

Re: Stitching scanned sections of large format diagrams

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On Mon, 25 May 2009 21:45:42 -0500, msg <msg@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

I would appreciate some suggestions for stitching together scanned sections of large format diagrams (schematics); photo editors such as Photoshop or the GIMP require a lot of resources, are often sluggish (if you don't have very fast hardware) and require a lot of tedious manipulation to achieve the result. There are photographic panorama stitching tools but these too may have problems with a large number of high-resolution scan sections on slower hardware. Microsoft Photo Editor 3.0 had features that made the task quite simple, but it is difficult to install as a stand-alone app without a version of Office.

What are folks using for a simple solution to this task (other than purchasing an expensive large-format scanner)?

I use several programs. Photostitch 3.1 came with my Canon Camera. Not the best, but good enough for my panorama photos. Example: <<http://802.11junk.com/jeffl/pics/home/slides/LivingRoom01.html>> Find someone with a Canon digital camera and borrow the CD.

More photo stitching software:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_photo_stitching_applications (software)>

Light reading:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image_stitching>

I use some specialized panorama software for taking radio coverage photos from the top of towers and rooftops. My favorite of the week is Panorama Factory:

<<http://www.panoramafactory.com>> (\$80).

Note that to do any panorama properly, you need an indexed sequencer with a built in 2 axis bubble level. Something like:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panoramic_tripod_head>

<<http://www.manfrotto.com/Jahia/cache/offonce/pid/2359>>

<<http://www.outdoorphotographer.com/gear/more-gear/gadget-bag/gear-for-panoramas.html>>