

Take control of your clip art

*Need to quickly locate a clipart image or photo from your collection?
Tired of spending hours poring over printed clip art books?*

“Digital asset management” or “clipart browser” software enables you to catalog your clip art or photo inventory. The programs create thumbnail images of each item in your collection, and let you assign keywords to the images. You can then visually browse the on-screen thumbnails, or better yet, use keywords to search for particular images.

Here is a quick summary of a few popular solutions:

- Some commercial clip art collections come bundled with their own proprietary browsing and searching software. One example of this is the *Task Force Gallery* (nvtech.com) which includes the *ImageCommander* browser software.
- *RomCat* (altman.com) is a slick free-ware clip art cataloging system specifically designed for cataloging the massive amount of clipart that ships with all versions of CorelDRAW. RomCat automatically extracts the keywords that are embedded in Corel clipart.

- *Portfolio* (extensis.com) is a commercial application that runs on Windows or Macintosh computers, and will catalog almost any type of clip art or photo image.
- If you have CorelDRAW 9, look in the box: Portfolio’s main competition, the *Cumulus Media Management System* (canto.com) comes bundled with CorelDRAW 9.

*Keith Gilbert provides training & support services to help graphics and communications personnel convey print and web messages effectively. Gilbert Consulting, 651 633-7148
kgilbert@gilbertconsulting.com*