Prepare USB as Simulated Floppy Disk

Due to the scarcity and unreliability of floppy disks, we have replaced the floppy disk drive in this machine with a floppy drive emulator that can be used to transfer files on USB flash drives.
To use this device successfully, you may need to erase the contents of an existing flash drive.

Instructions

These instructions assume that the usb flash drive is being prepared on the Keithley instrument, but you can perform the same steps on any PC with windows (just make sure to update the paths where appropriate).
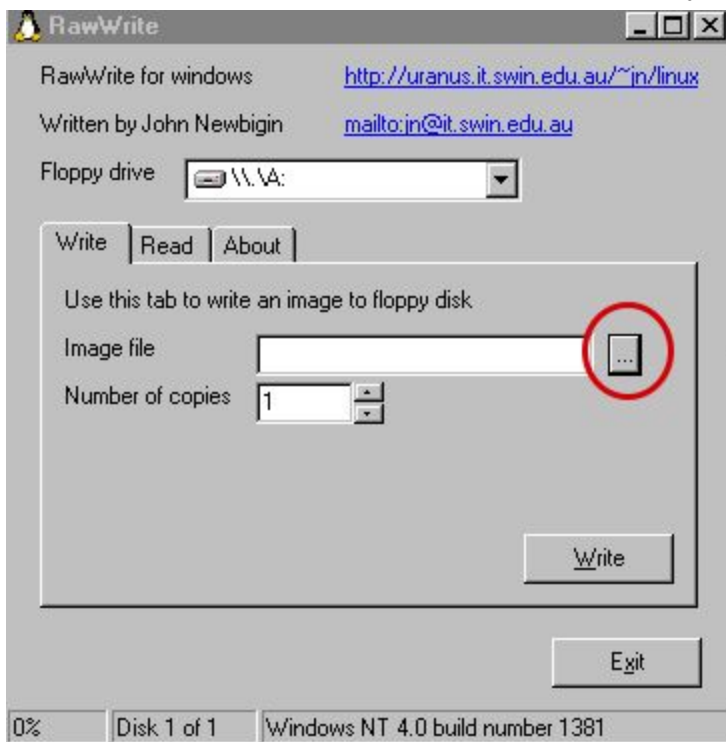
Step 1.
Open rawwritewin. There is a shortcut on the desktop. [Download also available](#).

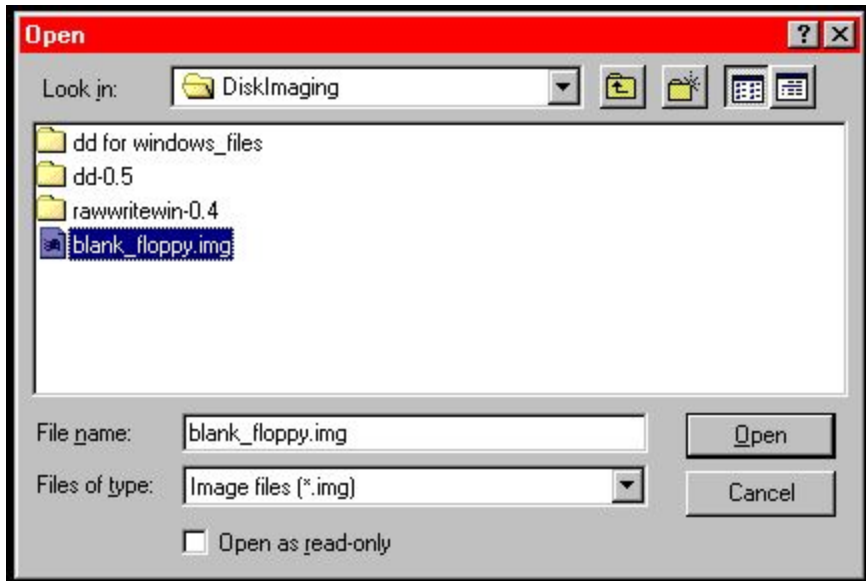rawwritewin - Floppy
Disk Image Writer

Step 2.
Click the ellipses button to browse for the blank floppy image file.

Notice that the Floppy drive "A:" should be selected.

Step 3.
Browse to the location of the blank floppy image file "blank_floppy.img". On the Keithley, this is in C:\Utils\DiskImaging, but can also be downloaded here. Click "Open".

Step 4.
Click "Write" and it should finish preparing the USB drive for you. At this point, you should be able to read and write from the USB drive as if it were a floppy at "A:" drive. Note, you will probably not be able to write more data than a floppy disk can hold (1.44MB).

Supporting Info

If you are not on windows, you can still prepare a USB drive using the same blank_floppy.img and standard imaging tools like "dd".

The device we are using is the same model as available here

The device came with some tools on a CD that didn't seem to prove very useful, but for the sake of keeping an archive, here is a 7z archive of that CD's contents.

Links

- Manufacturer CD: https://goo.gl/srZZGg
- Emulator on Amazon: https://goo.gl/aTjyyP
- Blank Floppy Image: https://goo.gl/nncX5S
- Rawwritewin: https://goo.gl/8PVwWq
  (and http://uranus.chrysocome.net/linux/rawwrite-old.htm)