PC2Flop and Flop2PC (for Micropolis in Altair 8800)

PC2Flop writes a Micropolis 35 or 77 track floppy disk with a disk image transmitted from a PC. Flop2PC saves an image of a Micropolis 35 or 77 track disk to a PC. The disk image is transferred through either serial port on an 88-2SIO board using the XMODEM protocol. The programs automatically find the location of the Micropolis controller in memory as long as the FDC is in one of its typical locations.

These programs run standalone at 0x100 or under CP/M. Any type of disk (e.g., MDOS, CP/M) can be read or written even if running under CP/M. Altair compatible Micropolis disk images are available in the Altair software download area at deramp.com

Standalone operation may be required to create a bootable disk when no other bootable disk is available. There are a couple of ways to load PC2FLOP into a cold machine:

1) Use the front panel or Turnkey monitor to enter the octal bytes of the program listed in LOADER.PRN. Execute the loader by running from zero (no feedback is given), then send the file PC2FLOP.COM through the first 2SIO port. After transmission is complete, reset the computer and run PC2Flop at address 100h.

2) If you have an Intel hex file loader in PROM, load the file PC2FLOP.HEX and then run from 100h.

When copying a disk image to the PC (Flop2PC), the program attempts several retries including stepping off the track an back from both directions. If the read still fails, the error is noted and the copy process continues so that the remainder of the disk can still be recovered.