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ROM-DOS™ F.A.Q. Series

Question: Assuming they don't want FAT32, Long Filename support, or Sockets, why should my customer upgrade to the newest ROM-DOS?

Answer:

Since our first FAT32 and LFN release 4.00.1091, there have been several improvements to the core ROM-DOS kernel. This core code is used primarily for our DOS 6.22 compatible compilations, and then extended in the case of a FAT32 or Long Filename build. The 4.00.1091 release is also a new code base and there will be no further upgrades to the previous DOS 6.22 code. In order to obtain new features, fixes, and support a customer must upgrade to release 4.00.1091 or greater.

Along with the performance enhancements for both size and speed, several corrections have been made to the ROM-DOS kernel. These include stack and memory issues, disk access issues, and compatibility with the former market leader in DOS.

Most of the ROM-DOS utilities have also been improved for size and speed, along with bug fixes. The major changes happened with the XCOPY, HIMEM, MSCDEX, CHKDSK, FDISK and FORMAT utilities.

In the realm of international support, the Euro was added to the keyboard and display driver code. ROM-DOS and PC-DOS 2000 are the only non-GUI operating systems to support the Euro.

Finally, new ROM-DOS utilities have been added. These utilities are aware of the kernel revision, but not restricted by it, and thus can be used in any build of ROM-DOS. These utilities are shown in the following table.

SMARTDRV	A disk caching solution with better performance than the previously included FlashCache.
DISKCOPY DISKCOMP	Two utilities added primarily for compatibility, these are for working with diskettes.
SERLINK SERSERV	An improved interface for drive management, using only a null-modem cable. A set of chosen "drives" on the server are completely mapped on the client system, and can include diskettes, CDs, and more.