



Graphics Scout Manager

User's Guide

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About Graphics Scout Manager

The Graphics Scout Manager program is the back-end application engine powering AMD's official <http://graphics-scout.com> website. The purpose of the back-end application is to enable retailers, distributors, and add-in board partners to create their own customised version of this website, and to make it available anywhere for both online and offline use.

The Graphics Scout Manager program is currently delivered with reference information covering 13 AMD graphics cards. With the exception of the product names and e-tailer Web links, these included reference cards can be edited, customised, or disabled as needed. Customized graphics cards are created as "sub-cards," a subset of their corresponding reference card that can be edited and customised as needed.

The offline version of the site using this back-end application will have an additional feature designed to help the user search for a suitable graphics card, selected from a presentation of card variants. For example, if three sub-cards derived from the same reference card all differ in the "max. memory" category (e.g., 512MB, 1024MB, 2048MB), they can later be filtered according to these properties on the Graphics Scout Manager Home page, using the Card Variants button. Therefore, it is important that all component specification differences should be set within the sub-cards if possible.

The Graphics Scout Manager program enables you to add Web links to e-tailers or product award websites. However, these links are enabled and active only after the completely configured page runs on a Web server. Otherwise, clicking a linked logo displays a security error in the browser instead of redirecting the user to the proper Web location.

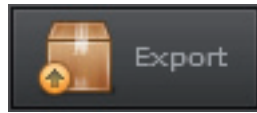
The Graphics Scout Manager program includes an automatic update function, enabling the easy addition of reference cards and functions without losing the existing configuration or being forced to re-install the program. This enables the addition of new sub-cards for the latest series of graphics cards at any time.

Menu Functions



Save:

Clicking the Save button saves the current data in the program cache. This is useful for pausing and resuming work within the application without closing the program. While working in Graphics Scout Manager, your changes are automatically saved at regular intervals. Deliberately clicking the Save button during your work will save all changes, but the program also does this automatically for you.



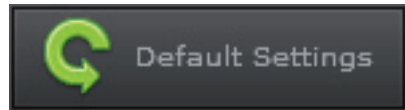
Export:

The Export function enables you to save the completely configured website archived in ZIP format. This ZIP archive can be stored anywhere on your hard drive or backed up on a portable device. Saving your entire configured website to a ZIP archive may take some time, depending on the number of created sub-cards. The ZIP archive contains an "index.html" file that can be opened within any Web browser, enabling your customised page to be used in almost any website.



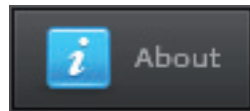
Preview:

The Preview function enables you to view your current work progress in the browser.



Default Settings:

This function resets all settings to the factory defaults. Resetting all settings to the factory defaults means that all previous changes made are lost.



About:

Shows program identification and version information about the Graphics Scout Manager program.

Preferences

enable e-tailer links

Enable E-Tailer Links:

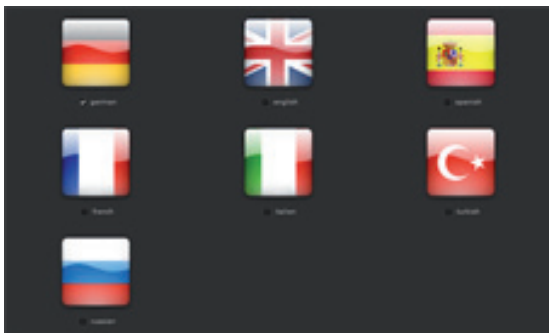
Selecting this check-box adds the “e-tailer links” category for the sub-cards to the main Graphics Cards category. Using the e-tailer links, you can define Web links to your e-tailers who offer the newly-created sub-card graphics products. Please see the Graphics Cards -> e-tailer links chapter for the various setting options in this category. If the enable e-tailer links check-box is unchecked, the category will not be displayed within the Graphics Scout program, and will also be hidden on the configured Home page.

enable advanced filtering

Enable advanced filtering:

Assumes you have created a number of sub-cards, but want the option to disable the display of sub-cards so that only the reference cards are displayed on the published site. To prevent display of sub-cards and their variant features, uncheck this box. Unchecking this box does not affect the configuration of your sub-cards, and can re-enabled later without affect your customised configurations or losing any data.

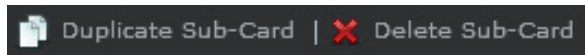
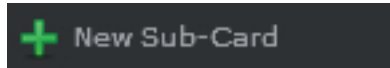
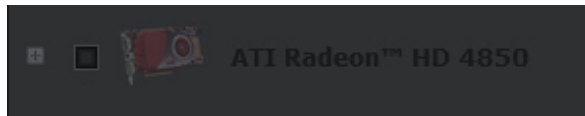
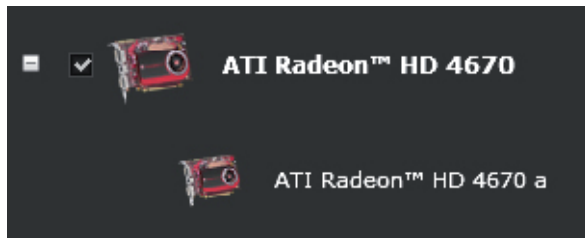
To display all sub-cards on the site and to enable advanced filtering, check this box.



Language selection:

Use this option to select all the languages you want to include in the completed website. All information and text for the reference cards are available in all the defined languages for the geographic region. Initially, new sub-cards inherit the text and technical details from their associated reference cards. When modifying the properties of a sub-card for one language, you should also do the same for all the other selected languages.

Graphic Cards



Understanding reference cards and sub-cards

The 13 reference cards currently available serve as templates for e-tailers to create customised cards. The names of the 13 reference cards cannot be changed. The data of the reference cards are the basis for creating the sub-cards from a reference card series. The sub-cards created should be associated with the corresponding reference card series. Any number of sub-cards can be added for each reference card. If necessary, a complete series of sub-cards can be hidden on the site by simply disabling it within the program.

Enabling/disabling cards

To enable or disable a card, select the check-box on the left side of each card. A check-mark means that the card is enabled and will later be displayed on the page. Without a check-mark, the card is greyed out, can no longer be edited, and is not included in the completed page.

Creating, duplicating, and deleting sub-cards

To create a new sub-card, select the corresponding reference card and click on the New Sub-Card button. Initially, the new sub-card shares the same properties as its parent reference card. However, the new sub-card's specifications and description can be modified as needed.

You can also duplicate an existing sub-card to re-use its properties and edit them further to create a new sub-card. To do this, select a sub-card and click the Duplicate Sub-Card button in the menu above the list. Sub-cards can also be deleted by selecting the sub-card and clicking the Delete Sub-Card button in the menu.

Configuring cards

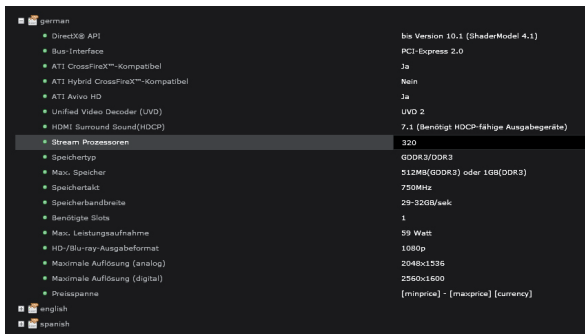
To modify the specific information for a card, select it in the "tree view" on the left side of the application window. Selecting a card on the left changes the content area of the card on the right. The sub-card can be edited in step-by-step order for each language using the menu.

The individual categories are described below:



Modifying names

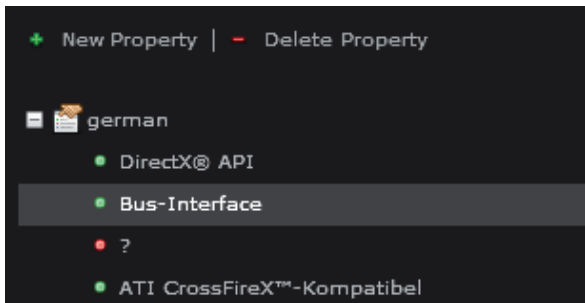
You can change the name of the new sub-card by double-clicking on the name of the selected sub-card. Enter the new sub-card name into the text field, and confirm using the ENTER key or clicking anywhere outside the text field.



Modifying specifications

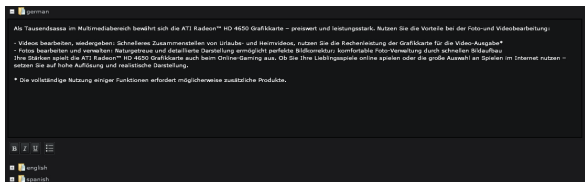
The Specifications area shows a list of properties for each card. To modify the default values, double-click the line/value you want to edit. The text can now be modified in an editable field. Confirm your entry using the ENTER key or clicking anywhere outside the field.

If a property does not have an associated value, the colour of the round bullet symbol at the beginning of the line changes from green to red. This indicates that a value should be associated with this property. Empty properties show no value on the Home page.



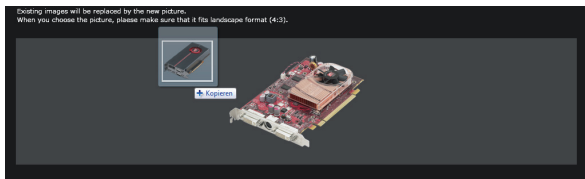
In addition, you can add new properties for sub-cards, such as “Silent Cooling” (describing graphics cards employing large passive coolers instead of conventional cooling fans). To do this, select the desired language and click New Property to add the new property at the first position. Or, select the line under which the new property should be added. Next, define a suitable name and its associated value. This changes the colour of the line’s red bullet back to green.

To delete a property, select the corresponding line and click the Delete Property button.



Modifying descriptive text

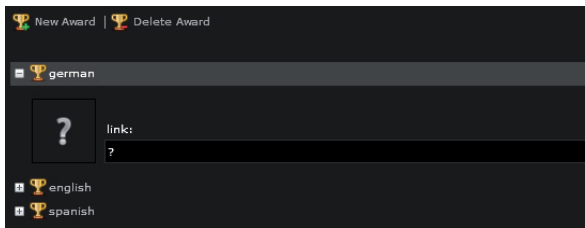
The information for the selected card can be modified using the Description menu item. A text editor supporting the modification of certain text properties is available for each language. For example, you can format sections in bold, italic, with underline, or add new bullets.



Modifying images

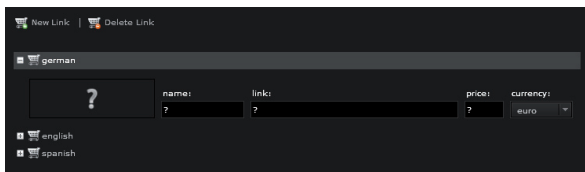
There are two options for modifying the image for the selected card. Double-clicking the image opens a Windows Explorer window, enabling you to navigate to and open the desired image stored on your hard drive. Or, you can “drag and drop” an image file to add an image directly. To do this, open the folder that contains the image you want to add, and drag it to the grey area in the program while holding down the left mouse button. Drop the image by releasing the mouse button.

A small “+” icon with the mouse pointer shows if the mouse is hovering over the correct area.



Modifying awards

If your graphics card has already won a number of awards, you can add them in the Awards category. Select the line with the appropriate language for the award, and then click the New Award button. A new line is added providing the fields for an image and a link. The image can be modified by double-clicking the “question mark”. This opens a Windows Explorer window enabling you to navigate to the location of the desired image. In the Link field, enter the appropriate URL to open when a user later clicks the selected image. The URL itself will not display in plaintext on the page. To delete an award that has been added, select the corresponding line and click the Delete Award button.



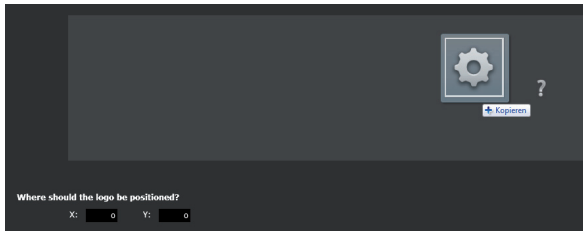
Modifying e-tailer links

The “e-tailer links” category enables you to associate your card with different online retailers and prices. Select the desired language and click the New Link button to add a new retailer. Double-click the “question mark” symbol to select the retailer’s logo. This opens a Windows Explorer window, enabling you to navigate to the location of the desired logo graphics file on your hard drive.

Enter the retailer’s name in the “name” text field. The “link” field enables you to enter an optional URL that will open when the user later clicks the retailer’s logo. The URL itself will not display in plaintext on the page. In the “price” field, enter the retailer’s price for the card, and select the corresponding currency in the “currency” drop-down list.

To delete a retailer link that has been added, select the corresponding line and click the Delete Link button.

Custom Logo



You can include your own logo on the configured Home page.

To do this, open the third, large Custom Logo tab.

Similar to sub-card images, there are two options for positioning your logo. Double-clicking the “question mark” symbol opens a Windows Explorer window where you can navigate to and open the desired image on your hard drive. Or, you can “drag and drop” an image file to add an image directly. To do this, open the folder that contains the logo you want to add and drag it to the grey area in the program while holding down the left mouse button. Drop the image by releasing the mouse button. A small “+” icon with the mouse pointer is displayed if the mouse pointer is hovering over the correct area.

Next, define the position of the logo on the page. To do this, enter the pixel positions in the “X” and “Y” text fields. The positioning should be checked by clicking the Preview button in the main menu.

Entscheiden Sie sich dazu doch kein eigenes Logo auf der Seite platzieren zu wollen, können Sie dieses über den Button “remove Logo” rechts unter der grauen Fläche wieder entfernen. If you decide against positioning your own logo on the page, you can remove it using the “remove Logo” button to the right side below the grey area.