

**NAME**

`fax2ps` - convert a TIFF facsimile to compressed PostScript

**SYNOPSIS**

`fax2ps` [ *options* ] [ *file ...* ]

**DESCRIPTION**

`fax2ps` reads one or more TIFF facsimile image files and prints a compressed form of PostScript on the standard output that is suitable for printing.

By default, each page is scaled to reflect the image dimensions and resolutions stored in the file. The **-x** and **-y** options can be used to specify the horizontal and vertical image resolutions (lines/inch), respectively. If the **-S** option is specified, each page is scaled to fill an output page. The default output page is 8.5 by 11 inches. Alternate page dimensions can be specified in inches with the **-W** and **-H** options.

By default `fax2ps` generates PostScript for all pages in the file. The **-p** option can be used to select one or more pages from a multi-page document.

`fax2ps` generates a compressed form of PostScript that is optimized for sending pages of text to a PostScript printer attached to a host through a low-speed link (such as a serial line). Each output page is filled with white and then only the black areas are drawn. The PostScript specification of the black drawing operations is optimized by using a special font that encodes the move-draw operations required to fill the black regions on the page. This compression scheme typically results in a substantially reduced PostScript description, relative to the straightforward imaging of the page with a PostScript *image* operator. This algorithm can, however, be ineffective for continuous-tone and white-on-black images. For these images, it sometimes is more efficient to send the raster bitmap image directly; see `tiff2ps(1)`.

**OPTIONS**

**-p** *number* Print only the indicated page. Multiple pages may be printed by specifying this option more than once.

**-x** *resolution*

Use *resolution* as the horizontal resolution, in dots/inch, of the image data. By default this value is taken from the file.

**-y** *resolution*

Use *resolution* as the vertical resolution, in lines/inch, of the image data. By default this value is taken from the file.

- S** Scale each page of image data to fill the output page dimensions. By default images are presented according to the dimension information recorded in the TIFF file.
- W *width*** Use *width* as the width, in inches, of the output page.
- H *height*** Use *height* as the height, in inches, of the output page.

## DIAGNOSTICS

Some messages about malformed TIFF images come from the TIFF library.

Various messages about badly formatted facsimile images may be generated due to transmission errors in received facsimile. *fax2ps* attempts to recover from such data errors by resynchronizing decoding at the end of the current scanline. This can result in long horizontal black lines in the resultant PostScript image.

## NOTES

If the destination printer supports PostScript Level II then it is always faster to just send the encoded bitmap generated by the **tiff2ps(1)** program.

## BUGS

*fax2ps* should probably figure out when it is doing a poor job of compressing the output and just generate PostScript to image the bitmap raster instead.

## SEE ALSO

**tiff2ps(1)**, **libtiff(3)**

Libtiff library home page: <http://www.simplesystems.org/libtiff/>