RTimer Help

Overview

Commands

Using RTimer

What is RTimer?
RTimer is a convenient program that will automatically launch programs, <u>open or print</u> files or display messages at times that you schedule. The program will check the tasks in its list against the system time, and when the propper time to launch the application comes, it is all done for you!

RTimer's main window consists of a list box and six buttons. The list box lists a brief summary of each task that the program is to launch. The buttons allow access to the task editor, where the various properties of the tasks can be edited, and to RTimer's options.

RTimer takes advantage of new Windows 3.1 features, like the File Manager's drag-drop ability. Dragging any file from the File Manager onto either the RTimer main window or the task editor dialog box makes that file the new task.

How do I use RTimer?
In order to use RTimer to its fullest, it should load with Windows. There are three ways of telling Windows to automatically load the program at startup.
- Use the <u>Load with Windows</u> option in the RTimer options box
- Put `RTIMER.EXE` into either the "Load=" or "Run=" line in your `WIN.INI`
- Put `RTIMER.EXE` into the "Startup" Group

Once RTimer is running, add the tasks you want to run automatically. Once a task has been added, it will stay in RTimer's queue until it either <u>expires</u> or is deleted.

Note: RTimer is designed to run under Windows 3.1 only.

Expire
One Time tasks expire either when they are executed, or if the execution time has passed.

Adding a Task
Each application that you want RTimer to run must be added to the task queue. There are a number of ways to get a new task added.

-The **Add** button
-The **Copy** button
-Draging a file over from the File Manager, and dropping it over RTimer

The **Add** button opens the task editor with a blank run line, and the current time and date.
The **Copy** button opens the task editor with a copy of the currently selected task.
Dropping a file from the File Manager opens the task editor with that file and the current time.

Once the task editor is open, an application can be directly typed in, found by using the **Browse...** dialog box, or dragged and dropped from the File Manager. The **Message...** button changes the task in the editor from a program to run to a message to display. The time, date and frequency can then be set for the task.

Editing a Task
Once a task is in RTimer's queue, it can be changed. To edit an existing task, the task should be highlighted in the task list.

- The **Edit** button
- Double clicking it.

The task editor is then opened with the current task and all of its parameters.

Copying a Task
This is an alternate way of adding a new task. Instead of starting from scratch, a new task is created that is an exact copy of the currently selected task. The task editor is opened with the copy, so that any changes made will not affect the original.

Deleting a Task
When you no longer wish a task to be run by RTimer, that task can be deleted from the task queue. This is done by selecting the task, and pressing the **<u>Delete</u>** button. The task will be permanently removed from RTimer's list.

RTimer Options
RTimer has several options that can be set. To access the options dialog box, press the **<u>Options</u>** button. The options you can change are:

Display Time

When on, the current time is displayed as the caption to RTimer's window.

Hide When Iconized

When on, RTimer's window is completely hidden from the desktop when it is minimized. To restore the window, simply execute a new instance of RTimer. When this option is active with the Display Time option, the time is only displayed when RTimer is visible.

Load Minimized

When on, RTimer's window is loaded in the minimized state when the program starts up. When this option is active with the Hide When Iconized option, RTimer's window is created hidden. To restore it, simply execute a new instance of RTimer.

Load With Windows

When on, RTimer will automatically change the `WIN.INI` file to allow it to start with Windows. If RTimer is already launched by either the INI file or by means of being in the Startup group, this option will have no effect.

Buttons
The buttons on RTimers main window function as follows:

Add	Opens the task editor with a new blank task
Edit	Opens the task editor with the currently selected task
Copy	Opens the task editor with a new task that is a copy of the currently selected task
Delete	Permanently removes the currently selected task from the task list
Options	Opens the RTimer options dialog box
Help	Loads this help file

The Task Editor
This is where all ot the information for the task is entered.

Command line to execute or
Message to Display   This is where you can enter the name of the executable to run. the file to open or print, or the message you want to display. For programs, any command line parameters can also be added here. The text in this field can only be 255 characters long.

Run Minimized   This option executes the executable as an icon. If the program being executed does its own size management, then this option may have no effect. This option has no effect on messages.

Browse...   This button opens the browse dialog box, to fill in the Command line field. This button does not work for messages.

Message... / Execute...   This button switches the editor between program execution and message display.

Frequency   This sets the frequency that the task is executed.

Time   This sets the time at which the task is executed. The up and down buttons will increment and decrement the number in the fields, respectively. The hour field and the AM/PM buttons may be disabled, depending upon the Frequency.

Day   This sets which day the task is to be executed on. This field may be disabled, depending upon the Frequency.

Date   This sets which date the task is to be executed on. The up and down buttons will increment and decrement the number in the field, respectively. This field may be disabled, depending upon the Frequency.

Month   This sets which month the task is to be executed on. This field may be disabled, depending upon the Frequency.

Year   This sets which year the task is to be executed in. The up and down buttons will increment and decrement the number in the field, respectively. This field may be disabled, depending upon the Frequency.

Browse

This dialog box allows you to select a filename from any drive on your system. When you select the name, and click OK, the filename is transferred to the task editor.

Frequency
This field must be one of the following:

One Time	- Executes a task once, then removes it from the queue
Every Hour	- Executes a task every hour on the minute set in the Time field
Every Day	- Executes a task every day at the time set in the Time field
Week Days	- Executes a task Monday through Friday at the selected time
Every Week	- Executes a task once a week on the selected day and time
Every Month	- Executes a task once a month on the selected date and time

When the frequency is Every Month, and the date is set to 31, RTimer will automatically execute the task on the last day of the month.

Open or Print

To open or print a file, an association must exist in the File Manager.