CROSS FILE ™

Provides seamless interaction between applications, files and reports

Imagine being able to take the printed output or data file from any program and use all or any parts of it in another program or system without having to key it in!

Imagine being able to remake any existing report into exactly what you need in a few minutes with no training!

CrossFile solves the problem of transporting and transforming data from any source and creates new files in any common format.

"In my field of work, I used to take printed reports from many different client programs back to my office to analyze. With CrossFile, I acquire the same data on floppies to read directly into my own system. Now I can use my own software for analysis. What a tremendous difference in time and quality."

Auditor, Chicago, IL

"I had to wade through stacks of week-old reports to get the information I needed. I used CrossFile to build new reports from the old ones, selecting only the critical information. I was able to do it myself, in minutes. Now CrossFile produces a daily three page report showing only what I need to take action."

Sales Manager, Los Angeles, CA

"We bought software that had been written just for our type of business. It gave us all kinds of standard reports, but it didn't give me everything I wanted, the way I wanted it. My information was isolated. I couldn't put it into Lotus 1-2-3 for analysis or graph the data unless I got it keyed in. I couldn't even adapt the reports I got. Now I use CrossFile to tie into 1-2-3 and to reformat my old reports. And it's so easy."
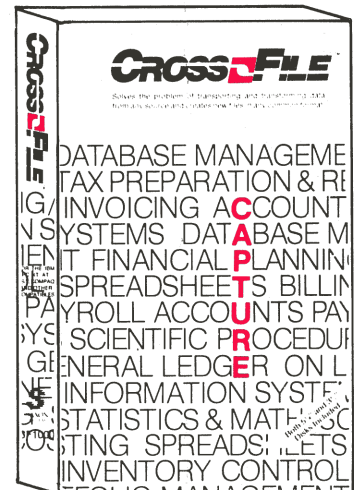
Small Business Owner, Syracuse, NY

The universal solution to data interchange for all applications

Application Interaction, software connectivity and the problems of transferring data from one software system to another are solved with CrossFile. It provides a universal approach to the interchange and usability of data among desktop computer users and application programs.

CrossFile is the universal solution, the product which crosses application boundaries. CrossFile allows you or your workgroup to capture and transport data from any source, logically select fields and records, reformat the file structure, convert and translate data, print reports, and create new data files in most common file formats. Quick and easy "sequential menuing" and step-by-step prompting makes CrossFile intuitively obvious to use.

CrossFile is invaluable when you want to make any kind of change to an existing file. With CrossFile, you can easily change record or report layouts, the selection of records, and the output devices. CrossFile has been designed for ease of use, flexibility and seamless interaction between applications, files and reports. **No intermediary translators, no importing or exporting, and no conversion utilities are needed!**

CrossFile Features

Universal Data Capture

The CAPTURE™ facility is a RAM-resident component of CrossFile. (A RAM-resident program is loaded into the computer's memory and remains there, dormant, until you activate it to perform its task). In CrossFile's case, when CAPTURE is activated, it "captures" any data that is to be printed. It acquires and stores **data from any program** and source—even from print files, printed reports, and downloaded data files—providing a universal input for manipulation by CrossFile.

Input Data Files

In addition to the CAPTUREd files, CrossFile **reads data directly** from many standard data file formats including; Lotus 1-2-3, Lotus Symphony, Microsoft Excel, Ashton-Tate dBASE, Borland Quattro, Computer Associates Super-Calc. CrossFile also accepts data files formatted as; ASCII Fixed, ASCII Comma Separated Values, and DIF.

Field and Record Selection

This feature provides many options for the selection of data from input files. With CrossFile, you can select some or all records, or just selected portions of records generated by virtually any program. CrossFile manipulates almost any record, including **multiple-line** and **variable-length** records. You can select records based on the contents of one or more fields using a choice of quick and easy logic decision tests. You can define whole records or only parts of records for selection. Report titles and column headings can also be selected.

Audit and Statistical Record Selection

This facility is used for auditing or statistical analysis. It allows CrossFile to randomly select a definite number, a defined percentage, or a ratio of the records in the file.

Reusable Criteria Templates

Once the field and record selection process has been defined, it is named, saved as a Criteria File and used as desired, to filter and reformat data from the same input file or subsequent versions of the data file.

Many Output Options

CrossFile produces new files, by using the Criteria File to filter the data from the input file, and directly generating output in many standard data file formats including; Lotus 1-2-3, Lotus Symphony, Microsoft Excel, Ashton-Tate dBASE, Borland Quattro, Computer Associates SuperCalc, ASCII Fixed, ASCII Comma Separated Values, and DIF. These new files are **immediately usable** by the program for which they were created.

Printed Report Output

CrossFile prints reports of the selected and reformatted data. It pieces together sections of files or reports in any layout and prints the report with titles, all without changing the contents of the original files.

Intuitively Obvious To Use

CrossFile has been designed for ease-of-use, flexibility and universality. It thus allows the first time user to be an expert. It is a default and sequential menu driven system presented in a clear, self-evident method, providing complete control, without assuming any previous user knowledge or experience. CrossFile knows what you want to do before you do. The data you are manipulating is displayed right on the screen. "Sequential menuing" with step-by-step on-screen prompting makes CrossFile *intuitively obvious* and is a real advancement from even the current menu driven techniques.

Each of these capabilities is important in its own right, but taken together in one product, represent the most powerful general application product on the market today. CrossFile is a product with extraordinary depth. It is limited only by the imagination of the user.

System Requirements

IBM PC, XT, AT, and PS/2 computers, Compaq computers and most other 100% compatible computers. 512K memory, one floppy disk drive and a hard disk drive, or two floppy disk drives. Color or monochrome monitor. CrossFile operates with most printers. MS-DOS Version 2.0 or above.

Customer Support

CrossFile is backed by a 90-day disk warranty and free customer telephone support. Registered CrossFile users receive newsletters containing application notes and new product announcements.

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE $149.95

A product of
Saxon Systems, Inc.
18007 Kensington Avenue
Cerritos, CA 90701
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SAXON™
SYSTEMS

CrossFile is the glue that binds data and reports from diverse application programs, spreadsheets and databases together!

It seems as if most the new software we're seeing this year is designed to make life easier for the end user. Products like Magellan (Lotus Development Corp.; see last month's issue, page 10), ViewLink (Traveling Software), CrossFile (Saxon Systems), Auto Import (White Crane), and others, are all tools to help us move around within our applications and data. They all might be considered utilities, but they are actually more than that. They have been written by people who understand users' frustrations and want to make computers more serviceable for all of us.

CrossFile

CrossFile from Saxon Systems (18007 Kensington Ave., Cerritos, CA 90701; 213 404-4030) is a file-translation product for the PC—a product that converts data files from one format to another. My experience with it thus far leads me to believe that it's an exciting and functional package.

CrossFile lets you take a Lotus 1-2-3 file and convert it to dBase III, an ASCII file and convert it to Lotus 1-2-3, or an Excel or dBase file and convert it to any of a number of other formats. It's even possible to take information from a vertical application, such as an accounting package, and convert some of that information to a database format. For example, we set up a standard accounting package and decided we wanted to convert the names and addresses stored there to a file format that could be used in doing a mailing. Using CrossFile, all we had to do was to define the fields we wanted to export, indicate the start and end of each record, and then specify which format we wanted to export the data to.

CrossFile's user interface is excellent. Defining fields and deciding what fields to export is a matter of pointing to the start of the first field with crosshair pointers and pointing again at the end of the fields. If you are working toward a Lotus file, you can specify headers and titles and then rows and columns.

The programmers have built in a method of assigning conversion routines so that you can define exactly what you want to convert and then store the information for use time and again. File structures supported at the moment include Lotus 1-2-3, Symphony, ASCII Comma Separated, ASCII fixed, dBase II and III, SuperCalc 4, Excel, Quattro, and DIF.

In addition, CrossFile is capable of taking mainframe data and converting it to any of the above formats. The program also includes a "capture" utility that redirects information from printer to file. This lets you grab a report formatted in one program, then convert the resulting ASCII to another program's format.

At $149.95, CrossFile qualifies as a must-have program for anyone who needs to move data from application to application or from the mainframe world to the PC world.

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CROSSFILE™

SAXON™ SYSTEMS