

**07783680-0**

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<b>COLLABORATORS</b>
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# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>07783680-0</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	NetPar - Amiga Network Printing . . . . .	1
1.2	Introduction . . . . .	1
1.3	Requirements . . . . .	2
1.4	Disclaimer . . . . .	3
1.5	NetPar Client Installation Notes . . . . .	4
1.6	NetPar Server Installation Steps . . . . .	5
1.7	Security Features . . . . .	7
1.8	NetPar Troubleshooting Guide . . . . .	7
1.9	Troubleshooting NetPar - AmiTCP Step by Step . . . . .	7
1.10	Troubleshooting NetPar - Miami Step by Step . . . . .	11
1.11	NetPar Step-By-Step Problem Help . . . . .	14
1.12	Where's my output? . . . . .	15
1.13	Lost in Space . . . . .	15
1.14	Have you meet my Sister? . . . . .	16
1.15	NetPar Known Problems . . . . .	16
1.16	Thanks . . . . .	17
1.17	NetPar Future Changes . . . . .	17
1.18	NetPar History of Changes . . . . .	18
1.19	Authors Self Satisfying Page . . . . .	19

# Chapter 1

## 07783680-0

### 1.1 NetPar - Amiga Network Printing

NetPar - Amiga TCP/IP Network Printing

©1997-1998 MikeySoft - "When Mikey goes Soft"

```
~Introduction~
~Requirements~
~Disclaimer~~~
~Installation~ -- Client  Notes
~Installation~ -- Server  Steps
                  (No Installer Script for Server!)
~Security~~~~~ Or the Lack of it...
~Problems?~~~~
~Bugs~~~~~
~Thanks~~~~~
~Future~~~~~
~History~~~~~
~Author~~~~~
```

NetPar is another Quality Product  
from  
MikeySoft Productions

### 1.2 Introduction

NetPar is a complete network printing package. It was written to take advantage ↔  
of  
the Amiga OS. As a package, it is divided into two parts, Client and Server.

The Client side is the side without a printer. NetPar Client connects to the ↔  
Server  
and transfers all data over the network. The NetPar Client replaces the original  
Amiga parallel.device so that any output that uses PRT: or PAR: devices will also ↔  
be  
sent over the network to the Server. Programs that hit the parallel port directly

through the hardware will not be affected by this setup (ADPro Scanner software ←  
 and  
 MagPlip device for example).

The Server side takes the input from the Client and sends it to the device you  
 specify. It runs as an Inet Daemon process so it does not use up resources when ←  
 not  
 in use.

Note: NetPar is Amiga Specific at this time. A Future release (probably the next  
 release) will be RFC-1179 compliant. This RFC concerns Unix Line Printers and the  
 line printer daemons/clients. I may also be looking at the Samba printer  
 implementation as well.

## 1.3 Requirements

Software Requirements:

Client ----- Kickstart 2.0+ Workbench 2.0+  
 TCP/IP Protocol Stack - bsdsocket.library compatible  
 \* AmiTCP v4.0+ (Might work with 3.0)  
 \* Miami 2.0+

Server ----- Kickstart 2.0+ Workbench 2.0+  
 TCP/IP Protocol Stack - bsdsocket.library compatible  
 Requires Inet Daemon to trigger server  
 \* AmiTCP v4.0+ (Will NOT work with 3.0)  
 \* Miami 2.0+

Hardware Tested on:

My Network: ===== Using AmiTCP and Miami via A2065.device

Machine #1  
 Amiga 3000 Tower 68030 @25 Mhz 14 Meg  
 Kickstart 40.68  
 Workbench 40.42  
 Picasso II 24 bit Display Board  
 GVP I/O Extender  
 A2091 SCSI Controller  
 Exabyte 8500 5-Gig 8mm Tape Backup  
 Exabyte 8505XL 14-Gig 8mm Tape Backup  
 A2065 Ethernet Board

Machine #2  
 Amiga 3000 68030 @25Mhz 6 Meg  
 Kickstart 37.175  
 Workbench 38.35  
 A2065 Ethernet Board

My Dads network (Yes a Happy Amiga Family): ===== Using AmiTCP via the  
 magplip.device

---

Machine #1  
A2000 GVP 40Mhz EC030 Series II Combo Board  
Kickstart 40.64  
Workbench 40.42  
Multi-Face III  
A2000 SupraRAM Board (8 Meg)

Machine #2  
A2000 GVP-3001 33 Mhz 030 Board  
Kickstart 37.175  
Workbench 38.36

During Christmas (1997) we also connected my Amiga 3000 to my Dad's machine #2 via the A2065 cards and had a three machine network. NetPar worked fine on this setup.

If you tested NetPar on other setups, let me know so I can include them here.

## 1.4 Disclaimer

Legal Stuff.....

Any possesor of this version "NetPar" for the Amiga is hereby granted a non- ←  
exclusive  
license permitting its use and/or redistribution, subject to the following terms ←  
and  
conditions.

Permission is hereby granted to freely redistribute this version of "NetPar" via  
electronic bulletin board systems (BBS's), freely redistributable disk collections  
(such as provided by Fred Fish), service bureaus (BiX, GENie, CompuServe, etc), ←  
and  
networks such as USENET, BITNET, and Internet, provided that such distribution  
includes this unmodified License, and the documentation file (NetPar.guide), in  
addition to the executable and with all copyright notices intact.

This archive may be freely redistributed, but only in totally unchanged state. All  
copyright notices in the program and its documentation must remain on their places ←  
.

Use of the "NetPar" executable and docmentation in any environment, commercial or  
otherwise is not restricted, and no fee shall be required for said use. The use of  
the source code in a commercial product is prohibited without prior written  
permission of the author.

The author gives permission to include "NetPar" in any AmiNET Compact Disk  
distribution.

Without prior written permission from the author, it is prohibited to sell or  
otherwise convey this version of "NetPar" for monetary or other forms of  
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It is further prohibited, without prior written permission from the author, to include this version of "NetPar" in whole or in part, in the distribution of any commercial hardware or software package, or component thereof.

This version of "NetPar" is provided "as is", without express or implied warranty. The author makes no claim or representation about the suitability of this software for any purpose.

The author disclaims any and all warranties with regard to this software, including all implied warranties of merchantability and fitness. In no event shall the author be liable for any special, indirect, or consequential damages, or any damages whatsoever resulting from loss of use, data, or profits, whether in an action of contract, negligence, or other tortious action, arising out of or in connection with the use or performance of this software.

(I am glad thats over. In a world were everybody is ready to blame someone else for their own stupidity...I had to do it. Use this at your own risk.)

## 1.5 NetPar Client Installation Notes

### Client Side Installation Notes:

Client Side: The Machine without a printer

What the install script does:

Step #1)

Renames your current parallel.device to orig\_parallel.device.

Note: The installer script will skip this step if orig\_parallel.device already exists.)

Step #2)

Copies the NetPar.device into the devs: directory. Renames NetPar.device to parallel.device. There are two versions of the NetPar.device. One is used to give you debug information should you run into problems. Only use this version if you are having problems as it will run slow. It will write two debug logs in your SYS: directory. The other version of NetPar.device is for every day use. The NetPar Client Installer script will ask you which client you want to use (Normal or Debug).

Note: The installer script also comes with a "Remove" option. This option is only available to the "Intermediate" or "Expert" mode. Remove will reset your system back to it's original settings (no NetPar Client installed). If you wish to change from Normal to Debug (or vice versa) you must first use the "Remove" option to remove NetPar Client from your machine. Then you can install the Client you need.

#### Step #3)

You must identify who your server side printer host is. It can be identified by either the IP address or by the machine name. The installation script then sets a PrintHOST environment variable to the machine you just identified. This PrintHOST variable can be changed on the fly (manually) to re-direct the NetPar output to another server.

#### Step #4) All done. Setup Server and Print!

## 1.6 NetPar Server Installation Steps

### Server Side Installation Steps:

Server Side - Machine with the printer

#### Step #1)

Copy the NetParServer into a common directory.

AmitTCP - Place it into AmitTCP:serv directory.

Maimi - Create a Maimi:serv directory and place it there

Note: You can place the Server anywhere as long as you let the InetD Daemon know where it is. (See step #2)

#### Step #2)

Set up the Inet Daemon to run the NetPar Server

AmitTCP -

Edit the Amittcp:db/inetd.conf file to run the NetParServer. The entry should look like this:

```
printer stream tcp nowait root amitcp:serv/NetParServer NetPrint
```

The above setting will send any incoming printouts to the PAR: device (The native Amiga port). If you own a GVP I/O extender you can redirect the server output by passing a DEVICE= option like this:

```
printer stream tcp nowait root amitcp:serv/NetParServer NetPrint DEVICE=GVPPAR0:
```

MultiFace II and III users can send the output to PIT0: device. Any AmigaDos device will work. Serial



port printers can be sent to SER: for example.

Note: There is no spaces in the DEVICE= parameter. The above entry is all on one line.

WARNING: You can also send your output to a file using the DEVICE= option. BE CAREFUL. Setting it to DEVICE=s:startup-sequence will overwrite your startup-sequence.

If you run into ~problems~ you can add the DEBUG option as well. Like this:

```
printer stream tcp nowait root amitcp:serv/NetParServer NetPrint DEBUG
```

This will send debug information to the Amitcp system log.

Miami -

Go into the Database and select InetD for input. Add the following entries into the Miami User interface:

```
Service  = printer
Socket   = stream
Protocol = tcp
Wait     = nowait
User     = root
(The above entries must be in lower case. Otherwise
the server will refuse to connect)
Server   = Miami:serv/NetParServer
Name     = NetPrint
Args     = See below
```

Just as in AmiTCP, the NetPar Server accepts only two Args. The first is the DEVICE= option. NetPar defaults to PAR: so nothing is needed if you want to send your output to the PAR: device. If you have a GVP I/O Extender or MultiFace II/III, you could send the output to those cards (using DEVICE=GVPPAR0: or DEVICE=PIT0: ) with this Arg. The DEBUG arg will send debug information to the Miami system log. This log is useful when it comes to troubleshooting ~problems~ in NetPar. Finally, as in AmiTCP, the same Warning applies:

WARNING: You can also send your output to a file using the DEVICE= option. BE CAREFUL. Setting it to DEVICE=s:startup-sequence will overwrite your startup-sequence.

Step #3) Restart your protocol stack and you are ready.

\*

## 1.7 Security Features

Or the current lack of Security

Currently there are no security features built into the NetPar Server. I have plans to add some but for now, the only protection you get is from your protocol stack:

AmiTCP - You can allow/deny access to NetPar by editing the AmiTCP:db/inet.access file. See the AmiTCP docs for details.

Miami - I know of no way to restrict access to NetPar from Miami. It might be there, I just don't know where. If you know how to do this, please e-mail me so I can include it in the next release.

This is only a temporary problem. I plan on adding security features into NetPar in the near ~future~.

## 1.8 NetPar Troubleshooting Guide

NetPar Troubleshooting Guide

Below is a quick list of easy fixes to NetPar. If none of these help you, I have included a step-by-step guide to get NetPar running on your machine.

~Step-By-Step~ for AmiTCP

~Step-By-Step~ for Miami

~Problem~#1~ Client Prints as normal, but no output is received  
~Problem~#2~ Client hangs up, refuses to print, must be reset.  
~Problem~#3~ Client Guru's as soon as printer is accessed.  
~Problem~#4~ Server no longer accepts input from Client  
~Problem~#5~ Can't print from two Clients at the same time

Troubleshooting hint: Uninstall the NetPar Client and reinstall the debug version when having problems. Add the DEBUG flag on the Server. This will aid you and me in troubleshooting any problems you may have.

The NetPar client will write to debug logs to our SYS: drive. They are called NetParClient.log and NetParInit.log . Please include these files when asking for help.....

## 1.9 Troubleshooting NetPar - AmiTCP Step by Step

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If you made it here, I guess I can assume that you are having problems getting NetPar to work with AmiTCP. I have included this step-by-step installation method to help you (and me) find your problem. Although I have made every effort to make NetPar installations as simple as possible, sometimes SH\*T happens. When it does, I don't want you to feel like you have been hit by Micro\$oft and have no tools to find and fix your problem. Networks can be tricky, and this is my commitment to helping you.

Should you run into any errors while doing these steps, the errors need to be fixed before proceeding to the next step. The logic used in this guide will find your problem and hopefully get you up and running quickly. If not, you have my e-mail for easy flaming.

First we Play with the Server.

Step #1) On the Server (the side with the printer),

Go into the AmiTCP:db/inetd.conf and make the following entry. (Comment out your old entry if needed.)

```
printer stream tcp nowait root AmiTCP:serv/NetParServer NetPrint DEVICE=SYS: ↵
TestPrint DEBUG
```

These settings will take the printer out of the failure loop. We can test your server configuration without needing to have a printer. Later on we will add the printer and test it.

Step #2) Bring AmiTCP online (on the Server). You will need to stop-and start AmiTCP in order for the changes to be seen.

Step #3) Copy the TestPar program on to the server ( I would put it on my Ram Disk: ) Now double-click on the TestPar icon in order to run the test page. Your message should look like this:

```
===Begin Message===
```

```
*
```

```
Welcome to NetPar Test Client
```

```
Attempting to open bsdsocket.library >>-> Complete
```

```
Testing NetPar Server
```

```
PrintHOST = ->localhost<-
```

```
Opening Socket >>-> Complete
```

```
Connecting to Server >>-> Complete
```

```
Sending Test Page >>-> Complete
```

```
exit TestPar - Test Complete
===End Message===
```

Note: Be patient when program is running the "Connecting to Server" message. It may take a few minutes to report what your connection error is.

Check to see if the program recognized that we were testing the NetPar Server. It is an error if TestPar didn't recognize the server (as localhost). Also check the AmiTCP System Log. It should show a connection, with 3314 bytes transferred, followed by a closed connection.

Errors explained here.

Step #4) Bring AmiTCP offline on the server. If this means that you have to re-boot your machine, then go ahead and do it.

Now we will be checking out your network connection between the machines.

Step #5) Bring AmiTCP online on the server.

Step #6) Install NetPar debug client on your client machine.

Note: You may need to remove the original NetPar client first. Just use the Remove option in the installer script.

Bring AmiTCP online on your client machine.

Step #7) Checkout the network connection by pinging the server from the client like this from shell/cli:

```
ping $PrintHOST
```

Pinging \$PrintHOST will make sure that the NetPar client has the right settings.

If this doesn't work, you have a network problem (with routing) or a PrintHOST naming problem. If you are unsure of the error message you were given, you can send it to me and I'll do my best to help you.

Step #8) Copy the TestPar program on to the client ( I would put it on my Ram Disk: ) Now double-click on the TestPar icon in order to run the test page. Your message should look like this (mikey is my PrinHOST):

```
===Begin Message===
```

```
*
```

```
Welcome to NetPar Test Client
```

---

Attempting to open bsdsocket.library >>-> Complete

Testing NetPar Client

PrintHOST = ->mikey<-

Opening Socket >>-> Complete

Connecting to Server >>-> Complete

Sending Test Page >>-> Complete

exit TestPar - Test Complete

===End Message===

Note: Be patient when program is running the "Connecting to Server" message. It may take a few minutes to report what your connection error is.

Check to see if the program recognized that we were testing the NetPar Client. It is an error if TestPar didn't recognize the client. Make sure that the PrintHOST = is the name of your server. Also check the AmiTCP System Log. It should show a connection, with 3314 bytes transferred, followed by a closed connection.

Errors explained here.

Network testing is complete. Now we test the NetPar Client.

Step #9) On your client, copy your S:Startup-sequence to PAR: (example 16.Ram Disk:>copy S:statup-sequence to par:) from shell/cli. The Server AmiTCP System Log should record the connection and transfer of the file. On the server you should get a SYS:TestPrint file that is the same as your client side s:startup-sequence.

Errors explained here.

Step #10) If everything works to this point, add your printer to the server by changing the DEVICE= back to your AmigaDOS device (i.e. PAR:) on the server. When you are complete, checkout the printer by doing steps #2) through #9) If you run into a problem here, it is probably the AmigaDOS device you selected or something to do with your printer or printer connection.

Step #11) Remove debug from the server an again checkout the system by performing steps #2) and #9) of this step-by-step guide. A problem in this area belongs to me. Please e-mail to me the details as well as a copy of the debug logs.

Step #12) Remove the NetPar debug Client and reinstall the regular NetPar Client. You can test it by performing steps #2) through #9) of this step-by-step guide. A problem in this

area belongs to me. Please e-mail to me the details.

Step #13) Be happy. You have overcome the problem. NetPar is installed on your network.

Please let me know if my logic has helped you. I would love to hear any success stories.

\*

## 1.10 Troubleshooting NetPar - Miami Step by Step

If you made it here, I guess I can assume that you are having problems getting NetPar to work with Miami. I have included this step-by-step installation method to help you (and me) find your problem. Although I have made every effort to make NetPar installations as simple as possible, sometimes SH\*T happens. When it does, I don't want you to feel like you have been hit by Micro\$oft and have no tools to find and fix your problem. Networks can be tricky, and this is my commitment to helping you.

Should you run into any errors while doing these steps, the errors need to be fixed before proceeding to the next step. The logic used in this guide will find your problem and hopefully get you up and running quickly. If not, you have my e-mail for easy flaming.

First we Play with the Server.

Step #1) On the Server (the side with the printer),

Go into the Database and select InetD for input.  
Add the following entries into the Miami user interface:

```
Service  = printer
Socket   = stream
Protocol = tcp
Wait     = nowait
User     = root
(Please note that all of the above entries need
to be in lower case. Adding a upper case letter will
cause the server to refuse connection.)
Server   = Miami:serv/NetParServer
(If this is where the NetParServer is located)
Name     = NetPrint
Args     = DEVICE=SYS:TestPrint DEBUG
```

These settings will take the printer out of the failure loop. We can test your server configuration without needing to have a printer. Later on we will add the

---

printer and test it.

Step #2) Bring Miami online (on the Server).

Step #3) Copy the TestPar program on to the server ( I would put it on my Ram Disk: ) Now double-click on the TestPar icon in order to run the test page. Your message should look like this:

```
===Begin Message===
```

```
*
```

```
Welcome to NetPar Test Client
```

```
Attempting to open bsdsocket.library >>-> Complete
```

```
Testing NetPar Server
```

```
PrintHOST = ->localhost<-
```

```
Opening Socket >>-> Complete
```

```
Connecting to Server >>-> Complete
```

```
Sending Test Page >>-> Complete
```

```
exit TestPar - Test Complete
```

```
===End Message===
```

Note: Be patient when program is running the "Connecting to Server" message. It may take a few minutes to report what your connection error is.

Check to see if the program recognized that we were testing the NetPar Server. It is an error if TestPar didn't recognize the server (as localhost). Also check the Miami System Log. It should show a connection, with 3314 bytes transferred, followed by a closed connection.

Errors explained here.

Step #4) Bring Miami offline on the server. If this means that you have to re-boot your machine, then go ahead and do it.

Now we will be checking out your network connection between the machines.

Step #5) Bring Miami on the server online.

Step #6) Install NetPar debug client on your client machine.

Note: You may need to remove the original NetPar client first. Just use the Remove option in the installer script.

---

Bring Miami online on your client machine.

Step #7) Checkout the network connection by pinging the server from the client like this from shell/cli:

MiamiPing \$PrintHOST

Pinging \$PrintHOST will make sure that the NetPar client has the right settings.

If this doesn't work, you have a network problem (with routing) or a PrintHOST naming problem. If you are unsure of the error message you were given, you can send it to me and I'll do my best to help you.

Step #8) Copy the TestPar program on to the client ( I would put it on my Ram Disk: ) Now double-click on the TestPar icon in order to run the test page. Your message should look like this (mikey is my PrinHOST):

===Begin Message===

\*

Welcome to NetPar Test Client

Attempting to open bsdsocket.library >>-> Complete

Testing NetPar Client

PrintHOST = ->mikey<-

Opening Socket >>-> Complete

Connecting to Server >>-> Complete

Sending Test Page >>-> Complete

exit TestPar - Test Complete

===End Message===

Note: Be patient when program is running the "Connecting to Server" message. It may take a few minutes to report what your connection error is.

Check to see if the program recognized that we were testing the NetPar Client. It is an error if TestPar didn't recognize the client. Make sure that the PrintHOST = the name of your server. Also check the Miami System Log. It should show a connection, with 3314 bytes transferred, followed by a closed connection.

Errors explained here.

Network testing is complete. Now we test the NetPar Client.

---



Step #9) On your client, copy your S:Startup-sequence to PAR:  
(example 16.Ram Disk:>copy S:statup-sequence to par:) from  
shell/cli. The Server Miami System Log should record the  
connection and transfer of the file. On the server you should  
get a SYS:TestPrint file that is the same as your client  
side s:startup-sequence.

Errors explained here.

Step #10) If everything works to this point, add your printer  
to the server by changing the DEVICE= back to your AmigaDOS  
device (i.e. PAR:) on the server. When you are complete,  
checkout the printer by doing steps #2) through #9) If you  
run into a problem here, it is probably the AmigaDOS device  
you selected or something to do with your printer or printer  
connection.

Step #11) Remove debug from the server an again checkout the  
system by performing steps #2) and #9) of this step-by-step  
guide. A problem in this area belongs to me. Please e-mail  
to me the details as well as a copy of the debug logs.

Step #12) Remove the NetPar debug Client and reinstall the  
regular NetPar Client. You can test it by performing steps #2)  
through #9) of this step-by-step guide. A problem in this  
area belongs to me. Please e-mail to me the details.

Step #13) Be happy. You have overcome the problem. NetPar is  
installed on your network.

Please let me know if my logic has helped you. I would love to hear any success  
stories.

\*

## 1.11 NetPar Step-By-Step Problem Help

Step-by-Step Errors:

TestPar didn't recognize the Server

You have a system variable called PrintHOST on your machine.  
TestPar thinks it is running as a client.

TestPar didn't recognize the Client

You are missing the PrintHOST variable from your machine. It  
was either accidentally removed or the installation failed. This  
file must contain the name of your Server in order for the NetPar  
client to work.

---

### Network Error

Something in your network is configured incorrectly. The error message that proceeded the Network Error should point you to what needs to be changed in the network. If you are confused, please send the message to me (and as detailed as possible) a explanation of our setup. I will try to respond quickly. If I find a pattern of Network Errors, the fixes will be placed here.

### Server Configuration Error

Your server has refused to run the NetParServer program. Something is wrong with the installation (possibly my steps?). Again, if you cannot find the problem, let me know and I will try to help. If I see a common pattern I will include the fix here. As below:

Miami - Check PrintHOST case. The PrintHOST entry and the Database-Hosts entry should have the exact case (upper-lower).

Miami - Service = printer . "printer" must be in lower case or server will refuse to connect.

### Programmer Error

I have assumed something about your system that is incorrect. I have left something out, or else my logic is flawed. Please send me the debug logs as well as the Error Message you encountered.

\*

## 1.12 Where's my output?

Printed fine but no output.....

Two possible reasons.

- #1) No Protocol stack is running.  
Check on AmiTCP or Miami. Protocol stack must be bsdsocket.library compatible
- #2) Unable to connect to Printer Host. Make sure that you can get to the printer host by trying to "ping" that host.

Finally, if these aren't the problem...Use the NetParClient.log for hints into why the connection can't get through.

## 1.13 Lost in Space

---

Client takes forever and nothing happens...

There is only one known reason why this happens:

#1) Server client is unknown. See if  
you can "ping" the server.

If this isn't the problem, run the debug version  
of NetPar Client and read the NetParClient.log  
in order to get some hints at what is going wrong.

## 1.14 Have you meet my Sister?

Guru's as soon as printer is accessed.

Not my fault man. I spent WEEKS trying to find this  
little bug.

Turned out that my Sister had gone into preferences  
and selected a regular text file to be a printer  
driver. .... Selected correct printer driver and  
beat up little sister. Everything works fine now.

## 1.15 NetPar Known Problems

NetPar Known Bugs

Actually there are two:

\*\* Sometimes the NetPar Server will no longer accept input.  
My research has indicated that the Server has a old socket  
open and is still waiting for an EOF character to close  
the connection. This normally happens when the client side  
dies unexpectedly (I create these unexpected conditions all  
the time). I will be fixing this problem in the future by  
attaching a timeout on the socket connection and through  
spooling on the incoming printout.

The only known method to recover from this condition is to  
reboot your machine. You might try to kill the protocol  
stack, or send a Ctrl-C to NetParServer, if you can. The  
problem hasn't happened enough for me to try these things  
and I will be surprise if it happens to you.....

\*\* If two clients try to print to the same server, at the  
same time, only one will get through, the other will be  
rejected.

---

This will also be fixed when spooling becomes available.

Please let me know if you encounter others. Some "bugs" are actually built-in safeguards for NetPar. See the ~Problems?~ section for details.

\*

## 1.16 Thanks

A large number of people went into this project. Most of them didn't even know that they contributed.

Louis L Mallea - Bugged me enough to program NetPar

Amanda J Mallea - For creating a non-existent bug that forced me into making the debug version of NetPar

Edd Dumbill - For Heddley v1.1 >>-> Which made this AmigaGuide document.

SAS Institute - For creating SAS\C Compiler. And special thanks to the group that is still supplying updates to this very stable compiler.

NSDI - For AmiTCP and the Software Developers Kit for this very usable Protocol Stack.

Holger Kruse - For Miami. I can't wait for the release of Miami Deluxe. I need the multiple interfaces!

Willy Langeveld - For writing parroute. Although I didn't use his code in developing NetPar, I did use his idea of replacing the parallel.device with a my own.

If I left anyone out, please speak up now!

and to the Amiga Herself. Name another computer that could have survived two Bankrupcies?

\*

## 1.17 NetPar Future Changes

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These are changes I am planning for in the future. They are not in any particular order. If I am missing something, you might be able to convince me that it needs to be done....

- Allow the user to select which socket to use. Currently uses 515 in preparation for RFC-1179 compliance.
- Compliance with RFC-1179, the Line Printer Daemon Protocol. Compliance will add:
  - 1) Spooling both on client side and server side.
  - 2) Allow NetPar to be used with any Unix (Linux) network.
- Rewrite the printer.device and the supporting preferences to allow for network printing. This may be necessary just for RFC-1179 compliance. (See above.)
- Add some security features into NetPar Server. Create a print log and/or refuse service to some IP addresses
- Possible Samba Printing compliance. This would allow NetPar to be used with almost any network.

## 1.18 NetPar History of Changes

Changes: Client, Server and Test program are listed separately

NetPar.device - NetPar Client Side

\* 37.18 - AmiNET Release 1.1 - 12 Jan 1998

One user reported a problem connecting to the NetPar server. I expanded the debug message area to print what type of connection error is being encountered. See also TestPar 37.0

\* 37.17 - AmiNET Release 1 - 3 Jan 1998

Added environment variable called "PrintHOST"  
Client now uses this to determine who gets the printout. Also was able to track down and fix the nasty ~Guru~ in version 37.16

\* 37.16 - Release Beta3 - 6 Dec 1997

Trying to track down a Guru that happens on one machine (One machine out of 4). Guru appears any time the parallel.device is accessed. Have added massive amounts of debug statements into debug client. The debug client now creates two logs, One for the initialization of

NetPar client and one for the spawned process of the device (called NetPar-proc). The names of logs are SYS:NetParInit.log and SYS:NetPatClient.log. When reporting a problem, please include these logs to assist me.....  
Limited Release.

\* 37.15 - Release Beta2 - 26 Nov 1997

Fixed freeze/random guru when hostname is not specified. Was using improper logic to determine PrintHost. Also accounted for case sensitivity shown in Miami's version of gethostbyname().  
Limited Release

\* 37.14 - Release Beta1 - 22 Nov 1997

First workable version. Limited Release.

NetParServer - NetPar Server Side

\* 37.9 - AmiNET Release1 - 3 Jan 1998

No changes to Server. I just bumped up the revision number in preparation for AmiNET release

\* 37.8 - Release Beta1 - 23 Nov 1997

Release Beta2  
Release Beta3

No frills server. Accepts any input and sends to a device. Does some buffering to limit the load on the CPU. Limited Release

TestPar - Used to test the NetPar setup.

\* 37.0 - AmiNET Release1.1 - 12 Jan 1998

Opens a socket and ships a test page. Prints out very extensive errors if any are encountered.

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## 1.19 Authors Self Satisfying Page

NetPar was written at the request of my father. He had a ParNet network of two computers, one for himself and one for my sister. Sharing printers was never very easy. They would have to CMD to redirect the printer output and then get the other person to copy the file to PRT: There were other problems with ParNet that made it hard to recover from crashes. One side crashing made you reset the entire network. ↵  
I

convince him to move over to a AmiTCP network using MagPLIP. Then I wrote NetPar ←  
to  
let them share the printer. He suggested that other Amiga users might be in need ←  
of  
the same program ... so here it is.

I am a Computer Programmer employed by the US Air Force. I have been programming ←  
on  
the Amiga since 1987 when I purchased my first Amiga. I have since owned every ←  
model  
except for the A4000 and the A1200. I am currently running a A3000T. In the Air ←  
Force  
I have been lucky enough to program on a myrid of machines .... SGI's (Indi II's,  
Onyx, and Reality Monsters), Alpha's, IBM MainFrames (360/370), VAX Mainframes, ←  
Sun's  
(SunOS 4.1.X through 5.X) and Windows NT (3.51 and 4.0) boxes....

Amiga still rules....

You can send bug reports, comments or just e-mail to me at:

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PGP Key Available upon request

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