

DIMG (Qt Edition)

User Manual

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This document provides configuration and usage guidelines for the Qt edition of DIMG.

Revision/Update Information:	This is a new manual.
Operating System:	Microsoft Windows NT 5.0+; Linux
Software Version:	QtDIMG Version 0.1

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Chapter 1

Overview

1.1 Name

Due to other commitments (university, etc), many projects die early. Projects that are not yet useful (that is, do not have enough functionality to be used) seem to be the most likely ones to die. Once the project is usable it seems likely that it will survive as adding features over time is fairly easy compared to the initial work getting the program usable.

As a result, until this project gets past the initial usability point, there is little point in giving it a name. So for now it is known simply as “Project DIMG” where “DIMG” is essentially its codename.

1.2 Goals

The current aim of this project is to build a simple disk imaging utility. Ideally it would eventually be a viable alternative to proprietary disk imaging utilities such as WinImage.

1.3 User Interface

The user interface consists of four tabs: Get Information, Format Disk, Copy Disk and About. The first three tabs are described in more detail over the next three chapters. The About tab, pictured below, provides some more information about the program.

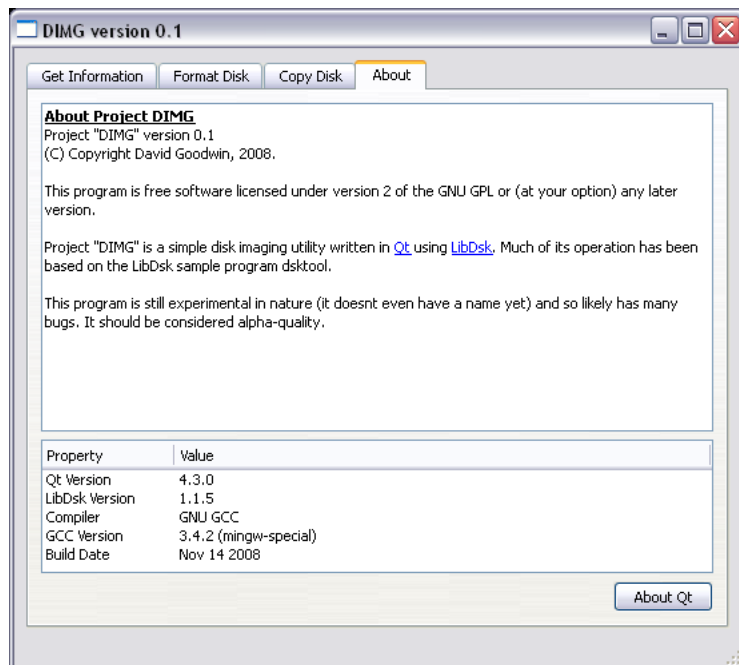


Figure 1.1: About tab

Chapter 2

Getting Disk Information

The first tab in the programs user interface provides the option of getting detailed information about a floppy disk in a floppy drive, or a disk image.

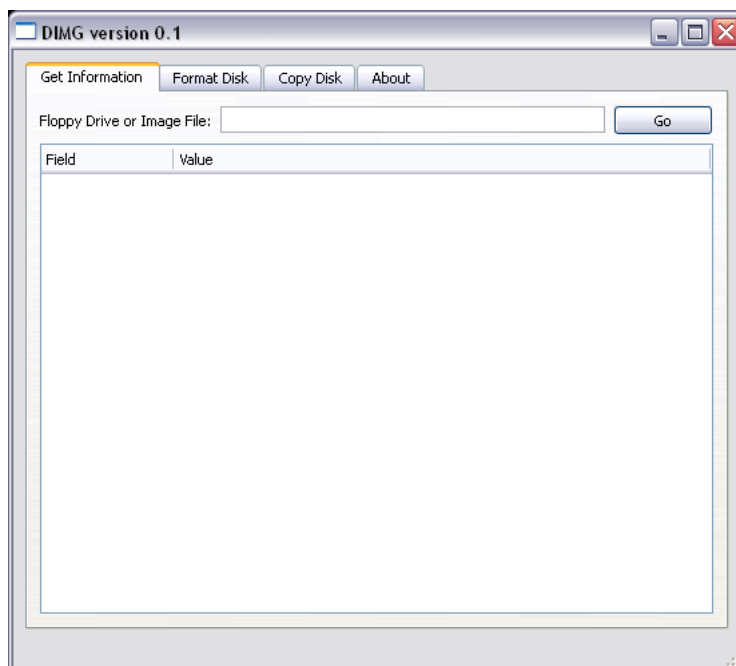


Figure 2.1: Disk Information Tab

To get information about a floppy disk, insert the floppy disk in one of your computers floppy drives and enter the drive name (eg, A:) in the text box at the top marked “Floppy Drive or Image File” then press the “Go” button.

To get information about a disk image, enter the full filename (eg, C:\floppy-disks\DOS-boot.ima), then press the “Go” button as with getting information about a floppy disk.

When you press the “Go” button you will see the screen transformed to something like below.

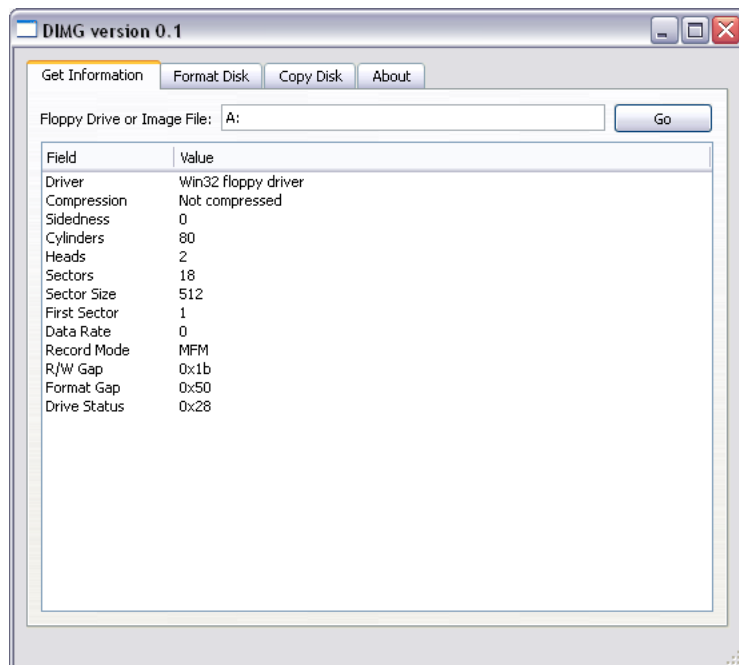


Figure 2.2: Disk Information Tab showing a disk

Chapter 3

Formatting a Disk

DIMG is able to write a variety of formats to a floppy disk or disk image. The specific details about the various supported formats is not the topic of this manual. The disk formatting feature should be considered a bonus feature rather than one of the program's core abilities. Figure 3 shows the format disk tab. It allows you to select a floppy drive or an image file and a disk format.

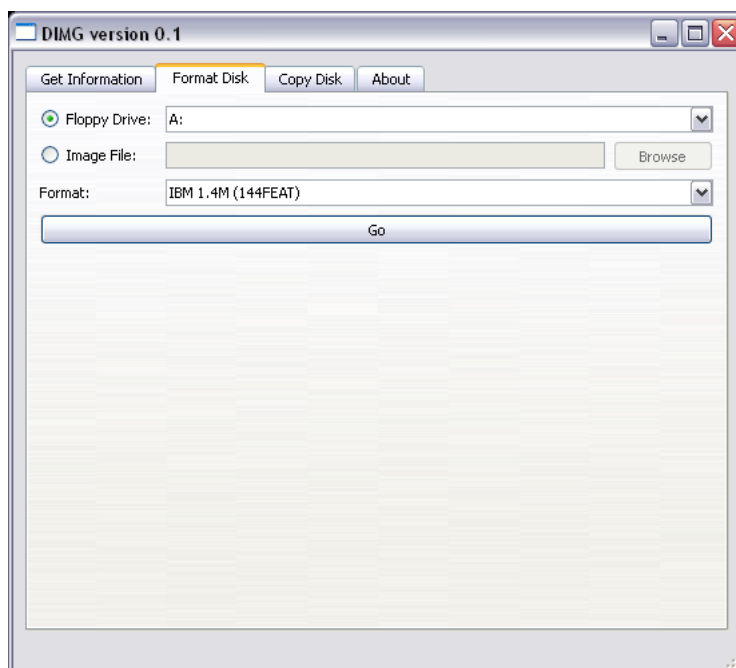


Figure 3.1: Format Disk tab

To format a floppy disk, click on the “Floppy Drive” radio button and select the floppy drive containing the disk you wish to format. If you wish to format a new disk image, select the “Image File” radio button and either:

1. Enter the full filename into the text box to the right OR

2. Press the “Browse” button to get a save file dialog box.

You must then select the Disk Format you wish to write from the “Format” drop down list. IBM 1.4M is the standard 1.44MByte 3.5” PC format. When you press the Go button you will see a dialog like the one in figure 3 showing the format progress. When the format is complete the dialog will automatically close. If you wish to cancel the format, just press the “Abort Format” button.



Figure 3.2: Format Progress

Chapter 4

Copying a Disk

Disk copying is the main function of DIMG. You can see the disk copying tab in figure 4. The tab provides the following disk copying functions:

1. Copy disk to disk (from one floppy drive to another)
2. Copy disk to image (from a floppy drive to an image file)
3. Copy image to disk (from an image file to a floppy disk)

These are achieved using the text boxes, drop down lists and radio buttons that can be seen in Figure 4. To copy a disk you must:

1. Select the source type: floppy drive or image file.
2. Select the source floppy drive from the drop down list or enter a filename for an image file. The browse button will let you browse for a file.
3. Select the destination type: floppy drive or image file.
4. Select the destination floppy drive (using the drop down list) or image file (by entering the filename or using the browse button).
5. Click the “Go” button.

For example, if you wanted to create a disk image called “image.ima” of the floppy disk in drive A: on Windows, you would:

1. Select the “Floppy Drive” radio button in the Source box at the top of the tab
2. Select drive “A:” from the drop down box
3. Select the “Image File” radio button in the lower Destination box.
4. Press the Browse button to bring up a file save dialog
5. Browse to the directory where you wish to save the image and enter “image.ima” as the filename. Then press “Save”.
6. Press the “Go” button at the bottom of the tab.

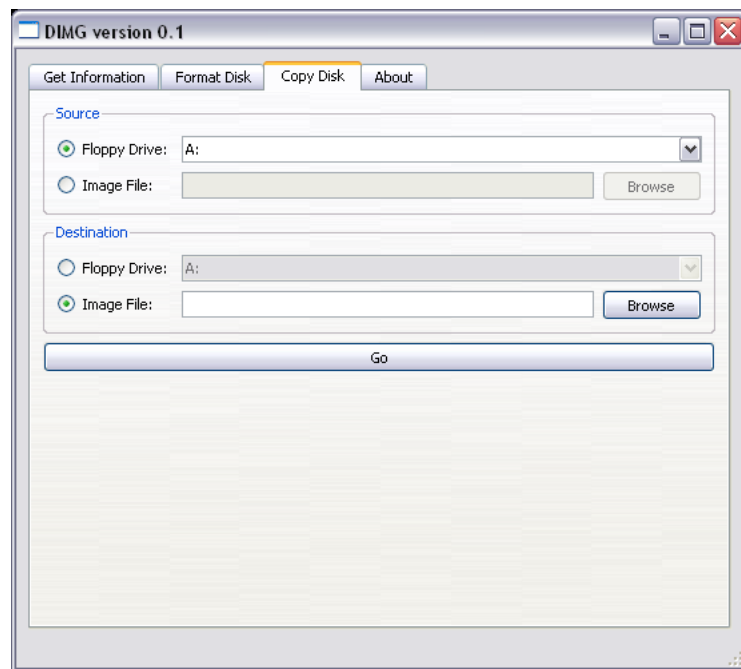


Figure 4.1: Copy Disk tab

Once you have done this, the tab should look like it does in Figure 4. When you press go, a dialog like the one in Figure 4 will appear to show you the progress of the copy. Should you wish to cancel the copy at any time you can press the “Abort Copy” button. When the copy is complete the progress dialog will disappear.

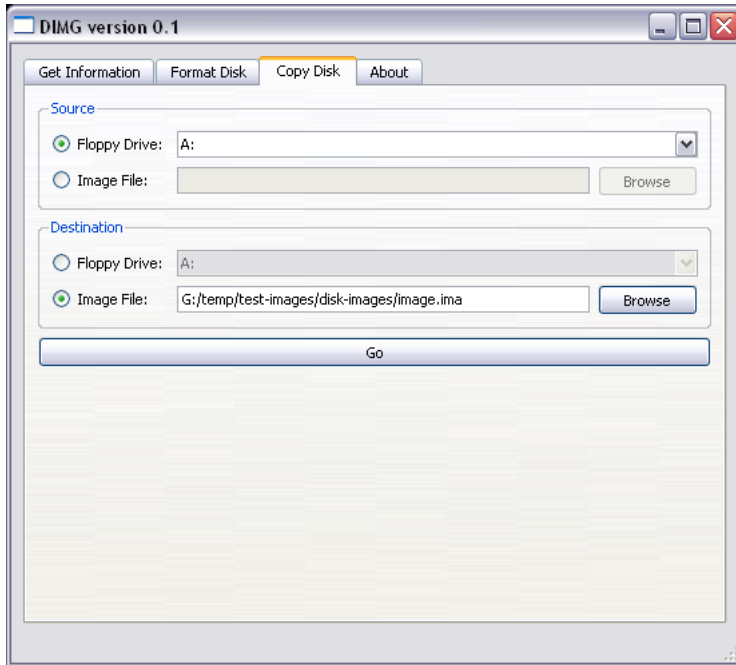


Figure 4.2: Ready to Copy



Figure 4.3: Copy Progress