

Markzware MarkzTools 7

Written by Michael Shaw

In recent issues I have looked at other programs from Markzware. We've written about InDesign to Quark, (ID2Q), Quark to Indesign, (Q2ID) and FlightCheck Studio. Now we are going to look at a few more offerings from this unique company.

Markzware got its start churning out free Quark XTensions from a Mac Plus. Markzware provides affordable solutions in the desktop publishing industry, offering users elegant solutions that obviate the need to spend big bucks on expensive, proprietary workflow systems.

MarkzTools 7 is an XTension that can be used to prevent corrupted QuarkXPress documents, overcoming the dreaded bad file format [70], [39], and [108]. MarkzTools is a "miracle" utility that serves as document insurance as well as salvaging corrupted QuarkXPress project files. MarkzTools is an active Quark XTension that *verifies* the integrity of QuarkXPress documents before the original mas-



ter file is over-written. This invaluable XTension prevents unwanted disasters from occurring, for instance preventing a bad file that cannot be opened for editing from displacing a better file. When you use the **Save** or **Save As...** command while working on a QuarkXPress file after installing Markztools 7 you get a progress bar that indicates the verification process in progress and a little comforting arpeggio at the end to let you know that the process has completed. Thus, you can verify your saved Quark documents so you will immediately know when the integrity of your file is suspect.

Markztools 7 controls and preferences are directly accessible from the Utilities menu in QuarkXPress. Another useful functionality MarkzTools provides is allowing users to save QuarkXPress 7 Projects directly to a Quark 4.1 document format. What's more, it can convert all of the image previews in the document to gray previews, drastically reducing the file size on your hard drive of projects with colour images.

For over 14-years, this XTension has been extremely popular for thousands of QuarkXPress users. Furthermore, using a special temp file MarkzTools can try to help you recover documents that have become corrupted during a save operation while using Quark. (*Note, this special temp file is only available to MarkzTools behind the scenes and is not selectable by the user.) In the case of a badly corrupted file in which the page layout data cannot be salvaged, the scavenge text feature may

extract text stories from a document file. Select the "Salvage Document" menu item to instruct MarkzTools to attempt to recover a corrupted document. Use this method if "Convert Document" does not work as the Salvage functions will bypass specific elements in the document which individually could be corrupted. For example, sometimes a document might only have scrambled Runaround data in which case the Salvage routine will set the Runarounds to None, bypassing the corruption and allowing the remainder of the document to be safely recovered.

MarkzTools alerts you whenever you are about to save a lower version document to a higher version. It also makes QuarkXPress backwards compatible, allowing you to open higher version Quark documents. MarkzTools 7 allows to open QuarkXPress 4.x to 7.x files and the languages supported are English, French and German.

Markztools 7 Features

- Prevents corrupted QuarkXPress documents
- Retrieves text from corrupted documents
- Saves your Quark files to lower version
- Allows view images in gray previews to reduce file size.

