CRYPTICON
USER MANUAL

>>BUG REPORTS SHOULD BE SENT TO 2017CRYPTICO@GMAIL.COM<<

PLEASE NOTE: SOME PHOTO EDITING METHODS CAN CAUSE ENCRYTED BITS TO BECOME VISIBLE TO OTHERS

[Take into account when using CRYPTICON to edit already-encrypted images: editing tools such as "Black/White" and "Colorize" may cause encrypted bits in your image to become visible. Check your edited images for out of place strips of altered color. These have a tendency to occur on images with large portions of a single color. (CRYPTICON is coded such that this is not an issue for images in the process of being encoded, only those in the decoding stage.)]

ALSO NOTE: CRYPTICON CAN HOG MEMORY

[CRYPTICON may be taxing on your machine. Be careful when using photo effects such as colorize, as well as when decrypting long messages. The CRYPTICON team suggests you monitor your computer's performance using Task Manager or Resource Monitor. CRYPTICON will warn you when a message you are decrypting is long.]

OPENING CRYPTICON

STEP-BY-STEP [USING SOURCE CODE, JAVA EDITING ENVT.]

1. From a Java editing program, click to open a file
2. From the main "CRYPTICON–SteganographyProgram" folder, navigate to the "Code" folder
3. Select "Driver.java", and load it to the editing environment
4. Make sure all code is compiled (check to ensure that there is a .class file for every .java file present)
    a. If not, load all code into the editing environment and compile it
5. In the editing program, click to run Driver.java

STEP-BY-STEP [USING SOURCE CODE, WINDOWS CMD]

1. From "C:", cd to "CRYPTICON–SteganographyProgram"
2. Type "cd Code" [enter]

3. Type "dir" [enter] and check to see that all .class files are present
   a. If not, call "javac *.java" [enter]
4. Type "java Driver" [enter]

STEP-BY-STEP [USING JAR FILE, WINDOWS FILE EXPLORER]

1. From the main "CRYPTICON–SteganographyProgram", navigate to the "Jars" folder
2. Double click "CRYPTICON.jar"

USING CRYPTICON

OPENING A FILE

1. Before CRYPTICON can be used, an image file must be uploaded
2. To do this, navigate to the "File" menu at the top left of the program
3. Click "Open…"

PHOTO-EDITING EFFECTS

1. Photo-editing effects are accessible through the "Effects" menu at the top left of the program
2. The effect methods will retain an encoded message, if one exists (even in files uploaded to the program already encoded)
3. If the image is in the encoding stage, the effect methods will act upon a non-encoded image, then re-encode it
   a. This prevents flipped bits from becoming visible in an image
   b. However, this is not possible during the decoding phase when a non-encoded image is not present

CRYPTICON RESOURCES

1. User resources are available under the "Resources" menu in the CRYPTICON program, as well as the "Resources" folder in "CRYPTICON–SteganographyProgram"
2. Along with this user manual, these resources include author bios and contact information

CRYPTICON TIPS

CAPABILITY

1. CRYPTICON can be used to encrypt entire text documents [simply copy and paste the text from the document into the encrypt text field]
   a. Simple plaintext elements such as returns and tabs will be retained
   b. Hundreds of thousands of characters can be encrypted in large images