

Configuration programs for VBXE v1.1, v1.2 and v2.0

FC.COM v1.16

VBXE Flash memory manager.

The flash memory of the VBXE is divided into banks. For versions 1.1 and 1.2, there are a maximum of 4 banks. For version 2.0, there is a maximum of 12 banks. These banks are for the storage of FPGA configuration data. Configurations (also called 'cores') are delivered as files with an extension of '.XBF'. These files contain configuration data, and the version name of the core (i.e. "fx v1.20a"). XBF files for VBXE v1.x cannot be used with VBXE v2.0 and vice-versa – the loader program, FC.COM, can detect the version of the hardware and will prevent the loading of an improper file.

In short, FC.COM allows:

- loading the .XBF core data from the disk drive to the FLASH memory of the VBXE
- erasing the FLASH memory bank content
- saving the content of the FLASH memory bank as a .XBF file
- setting which one of the core files is going to be "bootable" - meaning that it will be loaded by default into FPGA after the computer is turned on
- upgrading the VBXE controller (core manager and loader) (only VBXE v2.0)

DCFG.COM v2.11

Loads .XBF file from disk directly into FPGA chip, bypassing the VBXE controller.

When invoked from the dos prompt, the program searches for file named "AUTO1.XBF" (for VBXE v1.x) or "AUTO2.XBF" (for VBXE v2.0) on the current disk drive (the one it was run from). If the file is found, FPGA chip is configured according to the content of that file and then it terminates.

If there is no such file on the disk, the disk directory is displayed and user can select the core manually. Just like FC.COM, the user cannot load an XBF file dedicated for VBXE v1.x into VBXE v2.0 hardware and vice-versa - if the file is improper for the current hardware the program will display an appropriate message and terminate.

This utility will not change the content of the VBXE FLASH memory, and can be thought of as a core developer's tool.

Both FC.COM and DCFG.COM will auto-detect the installation address of the VBXE (D6xx or the D7xx).