FONTCONV — The *Fancy Font* font translation utility

Fontconv translates an existing font file, "infile," that is compatible with one version of *Fancy Font* into a new fontfile, "outfile," that is compatible with another version of *Fancy Font*. There are two versions of *Fancy Font* numbered 2.0; one is referred to as MX and works on any Epson printer and the other is referred to as FX and works on an Epson FX or RX printer. There are several versions of *Fancy Font* numbered less than 2.0, collectively referred to as version 1.x, and which work on any Epson printer. This program is intended for users who have acquired a new version of *Fancy Font* and who wish to convert quickly font files they have created for their old printer or version of *Fancy Font*, without having to repeat the time that they may have put into creating the font files. It should be noted that the resulting font file, "outfile," may be of lower quality than a font file written directly for a particular model Epson printer.

Fontconv may be used in an interactive or a batch mode. For the interactive mode, the user types "fontconv" and the following menu is printed:

```
Fontconv: Font Conversion, version 2.0
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    Type 1 for translation from Old MX (v1.8 or less) to New MX (v2.0)
    Type 2 for translation from New MX (v2.0) to FX (v2.0)
    Type 3 for translation from Old MX (v1.8 or less) to FX (v2.0)
    Type 4 for translation from FX (v2.0) to New MX (v2.0)
Command: (one of: 1,2,3,4)>
```

"Old MX," "New MX" and "FX" refer to versions of *Fancy Font*. The user enters an integer between 1 and 4, depending on which option he or she wants.

> *Option 1, "Old MX to New MX," is for converting font files intended for Fancy Font version 1.x into font files usable by Fancy Font version 2.0 MX. This option changes the format of the font file but does not affect the appearance of the font file in any way.*

> *Option 2, "New MX to FX," is for converting font files intended for Fancy Font version 2.0 MX into font files usable by Fancy Font version 2.0 FX. Although the resulting fonts will be usable, they will be of lower quality than fonts written directly for Fancy Font verison 2.0 FX.*

> *Option 3, "Old MX to FX," is for converting font files intended for Fancy Font version 1.x into font files usable by Fancy Font version 2.0 FX. Although, the resulting fonts will be usable, they will be*

of a lower quality than fonts written directly for Fancy Font version 2.0 FX.

Option 4, "FX to New MX," is for converting font files intended for Fancy Font version 2.0 FX into font files usable by Fancy Font version 2.0 MX. This is the inverse of option 2. Although the resulting fonts will be usable, they will be of a lower quality than fonts written directly for Fancy Font version 2.0 MX.

If option 2 or option 3 is chosen, then fontconv will display:

```
Light or Dark (dark is better on larger fonts) (l or d)>
```

This is because options 2 and 3 produce a font file for a printer with twice as high a resolution as the printer for which infile was originally intended; thus the characters in infile are "spread out" and the user has a choice as to whether blank space ("l") is interleaved into the characters or ink ("d") is interleaved into the characters.

Fontconv will then prompt for the name of the existing font file

```
Input Font File>>
```

This will be followed by the prompt for the new, translated font

```
Output Font File>>
```

Font file names must have their ".fon" extensions appended to them. After the translation is completed, the user is asked if he or she wishes to repeat the same translation (on a different file), do a different translation, or quit.

A session in which the user converts a font file, "romn12.fon," intended for Fancy Font version 1.x into a font file, "f.fon," intended for Fancy Font version 2.0 and an FX or RX Epson printer, using the dark, "d," option, is shown below. What the user types is underlined.

```
A> fontconv ↵
   Fontconv: Font Conversion, version 2.0
   Copyright (C) 1984 SoftCraft, Inc.


   Type 1 for translation from Old MX (v1.8 or less) to New MX (v2.0)
   Type 2 for translation from New MX (v2.0) to FX (v2.0)
   Type 3 for translation from Old MX (v1.8 or less) to FX (v2.0)
   Type 4 for translation from FX (v2.0) to MX (v2.0)
   Command: (one of: 1,2,3,4)> 3↵
```

Light or Dark (dark is better on larger fonts)(l or d)> *d*

Input Font File>> romn12.fon   *existing font*

Output Font File>> f.fon   *translated font*

Fontconv: Old MX to FX.   (Dark)

Repeat the same translation.

Change tranlation.

Quit.

Command: (one of: r,c,q)> *q*   *user chooses to quit*

A>

BATCH USAGE

The user may pass all instructions to fontconv on the command line, instead of using fontconv interactively.   This is convenient when used in conjunction with a batch or submit file to process several fonts at once.   The command line format is

fontconv   <option>   <infile>   <outfile>   <darkness>

where

<option> is an integer between 1 and 4

<infile> is an existing font file

<outfile> is the desired name of the resulting fontfile

<darkness> is "l" or "d" and is there only if option is 2 or 3; "d" is
assumed if <darkness> is missing.

For example, the command

fontconv 3 romn12.fon fromn12.fon l

takes a font file named romn12.fon which is compatible with an MX printer and *Fancy Font* (version 1.8 or less) and makes a new font file named fromn12.fon which is compatible with an RX or an FX printer, using blank space to pad out the old font file.

If the user wishes to convert a whole set of font files at once, then he or she should write a batch file (or submit file for CP/M users) where each line of the batch file is of the form "fontconv <option> <infile> <outfile> <darkness>".

NOTES: Do not try to overwrite, "infile," the existing font. That is,
do not try to convert romn12.fon into a new font named romn12.fon or

else the existing font will be destroyed before you are done with it. You must use a different name or put one of the font files on a different disk, e. g.,

```
fontconv 3 a:roman12.fon b:roman12.fon
```