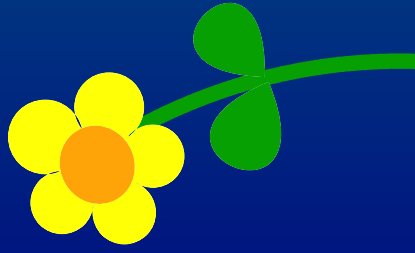


# Presenting...



# Maul Publisher goes Unicode!

# Just a Desktop Publisher?

- ☺ Maul Publisher is designed to create any printed page that you can imagine.
- ☺ This means that it contains a number of features that can solve many of your daily requirements for which a dedicated solution is not available, or not sufficient.
- ☺ Furthermore, because Maul is a desktop publisher, you can combine a wide-ranging set of solutions.
- ☺ So, a photo album can also be labelled, nice backgrounds and image effects can be added, and so on.

# What you need to know

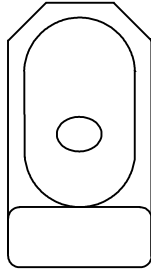
- You must have a printer driver installed in order for Maul to work. This application is designed to be accurate to ~1 printer pixel, which is much more precise than you may be used to.
- Maul is a modular frame based desktop publisher. You need to think in terms of structured graphical objects in order to understand what is going on.
- To get the best out of Maul requires practice. There are often a number of solutions available to solve a particular problem. The more you use it, the easier it is to find the right solution!

# Frame Graphics I

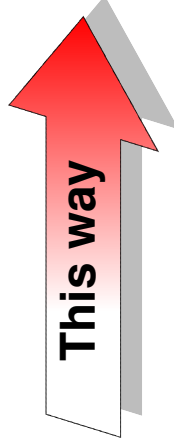
- You can draw just about any shape using the frame handler.
- Frames form the basic skeleton for every object created.
- Automatic frame styles can help you speed up the drawing of flowcharts, diagrams, technical drawings and so on...
- Frames can be grouped together to form vector graphics objects that can be saved as both bitmaps and metafiles, using a variety of file formats. This is ideal for creating logos for documents and web pages.

# Frame Graphics II

- The page on which the frames are drawn acts as a guide by providing ruler bars, guides, and snap markers that can be offset depending on whether the page is on the left or the right.
- Clipart catalogues help to speed up the creation of graphically rich documents.
- A large amount of automation is provided by features such as dynamic page numbering, folio and facing page modes, and manual double sided printing.



**Some frame clipart**



## **Text - 3 different kinds**

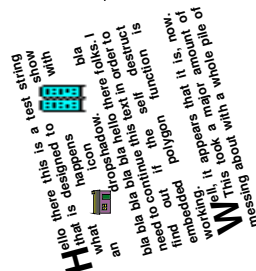
- Maul provides 3 different ways to create text. As a text object in a frame, as text in a table object, and as text along a path.
- All three methods provide rich text, with a number of sophisticated features. Each method has its advantages and its limitations.
- All forms of text allow language selection, spell checking, the inclusion of inline images, recursive formatting, reversing quotemarks, bullets and lists, mail merge, and much more.

# Recursive text formatting(a quick note)

- Recursive text formatting means that text can contain a text object.
- As the text is reformatted, so the contained text is formatted too!

## Recursive example

*Hello there folks, this is a wingstamped test string*



The image shows a complex, nested structure of text and text objects. It starts with a large 'H' followed by a text object containing a text object, which then contains a text object, and so on, creating a complex, nested structure. The text is rendered in a purple, italicized font, and the overall structure is a recursive example of text formatting.

## More text features

- Maul Publisher uses the unicode API to provide features such as numbered or bulleted text.
- Numbered lists can be created with a hierarchy, and can use numbers, letters, or roman numerals:-
  - 1) cars
  - 2) boats
    - a, rowing
    - b, sailing
    - c, pedal
  - 3) bikes
  - 4) aeroplanes
- Such enumerations can also be achieved as control text so that you can use them within a single paragraph. This would also be a way of creating bullet points along a line.



# Languages and codepages

- Every text object in Maul has its own language and codepage. The default settings are taken from the operating system.
- In order to provide extended characters, a DBCS or unicode codepage is always chosen in preference to the default. *(This does mean that you have to turn off font downloading in the postscript printer driver, or some characters will disappear).*
- The language setting determines how quotes are represented, which spell checker is used, and so on.
- You can use many different languages within the same publication.

# Hyphenation and linebreaks

You can use three types of hyphenation in a text article. Automatic hyphenation based upon a hyphenation wordlist, hard hyphenation (just add a - to a long word like this:- hyphen-ation) or soft hyphenation which is added using Alt- ('alt' and '-' keys pressed together). Soft hyphenation will only appear when it is needed to fit a line of text.

- The formatter makes several attempts to fit text, using spaces, hyphenation, and finally control characters such as ;,.-+= etc. If it still doesn't fit, the text may disappear. In that case you may have to increase the width of the frame.

# Mail merge

You can load a comma separated list of data onto your document to provide a mail merge database. This feature is not restricted to mail, any data can be used. The first row of your data should contain labels to describe the data columns. These labels are then used to help you choose the required element.

- If you print multiple copies of the same document, the mailmerge print manager can be used to automatically increment through the database, producing an individualised document with each copy.

# Normal text using FTEXT handler

This handler provides the following features:-

- Text can be chained over many frames.
- Provides automatic paragraph orphan and widow suppression.
- Text can be placed at any angle, into any shape of frame. Text flows around overlapping frames. Text can flow around cutouts in bitmaps.
- Provides dropcaps.

There are some disadvantages:-

- Text cannot be centered in a frame, it is not possible to do this and provide flow around options at the same time.
- Formatting can be slow when dealing with large text articles, the extra features demand some complex trigonometric calculations.

# Text in a table

The table handler provides the following features:-

- Text is always painted in a rectangle, allowing vertical as well as horizontal centering. Also, the text formatter is much faster.
- Provides spreadsheet maths functions.
- Allows text and images, backgrounds and borders to co-exist in the same table.
- Tables can be rotated at will.
- Tables can imitate a simple text object, to speed up editing.

There are some disadvantages:-

- Text cannot be flowed over several frames.
- Cannot flow text around overlapping frames or images.
- Cannot provide dropcaps - the formatter is too simple to cope.

# **Text on a line**

The wingstamp handler provides the following features:-

- Text is painted along a path - absolutely any path.
- Provides image embedding.
- Text can be justified to be on the left, the right, or centered on the path.
- Paths can be colored, and the text can contain an underlying image or colour.
- Supports text repetition.

There are some disadvantages:-

- Text cannot be flowed over several frames.
- Only a single paragraph can be used. There are no paragraphs really.

# Bitmaps

- Maul provides a large number of sophisticated bitmap features.
- You can use bitmaps in frames, and they can also be embedded in text strings, or be re-used in anchors.
- Anything you draw in Maul can be exported as a bitmap (or as a metafile, or as a frame object).
- Bitmap import or export supports a wide range of formats, such as tif or jpg to name but two.
- Transparency is also supported for icons and maskmaps, and can be used for aligning text.

## More bitmap features

- Bitmap offlining provides the means to put a large number of large bitmaps into the same document. On OS/2, this feature is unique to Maul Publisher.
- Precision bitmap scaling provides exceptional print quality when fine line details are present in the image.
- Bitmap transparency is now also supported on Postscript printers.
- Maul provides a series of additional tools to scale, rotate, and colour tune bitmap images. This makes Maul a powerful bitmap application in its own right.



# Backgrounds

- Backgrounds provide the means to create everything from simple blocks of colour to sophisticated shades.
- A background can be placed into the same frame as text, allowing options like placing the background colours inside the text characters.
- You can arrange to cut holes into the background with overlapping frames.
- 6 shading modes, and 15 fill patterns, provide all you need to create sophisticated backgrounds.
- Backgrounds can be offset to provide a variety of different dropshadow effects.

# Borders

- Borders provide a way of outlining or highlighting frames. Like backgrounds, they support shading and patterns as well as plain single colours.
- Different border modes provide a fascinating array of features to play with. This includes two kinds of colour shading, 3d effects, dashed lines, lines of dots, and angled dashes to give a sort of ray effect.
- Borders in lower layers can take their width from objects above, such as wingstamp text, the text on a line handler.
- Borders can be offset to create dropshadow effects.

# Assisted index extraction

Maul provides an index extraction handler that can find and list occurrences of text in a publication. The index extraction handler can also add page numbers to the result. All you have to do is choose a suitable list of words to look for.

- For more advanced requirements, index items can also be found using boolean logic rules, such as *this + !that*, meaning *this and not that*. This allows for a much more concise index than would otherwise be the case.

# Title marking

By marking text strings as titles, you can easily extract a table of contents from your publication.

- Up to 8 title levels are available. This allows you to create subtitles within subtitles. An additional URL link level is available, but not used at present.
- When titles are extracted into a contents list, each title level can be formatted differently using text style sheets. By using a PDF tool such as ePDF, and the pdfmark subsystem handler, you can also extract a contents list for the Adobe® Acrobat® reader.

## **Drag and drop**

Maul provides a number of features to speed up the creation of a publication. If you create a frame, and then switch to an object layer, you can drag in, or paste, any of the recognised data types.

- Similarly, you can select a set of frames and drag them out as a metafile and into any compatible application.
- The operations that are possible depend on the current edit mode. This also applies to such items as TWA IN scanning, for example.

# Colours and drag and drop

Colour drag and drop is combined with named colour tables so that you can drag pre-defined colours anywhere in the publication, or in fact anywhere on the desktop.

- A colour table palette with a built-in colour editor allows you to define and save a colour table within your publication.
- You can also automatically load a pre-defined table of colours when creating a new publication. This ensures that the same colours are always available.

## **Per project data storage**

Maul stores a number of diverse items such as clipart, style sheets and master pages in a common default folder.

- However, sometimes it is more convenient to store such data separately. This enables a working set of style sheets and masterpages to be stored with its publication.
- When creating very large documents, it can also be convenient to set up a project. This enables you to split the document into several files.

# Error recovery

Maul recognises and processes fatal errors in order to protect a publication. Maul can crash when it runs out of memory, for example.

- When a crash does occur, the system will verify the integrity of the file data, and if possible will write that data to disk.
- An error log is used to describe what happened, and can be checked to find out if the file dump was successful. You should still try and regularly save your data!



# What we have not talked about

Multiple file project management.

- Font embedding.
- Text article information.
- Search text options.
- Pre-press reports.
- Manual double sided printing.
- Page management and master pages.
- Style sheets and style management.
- Footnotes.
- Text chain editing.
- Control text.
- Tables and what you can put in them.

...and so on,  
and so on...

# The trial version

Maul Publisher is released as shareware with a 30 day trial limitation. Trial printouts are watermarked after the first page.

- I am confident that once you have begun to fully explore the extensive features included with this application, you will not want to use OS/2 or eComStation without it.
- For further information, please see <http://www.manglais.com>, Or contact the me, the Author:- Peter Koller <[peter@manglais.com](mailto:peter@manglais.com)>