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SCREEN SAVERS FOR MS DOS

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The MS DOS operating system does not provide a screen saving mechanism. Yet the problem is solved at BIOS level for the new models of "Green PCs". Their BIOS is capable to clear the screen and to command the monitor passing in a wait state, with little power consumption.

This article presents a method for developing TSR programs to solve the screen saving problem. A screen saver automatically displays a dynamic image that uniformly covers the whole surface of the screen, in the inactivity periods, and then the system "wakes up" at request. This mechanism must not disturb the other programs in the system. Thus the screen saver must not reprogram the interrupts, and it's length must be as little as possible.