FotoCopy (2.5)
Utility to copy pictures from the digital camera on the PC.

Heiko Plate
www.heikoplate.de/mambo
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1. Introduction

Everyone who already has copied fotos from the digital camera knows that the filenames are a bit curious: We find names like "PICT0009.JPG" or "DCP0237.JPG". The camera has created such names which do not have any reference to the motive. Indeed, why should the camera know the situation of our shot?

I myself sort all digital pictures of my camera by month and year on the hard disk of my PC. I rename the original names by a motive name, the date and a number. To avoid a cumbersome renaming with the Windows Explorer I have programmed this tool FotoCopy. I often send my pictures to a firm for prints. I get the prints back with the filename on the backside and I need not to write anything by myself.

FotoCopy creates names as "140622_Hamburg-Alster_001.jpg" or "130406_AtHome_020.jpg". The name is divided into three parts. First the date in the form <year><month><day>. Then behind an underline "-" the motive name. Behind the last underline "_" we find the numbering of all pictures with the same motive and date. The numbers are ordered by time of day.

If wanted the date string can be expanded by hour, minute and second. For example "100728-113905_Sexten_134.jpg".

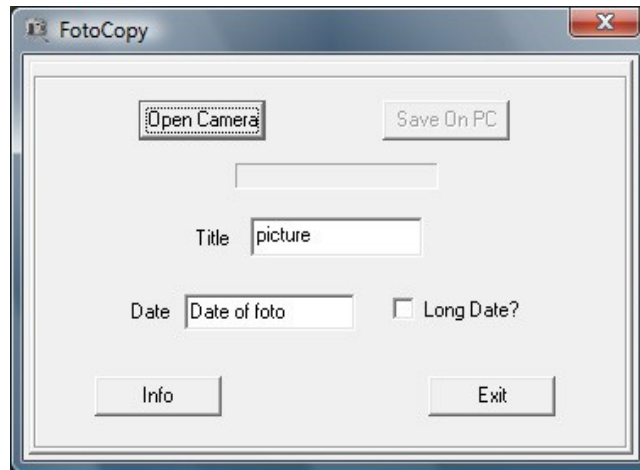## 2. Instructions for use

2.1 Download and Installation

Downloading FotoCopy we get the file FotoCopy_Setup.zip and separately the german and english (this file) manuals.

After unzipping we start the setup file FotoCopy_Setup.exe. We should answer the question "Do you want to get an icon on the desktop?" by OK because then it will be very easy to copy the picture with a desktop icon.

2.2 Connection of the camera with the PC

Look at the manual of your camera. We have to put the USB cable into the camera and into an USB port at the PC. The camera must be switched on. Sometimes a window is opened automatically and we can see the folders of the camera. We often find the pictures in a subfolder with the name DCIM. Alternatively we can use the Windows Explorer. The camera is displayed as new device; the pictures can be found as before.

2.3 The FotoCopy window

With the button "Open Camera" we have to posit the selection at the picture folder of the camera and we get a list of all files. Using mouseclick, strg+mouseclick or shift+mouseclick we select the pictures to be copied. The selection is accepted by "Open". The default text of input box "Title" is "picture". We have to change it by a motive name; for example"Grandpa60th" or "MalagaBeach". The input box "Date" will be changed only, if we want to fill it with a special date. With the default "Date of foto" the program takes the date of creation from the camera. With a hook at "Long Date?" the time string additionally includes the time of day.

"Save On PC" copies the pictures from the camera into a PC folder selected by the user. FotoCopy does not delete the pictures of the camera. This method allows to copy up to 999 selected pictures.

2.4 A simple method

Do not start FotoCopy before. Select in the Window Explorer all camera pictures for copy and shift the files with pressed left mouse button onto the FotoCopy icon of the desktop. Release the button at the moment when the icon is darkened. Fotocopy starts automatically with all pictures loaded. With respect to Windows the number of pictures is limited by about thirty.

2.5 Some hints to work with FotoCopy

At evening of each day when I have taken fotos I save the pictures on the PC and clear the foto folder of the camera afterwards. This method can practised only, if I have my PC or Laptop with me. In holiday we often can not apply my method.

For the pictures of the day I use a suited motive name, for example "christmas day" or "LochNess". On my PC I have created a folder "Camera Pictures" with the subfolders "2005", "2006",...for all pictures of a year. Each year folder includes the month subfolder "Jan", "Feb", "Mar"... and some other folders like "TriathlonLondon" or "HolidayGermany" if needed.

3. Final remarks

The programm FotoCopy is freeware. It is allowed to copy the software and to upload it on other homepages. But it is not allowed to sell the software by cash.

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