NAME
       imformats - List information on image file formats

SYNOPSIS
       imformats [options]

DESCRIPTION
       imformats displays a list of the image file formats supported by the SDSC image tools (such as
       imconv(1IM)) and the underlying SDSC image library libim.a (see imintro(3IM)).

OPTIONS
       With no options given, imformats prints to stdout a list of supported image file formats. For instance:

              imformats

       The above command displays:

              Format   Description
              -------   --
              bmp   Microsoft Windows BitMaP file
              cur   Microsoft Windows CURsor file
              eps   Adobe Encapsulated Postscript file
              gif   CompuServe Graphics Image Format File
              hdf   NCSA Hierarchical Data Format File
              etc...

       To restrict the table to one or more formats, list the names of the formats on the command line, as in the
       following:

              imformats -ras -tiff -hdf

       which displays:

              Format   Description
              -------   ----------------------------------
              ras   Sun Rasterfile
              tiff   Tagged Image File Format
              hdf   Hierarchical Data File

       Information on file formats is displayed in the order you specify on the command line.

       The -long option elaborates on the list by including information on the format's creator or vendor, other
       common names for the format, and a summary of the supported format variants for read and write
       operations. For instance, to find out more about support for TIFF files, enter the following:

              imformats -tiff -long

       which displays:

              tiff   Tagged image file
                     a.k.a.:   tif
                     Creator: Aldus, Microsoft, and NeXT
                     Read support:
                         1-, 4-, 8-, and 32-bit color index images. 24-bit RGB and 32-bit RGB+alpha images.
                         Standard (uncompressed), Mac Packbits, and Lempel-Ziv & Welsh compression.
                     Write support:
                         1-, 8-, and 32-bit color index images. 24-bit RGB and 32-bit RGB+alpha images.

Standard (uncompressed), Mac Packbits, and Lempel-Ziv & Welsh compression.

If you specify -long twice, you receive a detailed list of the variants of the file format that can be read and written. For instance:

        imformats -tiff -long -long

displays:

        tiff   Tagged image file
                a.k.a.: tif
                Creator: Aldus, Microsoft, and NeXT
                Read support:

Type	#chan	#bits	CLT?	Alpha?	Compression	Interleaving
index	1	1	no	no	none	none
index	1	4	no	no	none	none
index	1	8	no	no	none	none
index	1	8	no	no	none	none
index	1	8	yes	no	none	none
index	1	32	no	no	none	none
index	1	32	yes	no	none	none
rgb	3	8	no	no	none	none
rgb	3	8	no	yes	none	none
index	1	1	no	no	PackBits	none
index	1	4	no	no	PackBits	none
index	1	8	no	no	PackBits	none
index	1	8	no	no	PackBits	none
index	1	8	yes	no	PackBits	none
index	1	32	no	no	PackBits	none
index	1	32	yes	no	PackBits	none
rgb	3	8	no	no	PackBits	none
rgb	3	8	no	yes	PackBits	none
index	1	1	no	no	LZW	none
index	1	4	no	no	LZW	none
index	1	8	no	no	LZW	none
index	1	8	no	no	LZW	none
index	1	8	yes	no	LZW	none
index	1	32	no	no	LZW	none
index	1	32	yes	no	LZW	none
rgb	3	8	no	no	LZW	none
rgb	3	8	no	yes	LZW	none

                Write support:

Type	#chan	#bits	CLT?	Alpha?	Compression	Interleaving
index	1	1	no	no	LZW	none
index	1	1	no	no	PackBits	none
index	1	1	no	no	none	none

index	1	8	yes	no	LZW	none
index	1	8	yes	no	PackBits	none
index	1	8	yes	no	none	none
index	1	8	no	no	LZW	none
index	1	8	no	no	PackBits	none
index	1	8	no	no	none	none
rgb	3	8	no	yes	none	none
rgb	3	8	no	yes	PackBits	none
rgb	3	8	no	yes	LZW	none
rgb	3	8	no	no	LZW	none
rgb	3	8	no	no	PackBits	none
rgb	3	8	no	no	none	none

The double -long output is a dump of internal tables listing what each format can and cannot handle. These tables are ordered in a way that makes sense to imformats and the SDSC image library, but not necessarily to human beings.

imformats also recognizes the following standard SDSC options:

-feedback
    Create a software feedback (bug report) form in the file imformats.fbk.0.

-fullhelp
    Display a detailed list of the arguments and how to use imformats.

-help
    Display an abbreviated list of the arguments and how to use imformats.

-register
    Create a software user registration form in the file imformats.reg.0.

-version
    Display the version number and copyright for imformats.

All options can be abbreviated to the first few unique characters.

NOTES
    Because of the length of imformat's output, we recommend you pipe the output of imformats into a screen pager like more(1) or less(1).

    The Format and Description column headings only appear if information on more than one format is displayed.

SEE ALSO
    imfile (1IM)

    For information on the SDSC image library, see imintro(3IM).

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    See the individual file format man pages for the authors of the underlying format read and write code. The names of these man pages begin with the letters "im" followed by the format name. For example, the name of the TIFF man page is imtiff. To display it, enter man imtiff.

CONTACT
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