
THE PEDALER'S PAGE

BREWER SALES NEWSLETTER/TIP SHEET

AUGUST 1999

EDITOR: JEANETTE BREWER-RICHARDSON

Texas Trophy & Awards Show

AUGUST 6-7, 1999

It's time for our annual trip to Nassau Bay! This show really is a favorite of ours and of most of the dealers in Texas (and surrounding states). By the time you get this newsletter, it'll probably be too late to make reservations at the Nassau Bay Hilton. If you'd like to give it a shot, however, call them at 800-634-4320.

Epilog is in booth #30-31 (*same spot as always!*) and Xenetech is in #72-73 again.

Brewer Sales is putting on a Xenetech User Clinic on the day before the show (Thursday, August 5). If you attended last year, it's in the same place, at the same time (9am - 12pm).

You've probably already received something in the mail re: the Clinic, but if not (*or if you haven't made your reservation*), call me **today** to reserve your spot (817-460-8122 ext. 201).

Bring your list of questions that you've been compiling since the last Clinic. There will be a representative from customer service (in Baton Rouge) at the clinic to answer any questions that daddy can't handle!

Bring your **Wish List** too. This is a great time to let the factory know what features you'd like to see added to a future release of the software!

Don't have a Xenetech yet? This is a great time to come hear what the users of the system have to say about it. We think you'll be impressed with what you hear!

New Phone System

EXTENSION LIST

If you haven't called within the last few weeks, you may be surprised when you are greeted by an automated attendant when you call Brewer Sales. If you want to go straight to a "live" person, just press 0. The first available person will pick up as quickly as possible.

List of Extensions:

- 202 **Roy Brewer (aka "Daddy")**
Sales — if he's not here (almost always!), you can leave a message in his voice mailbox
- 203 **Randy Allen**
Sales & Tech Support
- 201 **Jeanette Brewer-Richardson**
Everything else! (*Especially ideas for the next newsletter*)
- 412 **General Mailbox**
If you want to just leave a message and would rather bypass all the "live" people, this is the best way to do it!

Thanks, in advance, for your patience if we hang up on you ... we're still getting used to all the buttons! ☺

Software Bug Alert

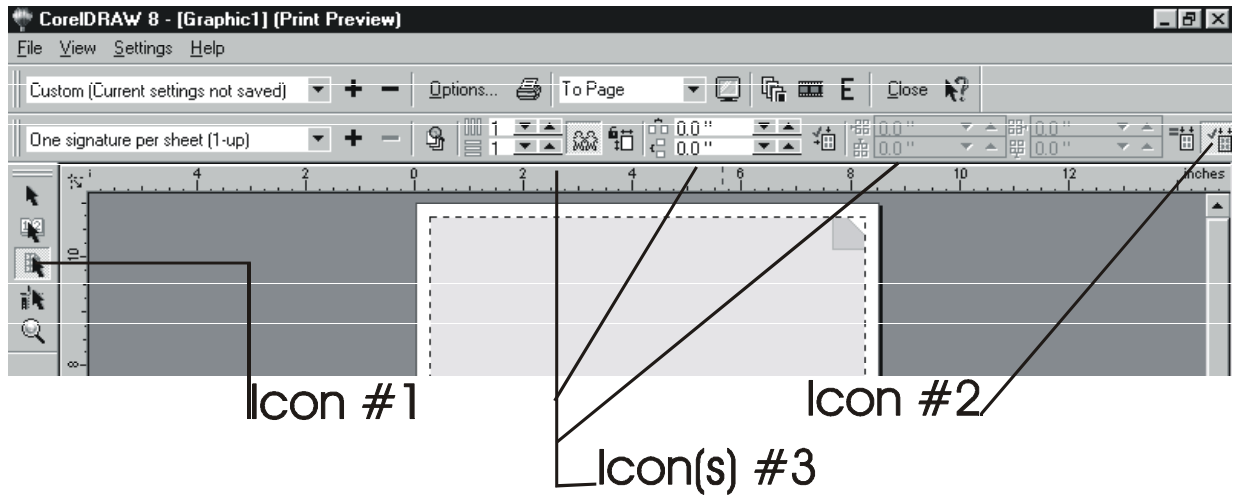
VERSIONS 5.26 & 5.28

When engraving a hatch filled True Type font, the cutter will drag through certain characters. These "drag through's" are not visible on the screen. NOTE: This bug was found to exist in versions 5.26 & 5.28, however, it could be in older versions too.

Work-around: Turn off "Use Engrave Depth". Select **Colors|Layers**. Make sure the checkbox next to this feature is NOT checked.

This bug will be addressed in the next release.

— Jim Brown (Customer Service, Baton Rouge)



Corel 8 Tip

Problem:

When laser engraving, I have to reset the page size on each job. If I don't resize, Corel will print (laser) the file to the middle of my engraving table.

Solution:

1) Go to your Epilog printer control box.

- [Start
- [Settings
- [Printers
- / Epilog icon
- [Printer
- [Properties
- [Details
- [Setup Button

You are now in familiar place. Change the Epilog laser setup to the size of your table (Example 18" x 24") and change all your settings to the most common setting you use. Save your changes and **↵**. Close all the windows we have just opened. You have now changed the default setting to your Epilog to fit the size of your table.

2) Open or create a file you want to engrave.

3) [Print icon

4) [Print Preview button

5) At the print preview dialog, [the N-Up format icon (see drawing — **Icon #1**) This will open up a new set of icons including Auto Margin (**Icon #2**). Your print area should have shifted to the upper left hand corner of your engraving area. If it did not, [the Auto Margin Icon (**Icon #2**).

6) Corel will now act like your engraving software and print in the upper left hand corner. With just two extra clicks, you've eliminated the need to reset your page size for every job!

Shortcuts:

Experiment with the print icons (specifically **Icon Group #3**). Corel has a strong print preview dialog box that allows you to customize and save your settings for each job. Once you get comfortable with this dialog, it can save you time and money.

— Thanks to Harold Hanusch, Martindale, TX, (an Epilog & Xenotech user) for this great tip!

Upcoming Xenotech User Clinics

August 18, 1999 — Long Beach, CA (B.I.G. Show)
 October 9, 1999 — The Meadowlands, NJ (ARA Convention)

Please contact Xenetech at 225-752-0225 for details, pricing and reservations!

The Corel 9 Report

Calling all Corel 9 Users!!! I'd like to make this a regular column that will allow our readers to see the "pros & cons" of upgrading to Corel 9 (especially in relation to Epilog / Xenetech). If you have anything to add to this column for the next issue, please call me (*ext. 201*), fax me or email me!

Brian Hemen (Customer Service, Epilog) has noted that if you're using a very large font (different sizes for different types of fonts, but generally > 70 point size) in Corel 8, it will vector even when no outline exists. Corel 9 has solved this problem.

— Thanks Brian!

New Wattages

NEWS FROM DENVER ...

In response to their customers' requests, Epilog is offering many new wattages in their laser lineup (10, 25, 30, 35, 40, 60, 80, 100)! For a current price list, give me a call and I'll fax it to you.

Scanning Tips

Daddy has discovered a new 5-part tutorial series designed to teach you how to scan the best possible photo with your HP ScanJet scanner. HP has made it quite difficult to get to these articles, though. When you finally get there, you have to sign up. After you get signed up, it's painfully slow to download the articles.

If you're up to the challenge, here's the address for the first article in the series — http://www.scanjet.com/workshop/creative/scan_1/pro/print_pro.htm. Here's a "sneak preview" of tips from this new tutorial:

- ▶ Photographs printed on glossy stock scan better than those printed on matte paper.
- Avoid shooting photos under incandescent or fluorescent lights, if possible, since these tend to cast a yellowish or greenish tone over photographs.
- If you can't close the scanner lid, you can place a black or white t-shirt over your three-dimensional object to get a clean background.
- You can scan oversize drawings and photographs as several different scans and then use an image editing program, such as Adobe PhotoDeluxe, to stitch them back together.

- Consider purchasing a pair of white gloves and a dusting brush at a camera store to help you start with the cleanest photo possible.

— Thanks Daddy!

More Scanning News

I received the following information from a Xenetech user: "I attended a training seminar at Xenetech in March, at which the new HP scanners were discussed and demonstrated working with Xenetech. It was mentioned that you could order the software directly from HP to work with older HP scanners. I ordered HP PrecisionScan software for my 5p ScanJet (\$49 or \$79 for PrecisionScan 'bundled' with additional software)."

"It works just like a new scanner, doing all the raster to vector conversions and a whole lot cheaper than buying a new scanner!"

— Dan Bierwagen, Mountain Home, AR

Call for Samples!

EPILOG & XENETECH OWNERS

Our samples go through a lot with the amount of traveling daddy does. Instead of engraving a whole new set of samples here (they'd probably all have pictures of the Brewer grandkids on them!), we'd like to use some of the unique things that you've produced.

The next time you use your Xenetech or Epilog for a unique or interesting application, order an extra piece for us. Engrave it right after your "real" job and ship it to us with an invoice. We'll pay retail + shipping for it, if you'll send it to us! As a matter of fact, we'll probably get a check in the mail to you before your "real" customer pays you!

Your Vote on ...

Do you *name* your rotary / laser engravers? Les (Branson, MO), I know you named your Xenetech "Zoro" (I'm sure it's because it's so fast)! Jackie, don't you have a nickname for your machines?

(continued from page 3)

I named my desktop & laptop computers "Desi" & "Lucy". I'll bet there are more of you out there with interesting names & reasons. If you'll email/fax the info to me, I'll publish the most interesting ones in the next issue!



XENETECH DRAWING TOOLS

Q If I go to the Color menu and Explode to Polyvectors, these dots show up. I have tried drawing a box around one of them and deleting it through the edit menu. That seems to work.

When I draw a box around the other dot and do the same thing, though, the whole logos disappears (except the circle surrounding it).

A First, when editing an exploded graphic, be sure you are working in wire frame (Line/Group | Wire Frame). When the whole logo disappeared in the scenario above, if you had clicked on wire frame and then reDraw icon, you would have seen that the logo was all still there. For some reason,

Xenotech fills portions of the exploded graphics with white (your circle) and when other parts are edited they are moved behind the white fill. [Editor's note: Drawing Tools required for this tip.]

Second, often when you try to draw a box around something you want to delete, the first click selects a larger object and moves *it* instead of allowing you to drag the selection box. Holding the \odot key down disables the "click pick" mode. That is, while holding down the \odot key and dragging a box, the only things that will be selected are the objects completely surrounded by the box.

Third, it's a good idea to do this kind of graphic editing with nothing else on the screen. That way, when completed, you can easily export it back to cover up the original .XLG.

This would also be true when you want to add something to an existing logo (e.g., the year).

I've asked for a lot of feedback from y'all in this issue. Please call me at 817-460-8122 ext. 201, fax me at 817-469-8560 or email me at jeanette@brewersales.com with your comments, suggestions, tips, etc.! I'm looking forward to hearing from all of you!