IPTC

IPTC - NAA Information Interchange M o d e l Guideline 1

Comité International des Télécommunications de Presse

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IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINE NO 1

THE TRANSFER OF

APPLE MACINTOSH FORMAT FILES USING

THE IPTC-NAA INFORMATION INTERCHANGE MODEL

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

This document contains guidelines for using the IPTC-NAA Information Interchange Model for transmission of Media News Graphics. The document recommends that in the case of files originating on Apple Macintosh computers the Apple Single format be used to transfer these files as single data objects in the IPTC-NAA Information Interchange Model.

This document recommends that Macintosh originating Graphics files be transported using the existing IPTC-NAA Information Interchange Model envelope without modification.

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GLOSSARY

EPS	**Encapsulated Postscript. Common file format used to store graphics files.**
IPTC-NAA	**International Press Telecommunications Council, Newspaper Association of America**
PC	**Personal Computer. PC usually refers to an IBM compatible personal computer.**

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version 0.1	**Draft circulated within Reuters for comment**
Version 0.2	**Draft circulated to IPTC members for comment**
Version 0.3	**Modified to reflect comments of IPTC members after review by IPTC Graphics working party on June 7 1992 in Atlanta.**
Version 1.0	**Modified to remove reference to Mac Binary and include amendments made at IPTC meeting in Lausanne 16 October 92.**
Version 2.0	**Issue version modified as a result of IPTC review on 25 March 93 at Windsor.**

REFERENCES

1 IPTC-NAA Information Interchange Model, 14 March 1991

2 AppleSingle/AppleDouble Formats for Foreign Files Developers, Version 2
Apple Developer Group
Developer CD Series
May 92

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SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

The IPTC-NAA Information Interchange Model is emerging as the standard way of transferring news data. This information can be photographs, text or graphics. The aim of this document is to provide guidelines for using the IPTC-NAA Information Interchange Model to transfer Media News Graphics. Throughout this document a graphic will be defined as a pictorial representation of an event or scene based on drawing and or photographic techniques. In particular this document deals with graphic files originating on Apple Macintosh hardware platforms.

SECTION 2 HARDWARE PLATFORM SPECIFICS

It is assumed that all graphics distributed using the IPTC-NAA format will originate on a computer. In most cases the graphic will be stored as one or more data files on a computer disk or tape. It would be impossible for this document to provide guidelines for using the IPTC-NAA model with all hardware platforms, instead a recommendation will be supplied for the most common type of hardware used to generate graphics, the Apple Macintosh

Macintosh files differ from most other file types in that every Macintosh file consists of two files:

Resource Fork
Data Fork

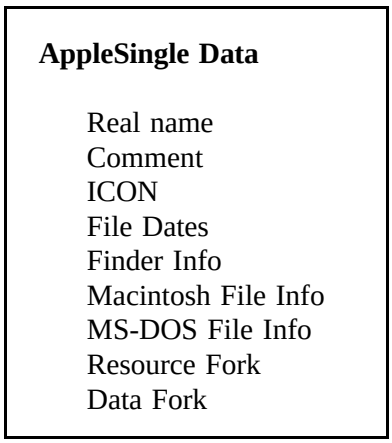
The resource fork contains information about the data fork. A typical resource fork for a graphics file (e.g. Adobe Illustrator) would contain preview information such as the screen size and position used to last display the file as well as printer configuration information. The data fork contains the object and in the case of graphics might be an encapsulated Postscript (EPS) file. It is quite acceptable to send Adobe Illustrator files as just the data fork without the resource fork. This will enable the file to be received by both Macintosh and other platforms.

For the transfer of arbitrary Macintosh files that may contain an additional resource fork not present in traditional file store systems (e.g. PC) a way of sending both the resource and data fork combined is required. The IPTC recommends Apple Single as a single way of doing this. Information on this format can be found in the references section of this document.

Apple Single attaches a header to a file which allows the Macintosh file to be transmitted as a single object. On reception

of the file the receiver can decode the header enabling it to correctly store both resource and data forks. Apple Single has the added advantage of supporting cross platform transfers of Macintosh files to PC's and UNIX systems.

The Apple Single format is a file format developed by Apple that allows files to maintain their file attributes on foreign file systems that do not support the same attributes. The example below shows the proposed format for transferring Apple Single files in the IPTC-NAA envelope:

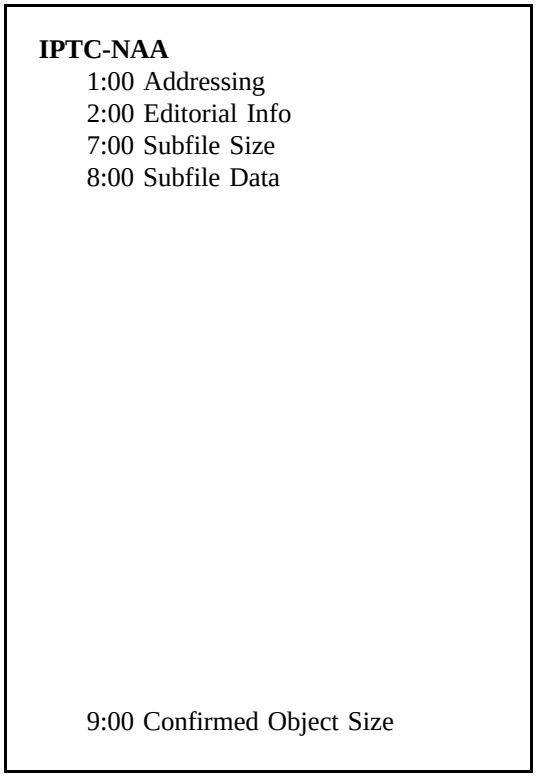


SECTION 3 RECORD & DATASET GUIDELINES

This section contains detailed guidelines on which IPTC-NAA records and datasets should be used for the transfer of Macintosh Graphic files. Default values for datasets where appropriate are also given.

3.1 Records

3.11 IPTC-NAA Record One



The IPTC-NAA interchange model record one contains all control and routing information for the encapsulated subfile. For graphics files all mandatory fields in record one must be used, namely:

1:00 Model Version
1:20 File format
1:22 File Format Version
1:30 Service Identifier
1:40 Envelope Number
1:70 Date Sent

3.12 IPTC-NAA Record Two

The IPTC-NAA interchange model record two contains editorial information relating to the news graphic. All datasets specified in this section are mandatory for the transmission of graphics but may be empty. Any other IPTC-NAA Record 2 datasets may also be sent to include additional editorial information. Should such additional datasets be included, applications not supporting these datasets should ignore datasets they do not recognise and not reject the data or terminate themselves.

2:00 Record Version

IPTC-NAA version number.

Currently this must be set to 2.

2:05 Object Name

This dataset contains the name of the file being transferred.

This will be the Macintosh file name of the source object file. Use of this field to contain the object filename is only recommended when data forks alone are being sent (e.g. Adobe Illustrator file). If AppleSingle is being used this field does not need to contain the object filename.

2:135 Language

This dataset contains the ISO identifier for the national language of the graphic

3.13 IPTC-NAA Records Seven, Eight and Nine

All graphic objects should be transmitted as a single data object. Only mandatory fields are required in records seven eight and nine as follows:

7:10 Size Mode
7:20 Maximum Subfile size.
7:90 Object size announced
8:10 Subfile
9:10 Confirmed Object Size