PC2Flop and Flop2PC
(for Tarbell Single Density Controller in a Poly-88)

PC2Flop writes a SSSD soft-sectored 8" floppy with a disk image transmitted from a PC. The image is transmitted through the Poly-88 serial port (printer port) using the XMODEM protocol. Flop2PC does the opposite and transmits an image of a SSSD soft-sectored 8" floppy to a PC.

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 Polex 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).

Since this is a soft sectored controller, PC2Flop requires the destination disk to have been formatted at some point. To allow PC2Flop to create a new disk for a "cold" machine, it offers a format disk option.

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 Polex 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 Polex 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.