# Chapter 1 Entering and Exiting NCSA PC Show

Chapter Overview

Starting PC Show

Examples of Starting PC Show

Exiting PC Show

## Chapter Overview

This chapter provides a brief discussion of the commands used to begin NCSA PC Show, command line parameters which enable special display options, and methods of exiting the program.

## Starting PC Show

To simply display an HDF file on an EGA monitor, enter a command of the form:

```
C:\ > pcshow filename
```

Then press **ENTER** and the image(s) in the HDF file will appear on the monitor.

To display a binary raster image, you must specify additional command line parameters. Table 1.1 lists the additional parameters and their functions. The command to display a binary raster image on the EGA monitor takes the following form:

```
C:\ > pcshow -b xdim ydim -m palettefile filename
```

where **xdim** and **ydim** are the dimensions of the image in pixels, **palettename** is the name of the palette you wish to have the image shown with, and **filename** is the name of the file containing the list of image files to be displayed. It is important to include the parameters when using binary files; otherwise, the screen will remain black and no image may be viewed.

These commands are sufficient to run PC Show using an EGA monitor. Special display options become available when additional command line parameters are specified. Chapters 2 and 3 discuss these options. Table 1.1 below lists the optional parameters.

**Table 1.1** Command Line Parameters

| Parameter | Type | Function |
|---|---|---|
| -v | Hardware | Specifies VGA video controller card. |
| -e | Hardware | Specifies EGA video controller card (Default Value). |
| -9 | Hardware | Specifies NO9 video controller card. |

**Table 1.1** Command Line Parameters (continued)

| Parameter | Type | Function |
|---|---|---|
| -b *xdim ydim* files must have x and y dimensions | File Format | Specifies a list of binary file images contained in the parameter. (All the binary identical to those given in this command line.) |
| -m *palettefile* used with binary files. | File Format | Specifies the name of the palette file to be |
| -h format files. | File Format | Indicates that the images are stored in HDF |
| -c | Screen Location | Centers the image on the screen. |
| -p *xloc yloc* the upper-left hand corner of the image. | Screen Location | Labels an x, y coordinate on the screen for |
| -a the binary files in the list are to be shown as another | Miscellaneous | Specifies that the HDF file of the images or an animation, one image after until all the images have been displayed. |
| -s binary files is actually the filename of the file | Miscellaneous | Specifies that the filename parameter for image, rather than the name for a containing a list of the image filenames. |

### Examples of Starting PC Show

Suppose you have a list of binary images of the dimensions 256 by 320 in a file named image.lst. In order to display the images using the palette test.pal and centering them on a VGA monitor screen, you would enter the command:

```
C:\ > pcshow –b 256 320 –v –c –m test.pal image.lst
```

In order to display only a single binary file, you need to use the **–s** parameter. For example, if you wish to display on a NO9 monitor a single binary file named image.pic of the dimensions 320 by 512 with the palette test.pal, you would enter:

```
C:\ > pcshow –s –9 –m test.pal –b 320 512 image.pic
```

If an animation is to be depicted, then the filename parameter must be a file containing the image names or an HDF file. Also, all the images to be animated must be of the same dimensions; otherwise, they will be distorted upon display. To display an animation of a binary sequence of images contained in the file named image.lst, you would enter:

```
C:\ > pcshow -a -v -m pic.pal -b 320 320 image.lst
```

## Exiting PC Show

To exit the program, type **q** while the image is displayed on the screen. The program displays the next image in the HDF file or the next image on the list of binary images. If the current image is the last or only image, the program returns to DOS.

If you type **q** after viewing the final image and are not returned to DOS, press **CONTROL-C** to exit the program. If CONTROL-C does not exit the program, re-boot the computer. Please use the Bugs and Suggestions report form at the back of this manual to report any problems to NCSA, in order that they may be remedied in future releases of NCSA PC Show.