

PC2Flop and Flop2PC (Poly-88 North Star Single Density FDC)

PC2Flop writes a SSSD North Star floppy with a disk image transmitted from a PC. Flop2PC saves an image of a SSSD North Star disk to a PC. The disk image is transferred through the Poly-88 serial port using the XMODEM checksum or CRC protocol. The image is read or written directly from/to the floppy in raw format (256 bytes/sector, 35 tracks).

By default, the Printer serial port at 9600 baud is used for disk image transfer. To use the Cassette serial port or to change the baud rate, use the SB (Set Baud Rate) command in Porex prior to loading the program or booting CP/M. For example, "SB 0D" selects the cassette port (zero in the MS nibble) at 4800 baud (D in the LS nibble).

These programs run standalone at 0x100 or under CP/M. Standalone operation may be required to create a bootable disk when no other bootable disk is available. Use the HL (Hex Load) command in Porex to load PC2FLOP.HEX, then type EX 100 to run the program. To prevent over-run during the hex load, use the "don't echo" parameter (zero) on the Porex command line, e.g., "HL 0".

When copying a disk image to the PC (Flop2PC), the program attempts several retries, including restoring the track both from zero and from past the current track. If the read still fails, the error is noted and the copy process continues so that the remainder of the disk can still be recovered.