

# The KAMAS Report

Issue Number 9

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## ANNOUNCING THE ALL NEW KAMAS VERSION 2 FOR PC/MS-DOS

It's here! Our long awaited outline processor for the IBM-PC and compatibles is now available. KAMAS Version 2 redefines outline processing and sets a new standard for price and performance. Once again, we've listened to your comments and suggestions and incorporated them into the new KAMAS making it the best outline processor ever. KAMAS Version 2 offers a solution to the real needs of people using outline processors.

If you were one of the thousand or so who have called or written requesting an MS-DOS product, we appreciate your patience and suggestions.

With OUT-THINK, we were maxed out on CP/M computers with only 64K of memory. But, we've taken full advantage of the extra power available in DOS systems to add a whole new dimension of help and ease of use.

The enclosed brochure provides many of the details, but here are a few highlights we know you'll be especially interested in:

- You no longer have to enter the key and sub-title separately. Instead, you can simply type the entire

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title (88 characters). And you can enter outline titles directly into the outline. No more typing them on the bottom line of the screen.

- You no longer have to specify the outline size when you create a new outline file. Just enter the name and start editing. KAMAS automatically adds to the outline file when more space is needed.
- You no longer have to change the format parameters from the default whenever you print. Save a different set of format parameters with each outline file.
- We've added new format parameters:
  - \* You can print the outline with Roman numeral section numbers.
  - \* You can print the outline with bullets for section numbers.
  - \* You can start printing at a specified page or stop at a specified page.
  - \* You can edit the format parameters using a full screen editor.
- Now, you can convert an outline file to a standard text file that can be read back into an outline file after you run it through a spell checker or style checker for corrections. You don't have to key in the "dot" structure codes before reading it back in to the correct outline structure.
- We've added many new brainstorming features:
  - \* Mark and gather move
  - \* Prioritize
  - \* Bin sort
  - \* Join two stems in the outline
  - \* Alphabetize titles
  - \* Auto insert so you can rapidly enter outline titles without having to issue the insert

- command after each one to start the next one.
- We've enhanced the file manager. Now, you can move the arrow keys around on the outline files to select the file you want to edit using a full screen editor-like interface. You can rename outline files in the file manager; you no longer have to go to the outline editor and edit the top title. You can sort the display of outline files by drive, outline name, or the date created, last changed date, or owner. There are two additional flashcard applications (flashcard quiz and flashcard focus). And you can change sub-directories within KAMAS to edit outline files in different DOS directories. We've also improved the security features making them easier to use.
  - We've extended the help system to include a complete menu system with online, context sensitive help. So you can enter commands in two ways. While you learn, you can use the menus to select commands. Then, after you learn the new KAMAS, you can use fast key commands similar to those used in OUT-THINK or in the Outline Editor of CP/M KAMAS.
  - Text leafs are now 32K for each title in the outline.
  - In the text editor, we've added commands to move ahead and back by a word and to delete an entire line. We added more Wordstar aliases, a ruler line where you can set tabs and a wrap margin for editing, and a command to reformat all paragraphs in the text leaf. You can do a lookup string in the entire context or jump to another outline file from within the text editor. And we've added a new command called Insert Template that copies any marked titles from the outline into the text leaf.
  - You can now print boldfaced, italics, underline, super- and subscript, and alternate fonts if your printer supports these features. We've also added other printing

- features like literal text and pagebreaks embedded in a text leaf.
- KAMAS can be customized to change screen colors (if you have a color screen), to use special features in your printer, and to use the EGA 43-line screen display (if you have an EGA video card that supports this feature).
- The KAMAS Version 2 User's Guide is 260+ pages and benefits from our 3 years experience hearing from you about outline processors

### Ordering Information

It's simply terrific! We're thrilled to offer KAMAS Version 2 at a special price to our current CP/M customers. If you are a registered OUT-THINK or CP/M KAMAS owner (you wouldn't be getting this newsletter unless you were registered), you can purchase the new KAMAS Version 2 for just \$49.95; that's a \$20.00 discount off the suggested retail price of \$69.95 (includes shipping in the US and Canada; add \$15.00 for overseas air shipping). Mail your order to:

KAMASOFT, Inc.  
PO Box 5549  
Aloha, OR 97007

or call us at:

(503) 649-3765

We accept Mastercard, Visa, and checks in US funds drawn on US Banks.

### Any Questions?

You may have further questions. Here are a few we thought you might ask. If we don't include your question, call us.

**Why didn't you call your new product OUT-THINK? It doesn't have the KAMAS programming language, does it?**

No. KAMAS Version 2 does NOT have the KAMAS programming language in it. But

we've left "hooks" for programming and are considering it for Version 3. The reason we used the KAMAS name is that we have more name recognition in the wider computer press for the KAMAS product than for OUT-THINK. OUT-THINK has only been available for about a year and the computer magazines that serve the wider spectrum audience (like Byte, Infoworld, and Personal Computing) don't cover CP/M software very often or very extensively.

**What about file compatibility? Can I use all my OUT-THINK and CP/M KAMAS topic files with the new KAMAS?**

Yes, you can convert your old topic files to new KAMAS outline files. We supply a conversion utility free of charge for this. Actually, this question gets into several other questions and is covered in more detail in the next article.

**Will it run on my computer?**

KAMAS Version 2 requires an IBM-PC/XT/AT or 100% compatible running PC/MS-DOS Version 2 or 3. It also requires 256K of memory.

**Three Solutions for Three Groups**

In the great migration from CP/M to MS/PC-DOS, we've noticed in our customers three general groups. For short, let's call them Sam, Dave, and Bill. With the completion of KAMAS Version 2, we now have the product line to serve all three groups effectively.

Sam has made the complete transition from CP/M to MS/PC-DOS. He has already sold or will soon sell his CP/M system. (Or he lets his kids use it to learn about computers.) He has moved all his data to the DOS system and uses DOS programs whenever available. In a few cases, he may still use CP/M programs running them on an emulator like UNIDOS. Our Sam

solution is the new KAMAS Version 2. You've already read your CP/M data disks containing your topic files onto your DOS system. All you have to do is convert them to the new KAMAS outline files using the conversion utility we supply free when you purchase KAMAS Version 2. From that point on, you're thoroughly converted to DOS.

If you haven't yet copied your CP/M formatted disks containing your topic files onto DOS formatted disks, you can solve this problem with a program like UNIFORM. UNIFORM reads CP/M formatted disks and copies the files on them to DOS formatted disks. You only have to do this one time. Once they are copied to DOS disks, you can convert them using the free utility we supply.

If you don't have UNIFORM (or some other program like it), you can purchase it from us for \$69.95.

Dave is straddling two computer worlds. He uses a DOS computer at the office and a CP/M system at home or vice versa. The best solution, in this case, is to stick with OUT-THINK and run it directly on your CP/M system. You'll need a CP/M emulator to run it on the DOS computer. The one we recommend is called UNIDOS. It is available from us for \$69.95 and is reasonably fast on AT-compatibles. If you have a PC- or XT-compatible, you might consider some additional steps to speed up your DOS computer when running the emulator. The least expensive speed-up we know of is the additional \$30.00 it takes to add a NEC V20 chip to your computer. You plug this chip into the motherboard and can see significant speed improvements in all the DOS software you run. Also, OUT-THINK will run reasonably fast under the emulator. You will also need a program like UNIFORM to transfer your data disks back and forth between the CP/M system and the DOS system.

The advantage of running OUT-THINK when you are straddling the two worlds like Dave is that you get 100% keystroke and data file compatibility. This is not feasible using the new KAMAS on your DOS system and continuing with OUT-THINK on your CP/M computer.

Now, what about Bill? Well, Bill's CP/M computer continues to serve his needs, and he sees no reason to replace it just yet. We're sure that there are some of you out there in this situation, but we don't know how many. We've been barraged with calls from the Sams and Daves out there for over a year while we were developing the new KAMAS. While we have lots of ideas for improving OUT-THINK with a new version, we don't know if we can justify the cost of bringing a new version of the product to market. The expenses in developing and releasing a new product are enormous. If we did update OUT-THINK, the new version would have many features similar to the new KAMAS. But, we are using all of the available memory on CP/M. So we can't add in all the features from the new KAMAS. Here is a sample of what we have in mind:

- No more keys and subtitles. Type the entire title during insert.
- No longer specify outline size when you create a new outline.
- Disk file accessing at least twice as fast.
- Allow you to set format parameter defaults from install program.
- File compatibility from CP/M OUT-THINK to DOS KAMAS. You could also go from DOS KAMAS to CP/M OUT-THINK if you limit the leaf sizes to 2K each within DOS KAMAS.

We might also add a few of the new commands from the new KAMAS and make the commands more compatible. But we can't add everything because of the severe memory and system restrictions on CP/M.

So, all you Bills out there, let us here from you.

#### **IN THE NEWS NEW UTILITY DISK 5 NOW AVAILABLE**

Utility Disk 5 is now available for CP/M KAMAS. It includes a Label Job program that stores names, addresses, and phone numbers in a topic file and prints out mailing labels from the information.

Most of the remaining programs are machine specific. These programs are custom-tailored to work with specific hardware or software. You probably won't be able to use all these programs directly, but they might give you ideas for your own versions of these utilities.

Several clock routines are included. One for the Holmes Engineering Clock for the Kaypro II was sent in by Dennis Glaeser. Dennis delighted us with an outstanding model of documented KAMAS code. Evan Antworth sent in a Kaypro 4 Clock routine. And Charles Cobeen worked out a clock routine for the Super 19 clock for H89 and Z90 computers.

George Richards sent in a complete set of printer setup routines for the Comrex CR-II (Diablo compatible daisywheel printer) and the Epson FX series of printers.

We had a number of AUTOJEX routines. One from Mwalimu Imara of Morehouse College initializes the Okidata 92 printer. Another from R.J. Huneger initializes the C. Itoh Prowriter 8510-A printer. W.E. Jackson sent in an AUTOJEX that combines printer initialization for the Epson FX-80 and clock initialization for the Epson QX-10 built-in clock. Paul Zempel sent in his favorite AUTOJEX which combines a Kaypro 4 clock routine with code to initialize an Epson FX-85 printer. This AUTOJEX shows the time

in the 25th status line on the Kaypro 4.

Ted Campbell worked out a KAMASBBS for the Osborne Executive. This is a great accomplishment and we've had lots of requests for something like this.

George Richards sent in a program that converts topic files to Spellbinder files. Spellbinder is a popular word processor. George also supplied a utility program that displays the decimal codes for the characters in a leaf instead of showing them as text.

Tom Almy sent in another useful program that automatically goes to the most recently entered stem in an outline.

Evan Antworth sent us three more routines. One contains a set of graphics primitives for the Kaypro 4 with graphics. His RECTANGLE command demonstrates the use of these graphics routines. Evan also provided a nifty Calendar application and a short but useful utility to delete a text leaf from the outline editor without having to enter the leaf editor and without deleting the title.

Our thanks go out to all these contributors.

As always, the utility disk is available separately for \$10.00 or for \$5.00 if you order it with anything else.

#### **PROFILES ARTICLE OFFERS PATCHES FOR OUT-THINK**

The May 1987 issue of Profiles Magazine (for Kaypros) contains an excellent article by Joseph Mortensen on patching OUT-THINK. For the most part, Joseph wanted to change the Format Parameter Defaults. We can't repeat the entire article here, but if you are interested, I'd encourage you to get a copy. Thanks, Joseph.

## **FOCUS ON OUTLINE PROCESSING**

Daniel Eisenberg wrote in with the following suggestion. Use a single topic file the size of an entire disk. Make what would have been separate topic files into branches within it the one large file. Daniel finds that this is much more efficient and so have we. Since it takes time to create a new topic file that big, make an empty topic once on a disk and then just copy that empty topic to other disks with the operating system copy command when you want to start a new one. That way, you don't have to wait for KAMAS to create the new topic each time.

Evan Antworth sent in another simple but very useful idea he developed for writing letters. He keeps a letterhead in a stem called LETTERHEAD in a topic that he uses for letters. Next, he wrote the following short routine in a stem called LETTER in that same topic:

```
LANG SYS CRLFOUT
"Letter Key: " STOUT WORKST STIN
'LETTERHEAD KFINO IFSO GETLEAF
  IFSO WORKST KIN CUELEAF PUTLEAF
  DROPW MARKHIDE MARKLJUST EDIT
  .IFSO
  .IFSO
```

When you want to write a letter, just go to the LETTER stem and jex it. It prompts for the name of the letter, creates a stem for you to write the letter in, and copies the LETTERHEAD into that stem.

And this jewel comes from David C. Oshel. It provides a friendlier front end to CP/M KAMAS. Replace your AUTOJEX leaf with one that contains the following stem:

```
"WELCOME" TBUILD OUTLINE
```

Then, create a topic called WELCOME and enter one title for each topic

file you normally use, so a WELCOME file might look something like this:

DOS

WELCOME - Move to desired topic, type ESC J  
CALENDAR  
NOVEL  
LETTERS  
EXIT TO CP/M

Now, when you enter CP/M KAMAS, you go straight to the Outline Editor in the topic WELCOME. You can move the cursor to whatever topic you want to edit and type ESC J to edit it.

For each title (except WELCOME and EXIT TO CP/M) enter a line of text as follows:

Finally, enter the following text in the top leaf of each of your topic files:

"outline name" TBUILD OUTLINE

"WELCOME" TBUILD OUTLINE

For example, in the leaf for CALENDAR, enter:

When you are done editing that outline, go to the top stem and type ESC J to get back to the "menu system" and select another outline for editing.

"CALENDAR" TBUILD OUTLINE

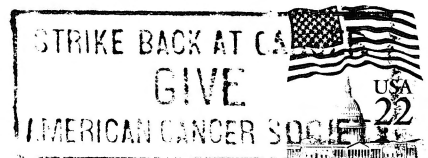
and so on. Be sure to use double quotes around the topic names. For EXIT TO CP/M, enter the following:

Our thanks to all three of these contributors.

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