Missing ClipMate Tutorial

I was looking through my own tutorials when I realised that I hadn't actually published part of the crack for ClipMate. I had covered the 'lazy' cracking section, but had not published the information relating to the serial calculations. To cut a long story short, I have lost my cracking notes on the serial scheme but here's what I remember (may not be wholly accurate):

>The code you type in is 11 bytes long.
>The last 8 digits is the actual 'serial number'
>The 2nd and 3rd digits is the number of licences (e.g. single user license, 10 user license) in hex, make sure that you type hex letters in capitals.
>The first digit is a letter, but I don't know what this refers to. The default letter seems to be 'F', but I have found that using any letter will work.
>I saved a text file in my ClipMate directory which contains several serials including: 'Ghiribizzo' - 'FC811475548'.
>Serial 'sniffing' is very easy. Search string of 'F01' may help.
>A nice feature of the program is that you can register over and over again.

I'll leave it to others to crack the serial scheme as I really don't want to do it all over again, especially since I don't use the program anyway.

Cracking UltraEdit 5.0

I have been asked why I decided to bpx on createfile rather than readfile. It is really a matter of preference, but usually when writing file routines in higher level languages you get something similar to:

```
open(filename);
if error do something;
read(filename);
if error do something;
close(filename);
etc.
```

Now the compiler will put in the routines to check if the file exists then open it etc. and of course, you could break on readfile and in some sense be 'closer' to the target code. However, you end up inside the read routine which doesn't give you an idea of the bigger picture. In essence, choosing to break on createfile is similar to taking a step back before looking. When you leave the createfile routine, you see another call containing openfile and another with readfile and another with closefile. I find this gives you more of a feel for what is going on - it is a matter of personal taste.

Cryptography

I have been asked about cryptography references:

Code Breakers - a nice history of cryptography
Applied Cryptography - a handy quick reference and introduction to cryptography

However, for those wishing to seriously learn about cryptography, they should visit their local University library and have a look in the mathematics section - this is not for the feint-hearted! You need to have a strong mathematical grounding to make real progress.