler software. These release notes describe the changes that were made to the software after the *TIFF Assembler User Guide* was published.

What is in These Release Notes

These release notes include the following sections:

New Features and Enhancements – lists and describes features that were added to TIFF Assembler since the *TIFF Assembler User Guide* was published.

Known Problems and Limitations – lists issues and problems that have not yet been resolved.

Your Comments

In every design we try to anticipate the needs of our customers, but this is never enough. Your feedback and suggestions are invaluable to us and enable us to improve our products and make them more useful for you, our customer.

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NEW FEATURES AND ENHANCEMENTS

Features and enhancements added since the *TIFF Assembler User Guide* was published include:

- the ability to assemble different TIFF compression formats (for example, G4, Packbits) on the same Assembly Plate
- the ability to assemble TIFF files created with different measurement units (for example, Imperial, Metric) on the same Assembly Plate
- the ability to mirror images both vertically and horizontally
- the ability to rotate images in manual and automatic mode
- the ability to allow an image to float on top of other images while moving it around in the plate area
- the application will produce an warning box if the user tries to overwrite existing files on disk
- the ability to use uppercase and lowercase letters in file names
- the ability to add both vertical and horizontal control strips to your templates

Assembly of Different Compression Formats on the same Assembly Plate

All compression formats supported by TIFF Assembler can now be assembled on the same plate. These include uncompressed, G4 compressed, and Packbits compressed. You can also add files created with Metric and Imperial resolution settings to the same plate.

Assembly of TIFF Files Created with Different Measurement Units on the same Assembly Plate

TIFF files can be created with different measurement units for the resolution. Some RIP engines can generate TIFF files in Metric or Imperial. For example, PCC's RIP engine creates TIFF files in Metric units as default; the Allegro RIP engine creates TIFF files in Imperial as default settings. Both TIFF files can now be assembled on the same Assembly Plate.

Mirror Images

Image orientation in relation to right or wrong reading data can now be corrected if necessary by using the flip vertically or flip horizontally functions.

To mirror an image:

1. Right-click on the image on the Plate Area.

   A shortcut menu displays.

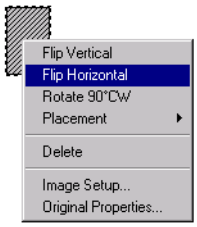


Figure 1: Shortcut Menu

2. Select **Flip Horizontal** or **Flip Vertical**.

   A warning box displays.

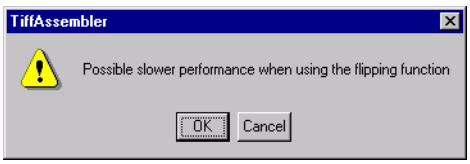


Figure 2: TIFF Assembler Warning Box

3. Click **OK**.

The image is mirrored

Rotate Images

You can now rotate images using two rotation tools: select the image on the plate and manually rotate it, or use the Allow rotation function to set up the Assembly Plate to optimize the use of media as you drop images into the plate area.

Note: Rotating images can slow the time it takes to output this image by as much as 35%.

To manually rotate images on a plate:

1. Select the image and right-click.

   The shortcut menu displays.

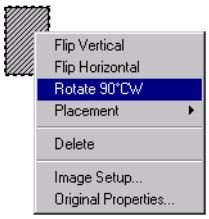


Figure 3: Shortcut Menu

2. Select **Rotate 90 CW**.

   A warning box displays.

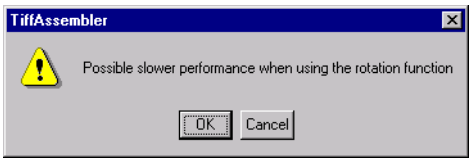


Figure 4: TIFF Assembler Warning Box

3. Click **OK**.

The image rotates.

To allow rotation to optimize use of media:

1. From the File menu, select **Plate Setup** and click the Plate tab.

   The Plate tab displays.

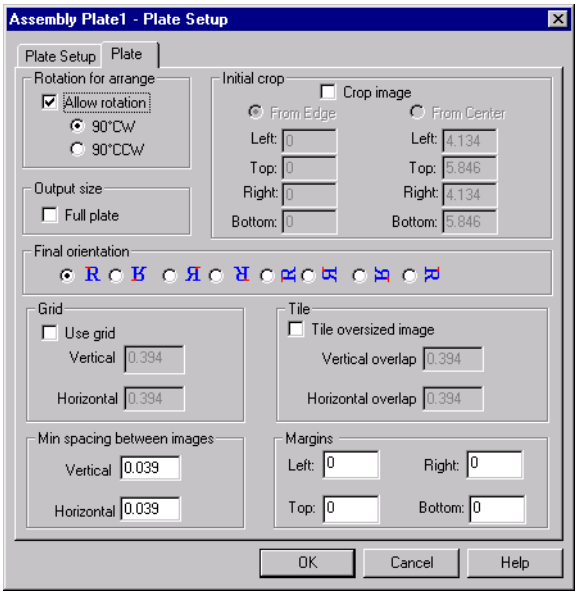


Figure 5: Plate Setup Dialog Box - Plate Tab

2. In the Rotation for arrange section, select **Allow rotation** and click **OK**.

Images added to the layout will be rotated if necessary to optimize use of media.

Image Floating while using the Move Function

An image can now be moved around the plate area while floating on top of other images, and if the image is dropped on another image, it will snap to the edge of the static image. This enhancement allows for better optimization of the Assembly Plate.

To float an image over others:

1. Assemble your images on the plate.

2. Click and drag the image you want to drop over another image.

   The image becomes an outline.

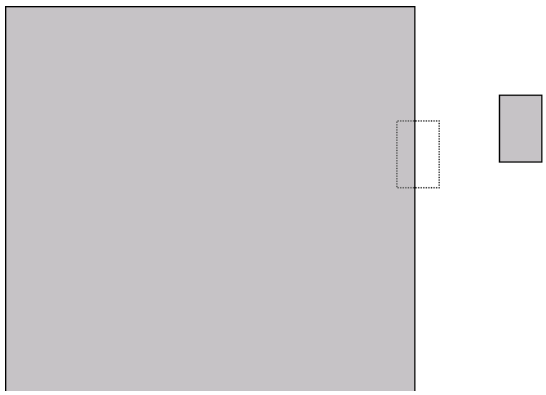


Figure 6: Floating an Image

3. Release the mouse button.

   The image will snap to the edge of the static image.

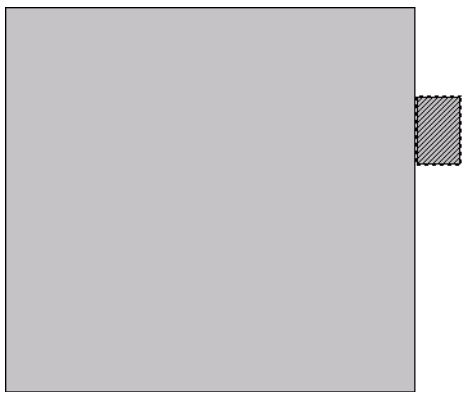


Figure 7: Image Snaps to Edge

File Overwrite Warning Message

The application will prompt the user to confirm the overwrite of a file existing on disk when the file to be written, either an Assembly Plate template file or an Assembly output file, has the same name and is to be written to the same location on disk.

File Naming Using Uppercase and Lowercase Letters

The application now allows for naming Assembly Plate template files and Assembly output files using uppercase and lowercase letters.

Vertical or Horizontal Control Strip

Plate Exposure Control strips oriented both in landscape and portrait are copied automatically to disk during the application installation process. You can manually add these plate exposure control strips to your plate and save it as a template for use in the future.

To manually add the plate exposure control strips:

1. From the **Image** menu select the **Add Image** function.
2. In the Browse window navigate to the following directory: system drive:**Creo\TIFF Assembler\TIFF Assembler 1.2\Control Files**.
3. Select one or both files in the directory and add them to the Assembly Queue. From the Assembly Queue, drag them and position them on the plate area.

Demonstration Mode

If you do not have a HASP key (dongle) installed, TIFF Assembler will run in demonstration mode. You may want to use this mode for demonstration, evaluation, or training purposes. In this mode, TIFF Assembler will have all the functionality except for the output of assembly files.

To start TIFF Assembler in demonstration mode:

1. Remove the dongle from the parallel port at the back of your computer.
2. From the **Programs** submenu on the **Start** menu, choose TIFF Assembler.

   The TIFF Assembler warning box displays.

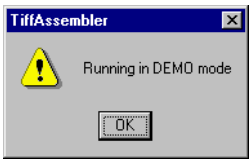


Figure 8: TIFF Assembler Warning Box

3. Click **OK**.

TIFF Assembler opens in demonstration mode.

KNOWN PROBLEMS AND LIMITATIONS

This section lists software problems and limitations that are known to exist in TIFF Assembler. In many cases, the problems may be difficult to reproduce or occur infrequently. These problems should not prevent you from using the software. Problem workarounds and recovery procedures are provided where available.

HASP Installation Error in Application Install Procedure

When you are installing the application, if the HASP device driver is not installed on the system, the install program will ask you to confirm installation of the driver. When you confirm, the program returns an error.

Work-around: Refer to the TIFF Assembler User Guide for instructions on manually installing the HASP device driver.

Uninstall Procedure Does Not Remove All Files

The uninstall program does not remove all files and directories from the application's install directory.

Work-around: Use Windows Explorer to access the remaining files and directories and delete them manually.

Help Menu Not Included

The Help menu is not included with this version of the software. When a user clicks the question mark or chooses Help Topics from the Help menu, a warning box displays.

Work-around: Use the TIFF Assembler User Guide for assistance.

Information on the Status Bar Does Not Reposition

When you resize the Assembly Plate window, the information on the Status Bar does not reposition.

Large Text Boxes Will Fail to Output

When using the text setup option, creating a large text box (25"x25") will cause the application to fail to output the plate.

Work-around: Create smaller text boxes.

Screen Flickers When Switching Between Preview and Outline Mode

If the images in the Assembly Queue have previews created, and you switch to Outline mode and back to Preview mode, the screen will flicker. The amount of flickering dependent on the number of images in the Assembly Queue; many images in the Assembly Queue causes substantial flickering.

Work-around: Once you are in Preview mode, try not to switch back to Outline mode.

Print Percentage and Progress Bar Don’t Reflect Output Failure

When an output fails, an error is generated, but the print percentage and progress bar are not cleared, so it appears as if the application is still printing.

File/Color Identification Causes Output Failure on Large Plates

Selecting the File/Color Identification Option in the Plate Setup tab of the Options dialog box causes an output failure for large plates with a large number of images. The application will fail at about 90% output.

Work-around: Do not use this option for large plates.



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