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**NB** In the course of the manual, all references to LocoScript refer to LocoScript 2. FLIPPER 2 PLUS does not work with LocoScript 1 in general, and is less than satisfactory with those versions it can handle. There's probably no harm in trying, but be warned!

# FLIPPER V2+

## USER MANUAL

# A

## HOW TO USE THIS MANUAL

1. Look for a file called READ.ME on your FLIPPER 2 PLUS master disk, and read or print it using TYPE. This is important: READ.ME contains the latest information on the particular version of FLIPPER 2 PLUS you've bought, and some of this may be essential.
2. If you're an experienced user of FLIPPER v1.0 or FLIPPER 2, turn straight to section E.
3. Otherwise work your way through sections B, C and D, paying special attention to the ancillary program FLOFFICE.COM if you plan to use FLIPPER 2 PLUS with Mini Office.
4. Don't forget to fill in and return your registration card, so that we can keep you posted on upgrades and new products.
5. Please don't pirate this software: backup copies are fine, but you should only have FLIPPER 2 PLUS installed on one machine at any one time. Otherwise, we don't get a fair return for our work.

# B

## WHAT FLIPPER 2 PLUS IS AND DOES

FLIPPER 2 PLUS is an environment-switching utility. It splits an 8512, 9512 or expanded 8256 into two 'environments' and lets you flip between them. An environment is a complete machine-within-a-machine, consisting of a task - either the CP/M command line, a CP/M application, Locoscript 2 or a Locoscript add-on like LocoFile - plus an M: drive and some crucial information about what state the task is in.

Getting going with FLIPPER 2 PLUS is simple. Just boot CP/M, run the installation program FLIP2 and follow the onscreen instructions. Once the installation program has finished, pressing SHIFT-EXTRA-EXIT on the keyboard will flip you between the two environments in memory, rather than rebooting the machine as it normally would.

The command FLIP2 on its own will set up one Locoscript 2 environment with half your PCW's total memory, and one CP/M environment with slightly less memory. (FLIPPER 2 PLUS keeps 16K for its own purposes.) You can do much more than this however: by using different command line options (see next section) you can set up two CP/M environments or two Locoscript ones. What's more, you can choose between normal CP/M and the ultra-safe 'Ersatz' CP/M. In 'Ersatz' mode FLIPPER 2 PLUS takes special steps to hide your machine's true amount of memory from CP/M applications, making compatibility problems far less likely.

Once FLIPPER 2 PLUS is properly installed you can also save the 'dormant' environment - the one you're not using, that is - with the FLIPSAVE utility. You can then load a new one from disk using FLIPLOAD, or remove FLIPPER 2 PLUS from memory using the FLIPKILL utility, so that SHIFT-EXTRA-EXIT will reset the machine again. If you want to reset the machine straight away, that's even easier: just hold down SHIFT, EXTRA and the STOP key. (For safety's sake there's a slight delay built in, so be sure to hold them down for long enough.)



The program FLIP2.COM installs FLIPPER 2 PLUS in your machine. By using different command line options you can control what kind of environments you set up, and how much memory each gets. Below is a brief summary of the main options. Please note: you must always type a space between the command FLIP2 and the stroke (/) of the command line option. (Refer to the Command Line Reference for more details.) Typing FLIP2 on its own is equivalent to typing FLIP2 /L.

#### **FLIP2 / C**

This creates two CP/M environments, one slightly larger than the other. The larger environment, CP/M [b], has a double > prompt at the command line. This is just a little cue to help you keep track of where you are, and shouldn't affect the way CP/M behaves.

#### **FLIP2 / E**

This creates two CP/M environments, one normal and one 'Ersatz'. The 'Ersatz' environment is tougher than normal CP/M, and applications running in it are far less likely to crash your PCW.

As with FLIP2 /C, full instructions are given onscreen. Don't worry when the machine appears to reboot itself: it's supposed to do this.

#### **FLIP2 / ES**

This is a variant of FLIP2 /E which creates a smaller 'Ersatz' CP/M and a larger normal one.

#### **FLIP2 / L**

This creates one CP/M and one Locoscript 2 environment. As with FLIP2 /E, the machine will appear to reboot itself during installation. Don't be alarmed by this.

#### **FLIP2 / LS**

This is a variant of FLIP2 /L which creates a smaller Locoscript 2 environment and a larger CP/M one.

## **FLIPPER 2 PLUS INSTALLATION**

# D

## FLIPPER ANCILLARY PROGRAMS

### FLIP 2 / T

This creates one 'Ersatz' CP/M and one Locoscript 2 environment. During the course of installation, FLIP2 will request a CP/M boot disk and a Locoscript 2 one. You can make up a single boot disk to perform both functions, by copying the CP/M .EMS file onto a Locoscript 2 boot disk. (If you don't already know how to do this, you'd best leave well alone.)

### FLIP 2 / TS

This is a variant of FLIP2/T which creates a smaller Locoscript 2 environment and a larger 'Ersatz' CP/M one.

### FLIP 2 / TE

This is a variant of FLIP2/T which creates two 'Ersatz' CP/M environments, one larger than the other. Increasingly, modern programs need the extra safety of an 'Ersatz' environment, so this can be the best option for a CP/M user. For Isenstein owners it also represents a far faster way of installing FLIPPER 2 PLUS than either FLIP2/C or FLIP2/E.

### FLIP 2 / TTL

This is a variant of FLIP2/T which creates two Locoscript 2 environments, one larger than the other. On a 512K machine you'll probably find memory's too tight to make good use of this mode, but with an Isenstein board you can freely edit two documents at once, or perhaps run LocoFile without interrupting an editing session.

menting with FLIPLOAD can make flip-time messages and double-prompts rather inappropriate but is otherwise safe. Needless to say, FLIPLOADing files created other than by FLIPSAVE is asking for trouble!

The correct syntax is:

**FLIPLOAD d:filename.ext**

...where d:filename.ext is the specification of the file you want to load.

**F L O F F I C E . C O M**

This utility allows you to run Database Software's integrated applications package Mini Office in a 256K 'Ersatz' CP/M environment, something that would normally crash FLIPPER 2 PLUS. For a 512K machine, use it as follows:

1. Install FLIPPER 2 PLUS using either FLIP2 /E (for use with CP/M) or FLIP2 /TS (for use with Locoscript 2).
2. Flip to 'Ersatz' CP/M and run FLOFFICE.COM
3. Change disks if prompted, so that a Mini Office disk is in drive A:.
4. Hit any key to run the Mini Office menu program OFFICE.COM
5. Select and use the Mini Office applications at will, by using the relevant options on the OFFICE.COM menu. Do not run the applications individually from the '>' prompt, or you may well crash your PCW.

Isenstein owners please note: FLOFFICE.COM will work on expanded machines, though you'll have to modify the installation options given above. (For example, to use it alongside Locoscript 2 you'll have to install with FLIP2 /T16.) However, you'd do better to run Mini Office in a 512K 'Ersatz' environment. You don't need FLOFFICE.COM for this, so it's a good deal more convenient.

**F L I P K I L L . C O M**

This removes FLIPPER 2 PLUS, so that SHIFT-EXTRA-EXIT reboots the machine again. NB it doesn't work very satisfactorily from 'Ersatz' mode: see Warning 3 below.

If you want to reset the machine straight away, there's no need to run FLIPKILL: just hold down SHIFT, EXTRA and STOP for a quarter of a second or so. This performs a thorough reset which willfree up all your machine's memory.

**F L I P S A V E . C O M**

This saves the currently 'dormant' (ie unused) environment to disk. It doesn't compact at all, so the resulting file is BIG. (If you've got an 8256 with extra memory but only your A: drive you probably won't be able to use FLIPSAVE at all.) Saving takes about a minute for a 256K environment, so don't do it lightly. Together with the faster FLIPLOAD below, FLIPSAVE can provide a very nice alternative to PROFILE:SUB files as a way of setting your machine up at start of day. It also lets you switch off your machine overnight or turn it to another task without losing your place in a complex project.

The correct syntax is:

**FLIPSAVE d:filename.ext**

...where d:filename.ext is the specification of the file you want to create.

**F L I P L O A D . C O M**

This is the companion program to FLIPSAVE, and lets you reload FLIPSAVEd files. This takes about 30 seconds for a 256K environment, and is a destructive process. That is, it overwrites the existing dormant environment. Loading big environments on top of small ones (or vice versa) is possible, but can be unwise. Loading LocoScript environments on top of CP/M ones (or vice versa) is also possible. In general, experi-



## NOTES FOR EXPERIENCED USERS

- The roles of the four installation programs in FLIPPER v1.0 are now all fulfilled by one program, FLIP2.COM. To get at the different functions, use command line options as follows:

FLIPPER v1.0	FLIPPER v2.1
FLIPCPM1	FLIP2 /C
FLIPCPM2	FLIP2 /E
FLIPLOC1	FLIP2 /L
FLIPLOC2	FLIP2 /LS

- A combined 'Ersatz' CP/M and Locoscript 2 set-up is much easier to create now: just use FLIP2 /T and follow the onscreen instructions. Likewise you can use FLIP2 /TE to set up two 'Ersatz' environments at once, or FLIP2 /TL to set up two Locoscript ones.
- There is now no need to have files on Locoscript 2's drive M:, or to ensure that your Locoscript 2 disk boots with any particular amount of free space on M: (both of these being essential under FLIPPER v1.0.)
- There is no need for a FLIPKEY utility, or for special care over the use of SETKEYS.
- Version 1.0 and 2.0 FLIPSAVED files will not load into FLIPPER 2 PLUS; sorry, but it just wasn't technically feasible to make them compatible.
- Once FLIPPER 2 PLUS is installed, you can reset your PCW by holding down the SHIFT, EXTRA and STOP keys. (Hold them down for a quarter of a second or so.) This should cut down on all that on-off switching and the consequent wear on your machine.
- One side-effect of Isenstein compatibility is a tiny delay between the time when you hit the SHIFT-EXTRA-EXIT key combination and the appearance of the 'Flipping to...' message. If you're used to the instant response of earlier versions you may find this unnerving. Don't worry, you'll get used to it.

# F

## COMMAND LINE REFERENCE

There are six main modes of operation:  
/C creates two CP/M environments;  
/TE creates two 'Ersatz' CP/M environments;  
/TL creates two Locoscript 2 environments;  
/E creates one normal and one 'Ersatz' CP/M environment;  
/L creates one CP/M and one Locoscript 2 environment;  
/T creates one 'Ersatz' CP/M and one Locoscript 2 environment.

**/C** This creates two CP/M environments, CP/M [a] and CP/M [b].  
**/TE** This creates two 'Ersatz' CP/M environments, 'Ersatz' CP/M [a] and 'Ersatz' CP/M [b].  
**/TL** This creates two Locoscript environments, Locoscript 2 [a] and Locoscript 2 [b].

By following the basic option with different numbers, you can alter the way memory is divided between the two, as in these /C examples:

	CP/M [a]	CP/M [b]
FLIP2 /C1	240K	256K
FLIP2 /C2	224K	272K
FLIP2 /C3	208K	288K
FLIP2 /C4	192K	304K
FLIP2 /C5	176K	320K
FLIP2 /C6	160K	336K

- FLIP2 /C is equivalent to FLIP2 /C1, and similarly for /TL and /TE.
- There is no /CS, /TES or /TLS option: [b] is always the larger environment
- These figures are for total memory allocation, not M: drive size



FLIP2 /LS3 288K 208K  
 FLIP2 /LS4 304K 192K  
 FLIP2 /LS5 320K 176K  
 FLIP2 /LS6 336K 160K

- FLIP2/L is equivalent to FLIP2/L1.
- These figures are for total memory allocation, not M: drive size
- Allocating Locoscript 2 less than 240K can cause problems: just how small you can squash it depends on what version you use, and what other files you have on your Locoscript 2 boot disk.

**/ T**  
 This creates one 'Ersatz' CP/M and one Locoscript 2 environment. For memory allocation and other notes, refer to the section on the /L option above (with the obvious changes).

All figures above are for 512K machines: with extra memory you have even more flexibility. The basic split gives half your machine's memory to the larger environment and (half -16K) to the smaller. Any number following the option offsets from this split by the appropriate number of 16K blocks. Thus, on a 1024K machine FLIP2/T1 gives 'Ersatz' CP/M 496K and Locoscript 2 512K, while FLIP2/T12 gives 'Ersatz' CP/M 320K and Locoscript 2 688K.

**/ E**

This creates one normal CP/M and one 'Ersatz' CP/M environment. By following the /E option with an 'S' and/or different numbers, you can alter the way memory is divided between the two:

	Normal	Ersatz CP/M
FLIP2/E1	240K	256K
FLIP2/E2	224K	272K
FLIP2/E3	208K	288K
FLIP2/E4	192K	304K
FLIP2/E5	176K	320K
FLIP2/E6	160K	336K
FLIP2/ES1	256K	240K
FLIP2/ES2	272K	224K
FLIP2/ES3	288K	208K
FLIP2/ES4	304K	192K
FLIP2/ES5	320K	176K
FLIP2/ES6	336K	160K

■ FLIP2/E is equivalent to FLIP2/E1.

■ These figures are for total memory allocation, not M: drive size

**/ L**

This creates one normal CP/M and one Locoscript 2 environment. By following the /L option with an 'S' and/or different numbers, you can alter the way memory is divided between the two:

	CP/M	Locoscript 2
FLIP2/L1	240K	256K
FLIP2/L2	224K	272K
FLIP2/L3	208K	288K
FLIP2/L4	192K	304K
FLIP2/L5	176K	320K
FLIP2/L6	160K	336K
FLIP2/LS1	256K	240K
FLIP2/LS2	272K	224K



## FLIPPER 2 PLUS WARNINGS

FLIPPER 2 PLUS is (for the most part) a pretty simple product to use, but the job it has to do is very complex indeed. Because of this, there are a few restrictions on what you can do which aren't entirely obvious. The main ones are:

1. Don't flip while your PCW's accessing a disk, and preferably not while a disk motor's running at all. Normally the latter will leave the motor running indefinitely, and it could crash or lock up the machine. Also if you use your printer in one environment, you must reset it before using it in the other environment, and on return to the first one. Damage is unlikely to result if you forget to reset - we've deliberately done this before now and it's caused no harm we can detect - but it's best to be on the safe side.
2. Similarly to the above, flipping while the PCW's speaker is in use could cause a sustained and very annoying whine. This is highly unlikely to happen in practice however, and flipping back would switch the bleep off in any case.
3. 'Ersatz' CP/M is so convincing it will even fool FLIPPER 2 PLUS itself! For this reason, FLIPKILL is only halfway useful from within 'Ersatz' mode: it will re-enable SHIFT-EXTRA-EXIT as reset keys, but will leave you with no access to a chunk of your PCW's RAM. The only remedy from this situation is to reboot.
4. The FLIPPER 2 PLUS installation programs are very sensitive about the environment they run in. Don't try running them from within an application (the 'No File' menu of New Word, for example), with a debugger in memory, with RSXs installed (eg HiSoft's Write Hand Man) or from a submit file. With RSXs, your best bet is to install them after you've installed FLIPPER 2 PLUS. As for PROFILE.SUB files, you'll probably want to remove any file transfers to the M: drive and put these in a separate SUBMIT file, running this after FLIPPER 2 PLUS has been installed.

5. Always make back-ups of important data, including the FLIPPER 2 PLUS master disk. The programmer, publisher and retailer of this software cannot be held liable for loss of or damage to data, software or hardware caused by it. (This does not affect your statutory rights.)
6. All the FLIPPER 2 PLUS installation programs need to wipe the M: drive clean in order to work properly, so don't put anything important there before running FLIP2.COM.
7. Don't rename the .EMS files on your boot disks: the FLIPPER 2 PLUS installation programs rely on the Locoscript .EMS file containing a capital L in its name, and on CP/M's .EMS filename containing a capital P. Booting a CP/M .EMS file as Locoscript (or vice versa) is not a good idea at all!
8. On the normal (ie non-Ersatz) CP/M M: drive, don't erase any large, R/O, SYS files you find in obscure User groups. Tamper with them in any way and you're liable to crash the machine!
9. The master disk is in 180K format (sometimes called 'Type 0' or '8256' format) so you can't make a backup of it on a 9512 using DISCKIT. Instead you should use PIP to copy the files onto a blank, formatted disk.
10. If you've got a hard disk, special considerations apply. For best results you should separate the physical disk into two or more logical drives (eg C: and D:). Avoid writing to (ie altering or creating files on) the same logical drive from different environments in any one session. For example, you shouldn't create a file on C: from one environment, flip to the other environment and create another document on C: from there. This can destroy files. Drastic though it may sound, this restriction isn't really a problem in practice. (There's no comparable problem with reading from the same logical drive.)



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