

IQ-MSD Turbo 1.4 Software for DOS

OVERVIEW

There are several software packages available for configuring, controlling, and monitoring IQ System components. The Turbo 1.4 software package is one of the most powerful. Turbo 1.4 is a software package that runs in the MS-DOS 5.0 or higher DOS environment. It includes both conventional DOS style spreadsheet type screens as well as a very powerful graphics package. It has one of the most powerful communication engines built in that can be made available today.

MAJOR BENEFITS

- Easy to use spreadsheet style screens for quick initial setup of Crown IQ products.
- Powerful graphics packages that allows for total custom appearance. It can best be likened to a box of electronic crayons.
- Full VGA and SVGA color support.
- Powerful communication controls and system diagnostics.
- Cut-Copy-Paste features with its own clipboard.
- Amplifier Multi-Link grouping.
- Amplifier "ALL" commands and "SOLO" capabilities.
- Full support of all IQ components, both original legacy protocol and newer IQ² protocol components.
- Full support of all third party IQ components with the graphics package.
- Automatically supports new products as they are developed and brought to market with the simple addition of support files. This means that the software base package does not have to be revised just to add support for new products.
- As a DOS package it takes advantage of full control of the computer's processor for maximum processing, video, and communication speed.

PROGRAM TOPOLOGY

Turbo is a modular software package in as much as the main executable includes library style accessing of external support files. This modular nature allows easy updating for systems with-

out requiring constant revisions to the main software package.

Turbo 1.4 Base Program

The base program consists of only a few major parts.

- A control panel screen is provided to allow setup of general global parameters such as serial port configuration, data speed, diagnostics, and other functions that control overall performance. Control panel settings are stored in an external editable TURBO.INI file.
- Control Block screens exist for most IQ components. These are spreadsheet style screens that use basic DOS keystrokes or mouse operations to manipulate and monitor functions of individual components. Screens are grouped according to component type. Additional screens can be accessed from the main control block screen for monitoring or setup of advanced features depending on the type of component.
- The graphics package consists of screens called "plates." When you switch to graphics you can setup plates with completely custom appearance and functions. A toolbox is provided that allows you to select the objects you want to put on the screen. Resolution is variable depending on the computer's video capability. PCX images can also be embedded. You can bring as much or as little control or monitoring to a plate as desired.

File Management

Complete system configurations are stored as dataframes. A dataframe, as saved to the hard drive, consists of all the settings of all the components as well as software graphic plates and certain other miscellaneous parameters that exist only in software. These dataframe files may be recalled at any time to reconfigure the system and bring up saved custom graphics.

IQ² Support

The Turbo 1.4 package includes full support for the modular IQ² protocol based components. Legacy (original) protocol components are hard-coded into the software. IQ² components, how-

ever, are available to the program via a library type system of external support files. For Turbo 1.4 to successfully communicate with an IQ2 component, the program must find an object information file (*.OIF) in the program directory for that component. When the program matches the component to its corresponding OIF the software immediately knows everything it needs to know to make all the features of that product available to the user. Additional optional graphic display module (*.GDM) files may also be included for further support in graphics.

PC REQUIREMENTS

Processor — 486SX/33 minimum, Pentium 75 MHz recommended.

RAM — 8MB minimum, 16MB recommended.

Harddrive — Required.

Operating System — MS-DOS 5.0 minimum, DOS 6.22 recommended. Performance on computers with Windows 95 is not guaranteed, however the program usually operates properly when the PC is booted directly to DOS.

Serial Port — An RS232 serial port must be available for connection to an IQ interface. Software supports Com 1 through Com 4 at any IRQ.

UART — 16550 chipset required.

Mouse — A DOS mouse driver must be loaded and a mouse attached to use the graphics capabilities of the package. Third (center) mouse functions are supported and provide various short-cuts.

Guaranteed Excellence



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