User Guide
CASIO - CASIO cable



This cable interconnects two CASIO pocket computers that support the FA-6 interface.

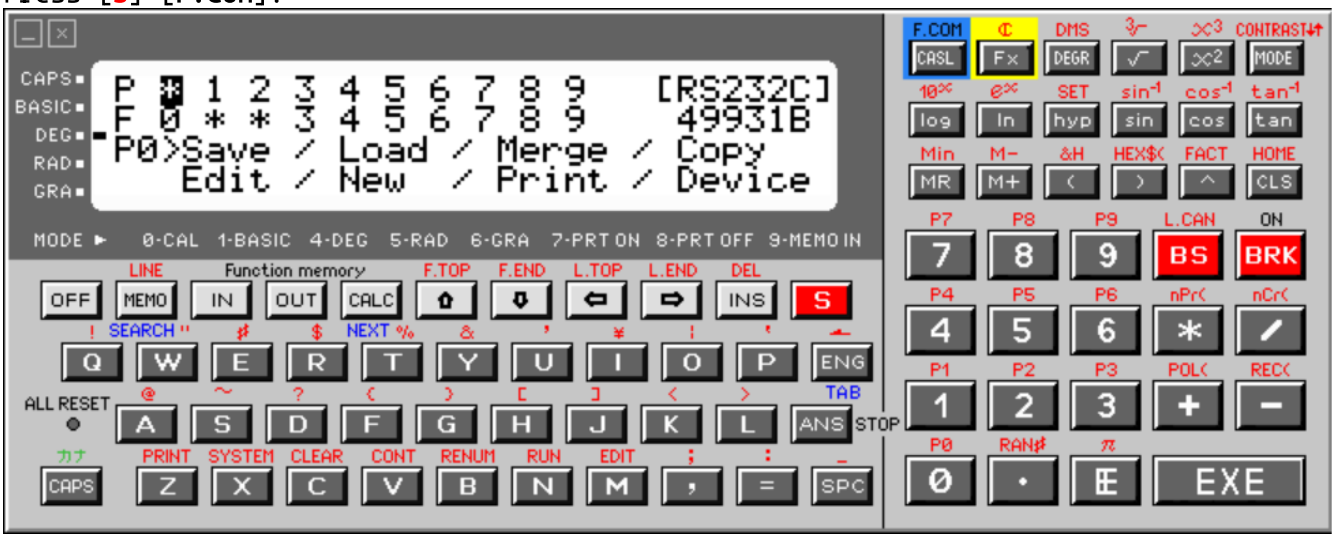
For this guide, let's assume you are using a source VX-4 and have developed BASIC, CASL, and C programs stored in the **P0**, **F1**, and **F2** memory areas, respectively[1]. You also have a target VX-4 and would like to transfer your programs and source files to this target.

```
P0 (Basic Program)
10 PRINT "Hello, World!"

F1 (CASL Source File)
MAIN    START
        OUT     MSG,LEN
        RET
MSG     DC      'Hello, World!'
LEN     DC      13
        END

F2 (C Source File)
void main()
{
    printf("Hello, World!");
}
```

1 Note that BASIC, CASL and C use single and double quotes strictly.

For better readability, the screen captures below were generated using Piotr Piatek's excellent FX-870P emulator[2]. Actual execution was tested and confirmed using two physical CASIO VX-4 pocket computers connected via a standard CASIO-to-CASIO link cable. Further testing covered receiving VX-2, VX-3 and FX-870P models.

On the sending device.
Press [S] [F.COM]:



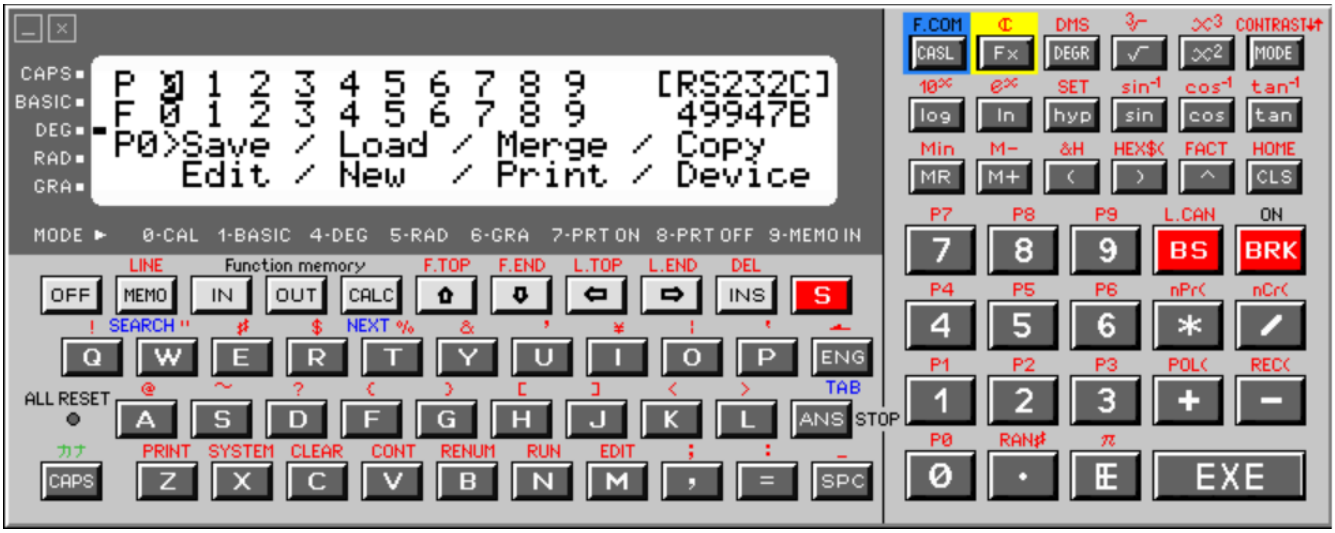
The asterisks indicate that the **P0**, **F1**, and **F2** memory areas are currently in use—this is where your sample programs reside. The highlighted **P0** shows that it is selected as the default program for any subsequent F.COM operation.

Take a moment to familiarize yourself with navigating the screen's **P**rogram and **F**ile areas. Use the arrow keys to move the selection highlight to whichever program or file you want to transfer.

1. Use the arrow keys to select **P0**.
2. On the sending device, verify that the asterisk corresponding to the **P0** area is highlighted as in the screenshot.

2 http://pisi.com.pl/piotr433/fx870_ee.htm

On the receiving device, let's assume that it is a device with no programs in it.
Press [S] [F.COM]



In this example, there are no asterisks, indicating that none of the program memory areas are currently in use.

Navigate to the target **P0** area. Keep in mind that when transferring a BASIC program, your target destination must be located on the **P** row.

Select [L] for Load



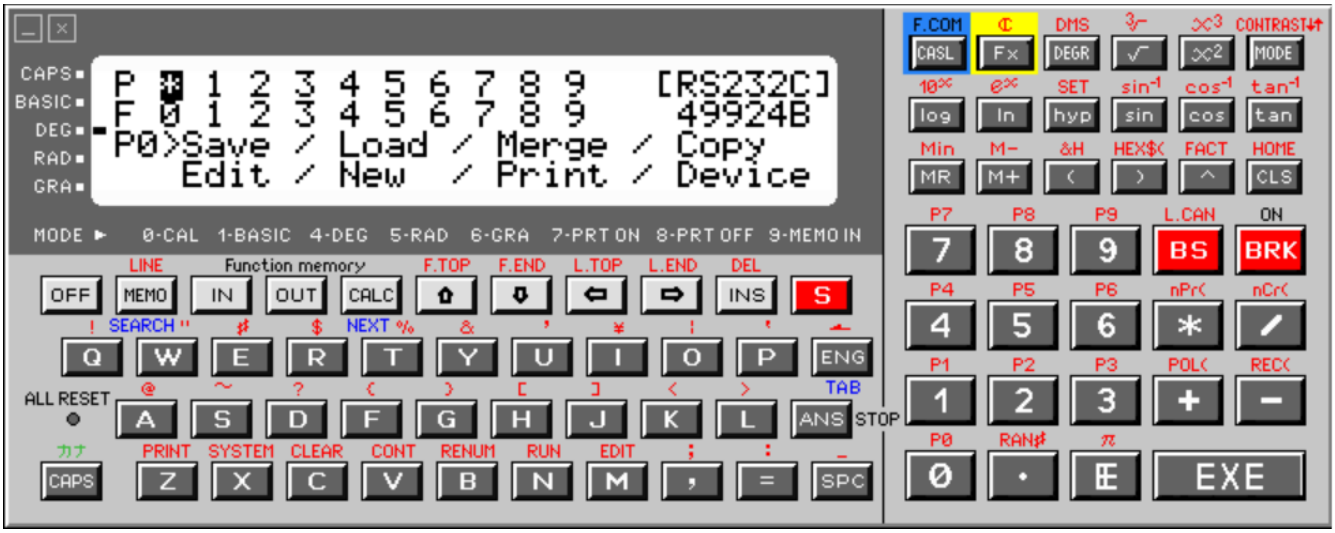
Press [EXE] to confirm

The receiving device is now waiting for the sender.

On the sender device.
Press [S] Save

The screen will automatically return to the main F.COM menu on both devices when the transfer is complete.

Your BASIC program should now appear in **P0**.

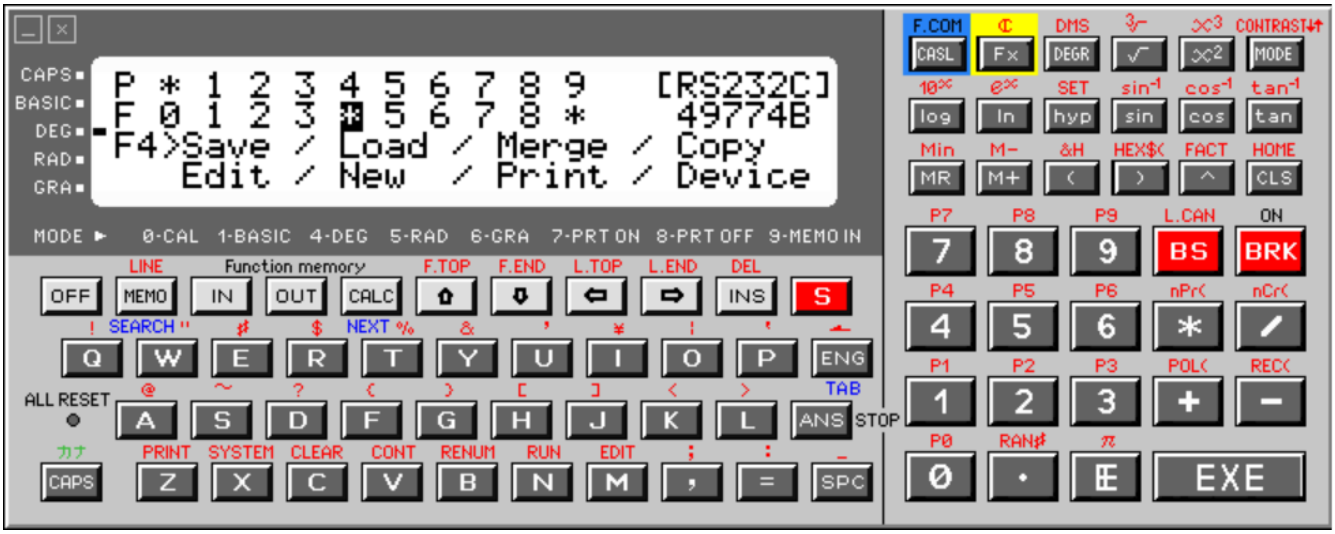


Note the asterisk showing that this partition is now in use.

At this point, try to follow these instructions to perform the following tasks:

- Transfer your source F1 CASL source file to P4
- Transfer your source F2 C source file to P9

After both transfers are complete your target device's F.COM screen should look like this:



In order to transmit the content of the MEMO area of the sender to the MEMO area of the receiver follow this sequence:

Press [**MODE**][**0**] to enter CAL mode.

On the receiver LOAD # "COM0: [**EXE**]
On the sender SAVE # "COM0: [**EXE**]

This format will use the device's default value for the transmission speed.

You can specify the speed by appending one of the following speed parameter values to the SAVE and LOAD commands.

Value	Speed (bps)
1	150
2	300
3	600
4	1200
5	2400
6	4800

VX-2 Notes

The CASIO VX-2 pocket computer also has an F.COM function key. Being an early release the interface is different. Note that his pocket computer model only supports BASIC and CASL.

F.COM will display a simpler menu with just the F (files) F0-F9 program areas.
Pressing any number between [**0**] and [**9**] changes the source/target area.
The function menu is similar. Press [**S**] to Save and [**L**] to Load

The user has to complete the Save or Load command: SAVE “COM0: or LOAD “COM0: and then press [**EXE**]. After the transfer is complete press [**BRK**]

To transfer BASIC program files you need to set the VX-2 in BASIC mode, select the area P0 through P9 and issue individual commands, either:

- SAVE “COM0:
- LOAD “COM1:

Pressing [**BRK**] and the end of the operation.

These instructions have been tested with the VX-2 receiving BASIC programs and CASL program files from a VX-4.

VX and Z model interconnection

The default COM0: speed for the VX models is “2”. It is “6” for the Z models. When connecting devices from these two families make sure that you adjust the speed parameter to be the same on both the sending and receiving side.

Additional community tests required

These instructions have been tested on VX-1, VX-2, VX-3, VX-4, FX-860Pvc, FX-880P, Z1, Z1-GR and Z1-GRa.

The FA-6 Interface was used with the Casio FX-603P, Casio FX-840P, Casio FX-841P, Casio FX-850P, Casio FX-860P, Casio FX-860Pvc, Casio FX-870P, Casio FX-880P, Casio FX-890P, Casio VX-1, Casio VX-2, Casio VX-3, Casio VX-4, Casio Z-1 and Casio Z-1GR programmable calculator and Pocket Computers[3]. Older models, lacking the F.COM menu, will have to resort to LOAD and SAVE commands.

It would be nice to extend the test coverage to all supported models.

3 https://www.computinghistory.org.uk/det/36793/Casio-FA-6/ This list did not include the Z-1GRa model, based on the Z-1GR with an improved LCD.

Acknowledgments

This User Guide was produced by Xandrian Labs. 付喪神.

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