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Several organizations in the ARPA Internet community have RAPICOM 450 facsimile machines interfaced to computers. This allows these organizations to enter a facsimile representation of a page into a computer file, and to produce a page from stored facsimile data. These organizations can exchange stored facsimile data via file transfer and other protocols. The purpose of this note is to document the format used for these files so that other organizations with compatible facsimile devices can join in this information exchange procedure.

The RapiCom 450 has a built in encoding/decoding scheme. It produces data blocks of 585 bits. There are "set up" blocks and "data" blocks. The machine sends/receives several copies of the set up block, but since they are identical only one set up block is stored in the file.

Each 585 bit block is placed in a record of 8-bit bytes. The record format is a length byte, a command byte and the data bytes. Each record is an integral number of bytes. The length value includes the length byte and the command byte. The command describes the data in the data field.



The command code 56 (70 octal) indicates the following data field is a set up block.

