

**NAME**

pnmtorle – convert a Netpbm image file into an RLE image file.

**SYNOPSIS**

**pnmtorle** [ **-h** ] [ **-v** ] [ **-a** ] [ **-o** *outfile* ] [ *pnmfile* ]

**DESCRIPTION**

This program converts Netpbm image files into Utah **RLE(5)** image files. You can include an alpha mask. If the input is a multiple image file, the output consists of several concatenated RLE images.

The RLE file will contain either a three channel color image (24 bits) or a single channel grayscale image (8 bits) depending upon the pnm file depth. If a converted ppm is displayed on an 8 bit display, the image must be dithered. In order to produce a better looking image (on 8 bit displays), it is recommended that the image be quantizing (to 8 bit mapped color) prior to its display. This may be done by piping the output of this program into the Utah **mcut(1)** or **rlequant(1)** utilities. An example of this is shown later.

**OPTIONS**

**-v** This option will cause pnmtorle to operate in verbose mode. The header information is written to "stderr". Actually, there is not much header information stored in a Netpbm file, so this information is minimal.

**-h** This option allows the header of the Netpbm image to be dumped to "stderr" without converting the file. It is equivalent to using the **-v** option except that no file conversion takes place.

**-a** This option causes pnmtorle to include an alpha channel in the output image. The alpha channel is based on the image: Wherever a pixel is black, the corresponding alpha value is transparent. Everywhere else, the alpha value is fully opaque.

**-o** *outfile*

If specified, the output will be written to this file. If *outfile* is "-", or if it is not specified, the output will be written to the standard output stream.

*pnmfile* The name of the Netpbm image data file to be converted. If not specified, standard input is assumed.

**EXAMPLES**

pnmtorle -v file.ppm -o file.rle

While running in verbose mode, convert file.ppm to RLE format and store resulting data in file.rle.

pnmtorle -h file.pgm

Dump the header information of the Netpbm file called file.pgm.

**SEE ALSO**

**rletopnm(1)**, **urt(1)**, **RLE(5)**.

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