

Edition Formats

You can write data to an edition in several different formats. These formats are the same as Clipboard formats. Clipboard formats are indicated by a four-character tag.

Typically, when a user copies data, you identify the Clipboard formats and then write the data to scrap. With the **Edition Manager**, when a user decides to publish data, you identify the Clipboard formats and then write the data to an edition. You can write multiple formats of the same data.

For an edition, you should write your preferred formats first. In general, to write data to an edition, your application should use either 'TEXT' format or 'PICT' format. This allows your application to share data with most other applications. To subscribe to an edition, your application should be able to read both 'TEXT' and 'PICT' files. In addition, your application can write any other private formats that you want to support.

Clipboard formats are described in the **Scrap Manager**.

A few special formats are defined as constants:

The **kPublisherDocAliasFormat** ('**alis**') format is written by the **Edition Manager**. It is an **alias record** from the edition to the publisher's document. Appended to the end of the **alias** is the **section ID** of the publisher, which the **Edition Manager** uses to distinguish between multiple publishers to a single edition. You should discourage users from making multiple copies of the same publisher.

The **kPreviewFormat** ('**prvw**') format should be written by any application that publishes large amounts of data that may be slow to draw a preview. This format holds a preview of the edition data that is displayed in the preview area of the subscriber dialog box. This format is actually a 'PICT' file that is generated by the publishing application and displays well in a rectangle of 120 by 120 pixels. You can also use this 'PICT' file to display subscriber data within a document (to save space).

To draw a preview in the '**prvw**' format, the **Edition Manager** calls **DrawPicture** with a 120 by 120 rectangle. To draw a preview in the 'PICT' format, the **Edition Manager** examines the picture's bounding rectangle and calls **DrawPicture** with a rectangle that scales the picture proportionally and centers it in a 120 by 120 area.

The **kFormatListFormat** ('**fmts**') format is a virtual format that is read but never written. It is a list of all the formats and their lengths. Applications can use this format in place of the **EditionHasFormat** function (described in **Opening an Edition Container to Read Data**), which provides a procedural interface to determine which formats are available.

If your application can read two or more of the available formats, use '**fmts**' to determine the priority of these formats for a particular edition. The order of '**fmts**' reflects the order in which the formats were written.

The **FormatsAvailable** structure defines a record for the '**fmts**' format.

For example, an edition container may have a format type 'TEXT' of length 100, and a format type '**styl**' of length 32. A subscriber to this edition can open

it and then read the format type 'fmts' to list all available formats. In this example, it returns 16 bytes: 'TEXT' 0x00000064 'styl' 0x00000020.