

The AbleDiskTool Utility



5.2.1

Release 5.2.1 of SynclavierX includes a new command-line utility called AbleDiskTool. The AbleDiskTool utility is designed to quickly convert Synclavier® files to formats that are native to the Macintosh (AIFF sound files, for example).

The InterChangeX application (included with SynclavierX) provides a high-level mechanism for transferring Synclavier® files from aging legacy hard drives into Macintosh-resident disk image files. AbleDiskTool augments the capabilities of InterChangeX by allowing you to convert Synclavier® files into Macintosh-resident files that can be processed by other Macintosh applications.

The most straightforward use of AbleDiskTool is to convert the entire contents of a Synclavier® disk image file (or legacy hard drive) into a hierarchy of files and folders stored on your Macintosh. During this conversion, Synclavier® text files will be converted to a standard format that can be edited on your Macintosh. Additionally, Synclavier® sound files will be converted to the industry-standard AIFF sound file format. The AIFF sound file format preserves all the audio information from the original Synclavier® sound file and makes the audio available to virtually all Macintosh audio applications such as QuickTime, Final Cut Pro, and all modern Macintosh sequence engines.

Other types of Synclavier® files (such as timbre libraries and sequences) are imported into your Macintosh in their native Synclavier® format. Since, as of this writing, there is no Macintosh software available to process these files (except for SynclavierX), the usefulness of this capability is limited for those file types.

Obtaining AbleDiskTool

AbleDiskTool is available for download from [synclavier.com](http://www.synclavier.com). It is included in the downloadable version of InterChangeX at <http://www.synclavier.com/InterChangeX.html>.

License Code

AbleDiskTool requires that an active license code for InterChangeX be installed on your computer before you use AbleDiskTool. There is no trial version of AbleDiskTool available. Users should test their setup with InterChangeX to make sure their legacy disk drives and/or disk image files can be processed by InterChangeX before purchasing a license code.

Installation

The AbleDiskTool OS-X installer places AbleDiskTool in the /usr/sbin directory automatically. You will need an administrator password to complete the installation of AbleDiskTool.

What is a command line utility?

On Mac OS X, command line utilities are hosted by the Terminal application (/Applications/Utilities/Terminal.app).

Wikipedia has a primer on Macintosh command-line utilities at:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terminal_\(application\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terminal_(application))

Apple's own command line primer is at:

http://developer.apple.com/documentation/MacOSX/Conceptual/OSX_Technology_Overview/CommandLine/chapter_8_section_1.html

Sample AbleDiskTool Commands

```
AbleDiskTool import file "/ImageFile" "/ToMacFolderName"  
AbleDiskTool import scsi 6 "/ToMacFolderName"  
AbleDiskTool import W0 "/ToMacFolderName"  
AbleDiskTool import W1 "~/Desktop/MacFolderName"
```

AbleDiskTool Invokes AbleDiskTool. Terminal is case-sensitive so A, D and T must be capitalized. A simple AbleDiskTool command with no arguments will print out the on-line documentation for AbleDiskTool.

The general command line format is:

```
AbleDiskTool <command> <options>
```

The only <command> that is documented as of this writing is import.

The import keyword must be followed by file, scsi, W0, or W1.

file is used to specify the complete file name and path of a Synclavier® disk image file. The filename should be enclosed in quotes and begin with a /. An absolute complete file path is recommended. Optionally, a ~ can be used to specify a file path relative to the users home folder.

scsi 6 is used to specify a legacy hard drive connected to your computer using the Ratoc FR1SX FireWire-SCSI converter.

W0 or W1 is used to specify the current W0: or W1: configuration as set up in InterChangeX.

The last argument to AbleDiskTool is the path and name of a Macintosh folder that will be created by AbleDiskTool. The path and folder name should be enclosed in quotes to avoid problems with special characters and spaces. The path should generally be an absolute path that begins with a /. The folder must not exist; it will be created by AbleDiskTool.

Support

Fee-based support for AbleDiskTool is available by purchasing an Email Technical Support Incident for InterChangeX/AbleDiskTool from the synclavier.com on-line store at:

<http://www.synclavier.com/store>

Requests for additional specific documentation will normally be responded to by email within 24 hours.

AbleDiskTool: Version 1.6 dated 2/1/07
Usage: AbleDiskTool <command> <options>

commands:

import <drive> "/ToMacFolderName" import entire drive or image file to Macintosh folder converting sound files to AIFF

drives:

file "FileName" specify a Macintosh-resident Synclavier Disk Image File - use quotes if needed
scsi 6 specify legacy SCSI drive connected via Ratoc FR1SX FireWire-SCSI Converter
W0 specify source is current InterChange? setting for W0:
W1 specify source is current InterChange? setting for W1:

Examples:

AbleDiskTool import file "/ImageFile" "/ToMacFolderName"
AbleDiskTool import scsi 6 "/ToMacFolderName"
AbleDiskTool import W0 "/ToMacFolderName"
AbleDiskTool import W0 "~/Desktop/MacFolderName"

Other options not formally supported:

-s scsi_id specify SCSI id to use
-pci use Synclavier D24 bus
-inq perform Inquiry before operation
-t perform Test Unit Ready before operation
-d dump out catalog sectors in hex
-e mac_entity syncL_name export Macintosh entity to Synclavier Drive or Disk Image File
-i syncL_entity mac_name import Synclavier file or subcatalog to the Macintosh
-p emit folder-level progress info
-fp emit progress info for every file
-n1 truncate long Macintosh file names on export; default is to stop
-n2 fix illegal Macintosh file name characters on export; default is to stop
-w1 warn instead of overwriting file or folder on export; default is to replace files
-w2 stop on any error during folder export; default is to continue with next file
-m1 merge files into existing subcats; stop if file exists
-m2 merge files into existing subcats; replace files as needed
-m3 merge Macintosh folder contents into destination subcatalog
-v verify export sizes & filenames; do not actually write to disk
-ignore ignore __SIZE__ file information on export
-nosize do not create __SIZE__ files when importing
-image import entity as a disk image file
-subimages import nested subcatalogs as disk images
-squeeze squeeze disk images to minimum size on import
-create name size_bytes create a new Disk Image File
-zero zero out new disk Image file
-x percentage make each newly created subcatalog x bigger than minimum needed
-c dump raw catalog contents of Synclavier SCSI drive
-r recurse down Synclavier catalog structure
-text import only text files
-skip. skip import of files that start with '.'
-system only import or export Synclavier system files
-delete delete the Macintosh file after exporting it
-o path:name only access this particular Synclavier file/catalog
-q ZQX3 quick erase hard drive (e.g. initialize) before export
-j eject media after operation
-allow allow erase of Macintosh hard drives
-recognize recognize Synclavier disks in all cases
-aiff import soundfiles as AIFF files
-sd2f import soundfiles as Sd2f files
-wave import soundfiles as WAVE files
-rates48 limit sample rates of AIFF, Sd2f and Wave files to 48.0 Khz

For -e (export):

mac_entity is the name of a file or a folder on the mac
syncL_name if syncL_name ends in : then syncL_name is name of subcatalog to create; mac_entity will be stored therein; else syncL_name will be name of mac_entity when transferred

For -i (import):

syncL_entity is the name of a file or a subcatalog on the Synclavier disk
mac_name if mac_name ends in : mac_name is name of folder to create or use; syncL_entity will be stored therein; else mac_name will be name of syncL_entity on the mac