Dashboard 2.01 Trial Edition
README.WRI File

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This README.WRI file provides supplemental information about Dashboard for Windows 2.01.

There's another "readme" file that contains details specifically about the Trial Edition. It's called READTRL.WRI. Click it in the Dashboard Program menu to read it; if you're in the Windows Program Manager, double-click its icon in the Dashboard program group.

A third "readme" file is called READADV.WRI. It covers more advanced topics that you may need to know to run Dashboard for Windows 2.01 more effectively. Click it in the Dashboard program menu to read it; from the Windows Program Manager, double click its icon in the Dashboard program group.

Suggestion: Print copies of this file, the advanced file, READADV.WRI, and the Trial Edition file, READTRL.WRI, for reference.

Much of the information in this file is about programs that have idiosyncrasies which make them work slightly differently with Dashboard. While we have made every attempt to identify those programs and provide the necessary software fixes so you don't have to worry about the differences, so many new Windows programs are becoming available that we cannot guarantee that every one will work exactly as you would expect with Dashboard.

Table of Contents
1. **Installing Dashboard 2.01 over Previous Versions**
2. **Summary of New Features**
3. **Additional Shortcut Keys**
4. **Working With Other Applications**
5. **Solutions to Various Problems**
6. **Using Dashboard Run DOS Commands**
7. **Removing Dashboard**
8. **Contacting Borland**

Installing Dashboard 2.01 over Previous Versions

NOTE: If you have a previous version of Dashboard installed on your system, you DO NOT need to remove it from your system before installing version 2.01. Removing your previous version would eliminate any custom Quick Launch buttons, layouts, etc. Follow the procedure below to install Dashboard 2.01 while retaining any customizations made to your previous version.

To install Dashboard 2.01 over a previous version of Dashboard:

1. Insert the Dashboard 2.01 disk into drive A.

2. Run Windows 3.1.

3. If you've set Dashboard to be the shell, choose Dashboard Run from the Dashboard Task Menu.

    If Dashboard is not the shell and the Windows Program Manager is running, choose Run from the Program Manager's File menu.

4. In the command line box, type

    A:install

5. Click Run to start the installation.

6. If Dashboard is currently running, but is not the Windows shell, a dialog box appears instructing you to close Dashboard and then click Continue. The installation will then continue automatically.

7. If Dashboard is currently running as the Windows shell, a dialog box appears instructing you to restart Windows. Click the Restart Windows button. Windows will restart and the installation will continue automatically.

8. Follow the instructions in the installation dialog boxes.

9. If Dashboard was the shell, when the installation is completed you are given two options: (1) re-start Windows and use Dashboard 2.01 as the Windows shell again, or (2) exit the installation program in which case the Program Manager will be the Windows shell.

    If Dashboard is not the shell, the installation program exits directly to the Windows Program Manager.

10. When installation is complete, the Dashboard 2.01 program item will be added to the program group named Dashboard for Windows and will replace Dashboard 1.0 (assuming that you installed Dashboard 2.01 in the same directory as Dashboard 1.0). If you install Dashboard in another directory, it will be added to that program group and Dashboard 1.0 will not be affected.

NOTE: Whenever you use Dashboard to install any new program, the Program Manager will open regardless of whether or not Dashboard is running as the Windows shell. However, sometimes the installation process will not close the Program Manager. Thus, if you are running Dashboard as the Windows shell, and you install a new program, you may have to manually close the Program Manager after the installation is complete.

Summary of New Features in Dashboard 2

1. Dashboard Sizing
2. Dashboard font and color options
3. Vertical Dashboard
4. Startup Layout
5. DOS Commands accessible from Dashboard Run Dialog box
6. Snap-off Toolbar for Quick Launch, Program Menu, Printers
7. Drag and drop programs from Quick Launch to launch in Screens
8. Rubber-band Resizing of individual Dashboard panels
9. User-definable hot keys and hot mouse to toggle Dashboard to front and back
10. User-definable hot keys for Quick Launch buttons, Extended Screens, and Program Items in Dashboard Group Windows
11. Windows wallpaper and BMP file for Extended Screens background
12. Sticky Apps
13. Quick Launch Mini-icons
14. Save Layout saves the command line parameters
15. Resource Gauge caption bar option, bar gauge option, and minimized icon option
16. Drive Watch to monitor free disk space
17. Dashboard Task Manager
18. Dashboard Program Window icons in same positions as those in Program Manager, can be

dragged, rearranged
19. Can change Program Groups regardless of whether or not Dashboard is running as Windows shell
20. Calendar for setting date alarms

NOTE: The new Calendar allows you to set alarms for specific days, weeks, or even years in advance. The dates available on this calendar range from January 1, 1980 through December 31, 2030.

Additional Shortcut Keys

SHIFT KEY
Hold down the Shift Key when opening Dashboard to prevent any Startup Layouts from loading.

RIGHT MOUSE BUTTON
Click the right mouse button on a Quick Launch button to display the program name. Click again to hide the program name.

SHIFT+F8
When working in the Dashboard Run dialog box and the DOS Command Window is active, press Shift+F8 to use the up and down cursor keys to move through the command window. Press Shift+F8 again and the up and down cursor keys cycle through a history of recent commands.

USER-DEFINED RUN DIALOG SHORTCUT
Use the Dashboard Hotkey Preferences to select a shortcut key for opening the Dashboard Run dialog box. In addition to using the above defined Hotkey, you can also get to the Dashboard Run dialog box by double-clicking the Task Menu.

NOTE: Setting the mouse shortcut to be a double-click will not work in applications that do not support double-click. For instance, the background of the Program Manager does not support the mouse double-click. In addition, when working in DOS applications, there are certain limitations for use of Hotkeys. For example, if the DOS application is running full-screen, then the Mouse Shortcut to activate Dashboard will not work.

The Hotkeys used to launch programs do not work from within a DOS application. However, if these programs are already running, then entering their Hotkeys will restore them, even from within a DOS application.

Working With Other Applications

Using the Norton Desktop for Windows with Dashboard for Windows

When Norton Desktop for Windows runs with Dashboard, its Quick Access groups and Drive windows must remain in the same extended screen as the Norton Desktop window. The mini windows representing the Norton Drive windows or the Quick Access groups cannot be moved to another extended screen.

Another feature of Norton Desktop for Windows is that it always loads on the currently active screen. For example, if the center extended screen is active and you drag Norton Desktop for Windows from the Quick Launch panel to the left extended screen to launch, the program will open on the center extended screen rather than on the left screen. This also applies when the program is loaded as part of a layout, it will load on the currently active screen.

Using WordPerfect with Dashboard for Windows

When you drag and drop to launch WordPerfect, it will always load on the currently active extended screen, regardless of where it is dropped. However, once WordPerfect is launched, you can then drag and drop the WordPerfect window to any other extended screen.

WordPerfect can also change your printer settings "on-the-fly". If you have multiple printers on the same port, WordPerfect makes the others inactive by specifying the print device in WIN.INI to be "none". This will cause the icons for these printers to not be displayed as Dashboard printer icons. The printers can be re-enabled via the Windows Control Panel.

Using the After Dark Screen Saver with Dashboard for Windows

After Dark always loads on the active screen, regardless of where it is dropped. Also, by nature, After Dark is a "sticky app," that is, it will always remain on the current screen, regardless of which extended screen is active.

If you configure Dashboard to stay in front of other windows, it will still be displayed on the screen when the After Dark screen saver is activated.

An earlier problem with resource loss when using Dashboard for Windows 2.0 with After Dark has been resolved with version 2.01 of Dashboard.

Using PC Tools for Windows with Dashboard for Windows

Like After Dark, PC Tools for Windows is by nature a "sticky app". It will always appear on the current screen.

Additionally, there is a feature in this program known as "multi-desk" that is incompatible with Dashboard's Extended Screens. Therefore, it is recommended that you turn the "multi-desk" feature off in order to run the two programs simultaneously.

Using Microsoft Mail with Dashboard for Windows

Microsoft Mail will always open in the same position on the Extended Screens as when it was closed. Therefore, it will always open in the same screen that it was last in, regardless of the screen where you drop it.

Using Paradox with Dashboard for Windows

Much like Microsoft Mail, Paradox always opens in the same position on the Extended Screens as when it was closed.

Using Microsoft Mouse Driver 9.0 with Dashboard for Windows

Microsoft Mouse Driver 9.0 has a feature known as "Snap-To." This particular feature may cause Dashboard's dialog boxes to be incorrectly moved and positioned when you click on them. Microsoft acknowledges this is a bug in the Mouse Driver 9.0 program. Microsoft has reported that this is fixed in the 9.01 version.

<u>Using CrossTalk 2.0 with Dashboard for Windows</u>

CrossTalk 2.0 has a problem where it can hang when being launched from Dashboard. This problem has been resolved in CrossTalk 2.00.00b and later versions. You must examine the paper disk label to see the version number as it may not be reflected in CrossTalk's "About" box. If your disks indicate that you are on a pre-2.00.00b version, contact DCA to obtain an update.

<u>Using CompuServe WinCIM with Dashboard for Windows</u>

The icon used to launch WinCIM must specify the working directory to be the same as that of the WINCIM.EXE program.

<u>Using Ascend with Dashboard for Windows</u>

The Ascend PIM (Personal Information Manager) may experience problems launching from Dashboard. NewQuest Technologies has acknowledged this problem to be within Ascend 4.0 and previous versions and will resolve this in a future release.

<u>Using Novell NetWare 4.0 VLM Client with Dashboard for Windows</u>

The NetWare 4.0 VLM software is hard-coded to search for some of its files in a subdirectory called NLS under whatever directory the Windows shell program is located in. If you are running Dashboard as your Windows Shell program, the VLM software cannot locate its "Unicode" files. Novell acknowledges this to be limitation when using any shell program that is not located in the Windows directory, and will fix this in a future release of the VLM software. In the interim, simply create a subdirectory under your Dashboard directory called NLS, and copy the files from \WINDOWS\NLS there.

Solutions to Various Problems

<u>If a Program Won't Print Properly</u>

If you drag a file to the Dashboard's Printer Manager or use the Print command in Dashboard Run to print, but an error occurs, you should check whether the program is registered properly with Windows. Here is how you do that:

1. Choose Run from the File menu of the Windows File Manager or Program Manager.

2. Enter the following in the Command Line box:

   REGEDIT.EXE /v

Remember to add a space and a forward slash before the v.

3. Click OK.

You will now see the Registration Info Editor. It will list the names of all the programs installed and registered by your Windows program. The information is arranged in a tree structure. Scroll through the information to see if the program associated with the data file that you're trying to print is listed there.

When you find the program, look for its print command under the tree structure. If no command is associated with print, you must re-install the program in order to get a proper registration for Dashboard's drag-and-drop printing feature. If re-installing the program does not correct this problem call the support telephone number of the company that makes the program.

If You Set Dashboard as the Shell and Windows Won't Run

In a few rare instances, setting Dashboard as the shell and then trying to run Windows causes problems. Neither Dashboard nor Windows can open.

To solve this problem, you edit the Windows SYSTEM.INI file so that Program Manager again runs as the shell. If you have DOS version 5.0 or later, you can use its built-in Editor to edit the file. If you have an earlier version of DOS, use any other DOS editor or word processor to edit the SYSTEM.INI file.

Here are the steps to edit it with the built-in DOS Edit program:

1. At the DOS prompt, type Edit, followed by the name of your Windows directory and the name, SYSTEM.INI. For instance, if the name of the Windows directory is WIN31 and it is stored on your C: drive, you would type:

    Edit C:\WIN31\SYSTEM.INI and press Return.

2. If you have not used the DOS Edit feature before, press F1 to see information that explains how it works.

3. In the SYSTEM.INI file, find the line:

    Shell={Drive}\{Directory}\DASH.EXE

    For example: Shell=C:\Dash\DASH.EXE

4. Edit the line to read:

    Shell=PROGMAN.EXE

5. Save the SYSTEM.INI file.

Now you can open Windows in the normal manner by typing WIN at the system prompt.

If a Program Loads, But Its Window Doesn't Appear

Sometimes a program will load but its window will not appear. This typically happens when a program's window was moved off of the screen and then the program was closed. The program will open again later, but because its window was off the screen when the program was closed, you can't see the window.

The first thing to do is to verify that the program is indeed open:

1. Hold down the Alt key.

2. Press the Tab key to cycle through the open programs. If the program you want is open, it will be listed in the Alt-Tab message box.

Note: If the program you are trying to locate is a NewWave application, click on the NewWave Desktop to give it focus before using Alt-Tab.

If the program is not listed in the Alt-Tab message box, then it did not load properly. In that case try to load it again from either Dashboard, or from Windows Program Manager. If you still cannot open it, something is wrong with the program, not with Dashboard.

3. Release the Alt key when the program is listed.

4. Press Alt-Space to display the program's System menu, and then type the letter M to choose the Move command.

5. Use the arrow keys to bring the window back onto the screen.

Using Dashboard Run DOS Commands

The Dashboard Run dialog box allows you to enter DOS commands directly from Dashboard without ever leaving Windows. However, due to the limitations of Windows, there are some restrictions that apply.

For example, environment variables cannot be passed from the Dashboard Run DOS commands to DOS applications. When a DOS application is launched from Dashboard, it receives a new copy of the Windows environment containing the variables that were set when Windows was started.

To run a DOS program that requires certain environment variables be set, open a DOS window and set the variables before running the program from the DOS window, or set the variables before starting Windows. If you have a batch file that sets variables and then runs a program, open a DOS window and run the batch file from within that DOS window.

The DBPROMPT.PIF File

If Dashboard does not support a DOS command, it will use the DBPROMPT.PIF file to pass that command on to DOS, where it will be executed. The results will be displayed in a window. This window will remain open until you manually close it by double-clicking the Control menu.

You can tell when the DOS command is finished processing by the title bar of the window. When the processing is done, the title bar will read, Inactive DOS Prompt. You can then manually close the window by double-clicking the Control menu. If the command does not produce output to the screen, the window will remain blank, and the title bar will change when processing is done. You can then manually close the window.

The DBPROMPT.PIF file is located in the Dash directory. To edit this file, run

    Pifedit C:\Dash\Dbprompt.pif

DASHBOARD RUN COMMANDS AND MS-DOS

The following list contains differences between Dashboard Run commands and MS-DOS commands.

Support for Windows clipboard as standard device
Dashboard Run DOS Commands supports the Windows clipboard as a standard input and output device, to which is assigned the name CLP.

Different treatment of MS-DOS environment
Dashboard Run DOS Commands does not pass any modifications it makes in the environment to the programs. This is due to a limitation in Microsoft Windows 3.1

Extended parameters for DEL and ERASE commands
Dashboard Run DOS Commands implements a /s switch for the DEL and ERASE commands, enabling these commands to operate across subdirectories.

Support for comma delimiters by the FOR command
The FOR command allows valid file specifications to be separated by either a space or a comma. MS-DOS 6.0 supports a space between file specifications, but not a comma.

PRINT command supports Windows printing capabilities
The PRINT command makes use of the printing capabilities that are part of the SHELL.DLL dynamic link library distributed with Microsoft Windows 3.1. These capabilities include the ability to drag a file to the Dashboard printer icons to be printed. A file must have the print operation defined in the registration database for printing to work. (Most Windows programs are automatically defined in the registration database. If you think yours may not be, see the section "If a Program Won't Print Properly" later on in this Readme file for information.) The PRINT command does not support any of the parameters supported by the MS-DOS print command.

Rename command can rename directories
The RENAME command supports changing the name of files and directories. The MS-DOS RENAME command changes only the name of files.

Multiple Masks on the DIR command
The DIR command allows the user to specify multiple masks. For example, the following command lists four file types:

dir *.exe;*.bat;*.com;*.pif

DATE command supports Windows date delimiters
The Dashboard Run DOS Commands date command supports the international date separators defined in the [intl] section of the WIN.INI file.

DIR command does not support /c parameter
The Dashboard Run DOS Commands DIR command does not support the /c parameter, which under MS-DOS 6.0 will return the compression ratio of files on a DoubleSpace drive.

Batch File Execution
The Dashboard Run DOS Commands runs batch files by reading the entire file into memory, then executing it line by line. MS-DOS runs batch files by reading each line from disk. If the batch program runs a DOS program, Dashboard Run will wait until the DOS program, and the entire batch file, is finished before running any other commands. If you need to have multiple DOS programs run in the same virtual DOS session from Windows (example, you load a pop-up TSR program before running the next program), you can do so by adding the following prefix to the .BAT file: COMMAND /K.   For example, to load C:\TEST.BAT file in a single session, you would type:

    COMMAND /KC:\TEST.BAT

Printer Devices
The Dashboard Run DOS Commands outputs information to the PRN, LST, LPT1, and LPT2 devices differently than MS-DOS. Under Windows, these output devices make use of the installed printer driver.

AUX device
The Dashboard Run DOS Commands does not support the AUX device.

Piping
The Dashboard Run DOS Commands performs piping in-memory rather than on disk as MS-DOS does.

HELP command invokes Windows Help
The Dashboard Run DOS Commands HELP command invokes WINHELP.EXE rather than the DOS help engine. Further, the /? parameter given as a parameter to any valid DOS command will invoke WINHELP.EXE.

Running Programs
MS-DOS searches for programs by looking in the current directory and each directory specified by the PATH environment variable. The Dashboard Run DOS Commands searches in the current directory, the Windows directory, the Windows System directory, then each directory specified by the PATH environment variable.

The Dashboard Run DOS Commands supports file associations. Thus, a document created by WINWORD.EXE can be executed by typing the name of the document such as REPORT.DOC.

All programs run from the command line execute concurrently. In batch files, however, running a DOS program pauses the batch file until that DOS program has terminated.

Executing DOS programs
The Dashboard Run DOS Commands runs DOS programs by first looking for PIF files with the same root name. If not found, then a copy of the DBPROMPT.PIF file is made and modified with the name of the program being run.

ANSI Support
The Dashboard Run DOS Commands ignores ANSI escape characters in the prompt specification. Including them, however, will not cause a syntax error.

Date/Time Formatting
The date/time format is consistent with the [intl] settings in the WIN.INI.

/V Parameter
The XCOPY, COPY commands do not support the /V parameter.

Extra Parameter on SUBST command
The SUBST command supports the /U parameter. This parameter causes SUBST to display all non-assigned drive letters.

SET Environment
The environment used by SET is limited in size to 64K. The size specified on the COMSPEC= statement in the CONFIG.SYS file is ignored.

Critical Errors

Critical errors are displayed in a Windows message box rather than at
the prompt. The Dashboard Run DOS Commands does not allow a user to ignore or fail critical
errors.

Environment Variables
Dashboard Run DOS Command cannot pass environment variables to a DOS application. This
is a limitation of Microsoft Windows. You can set up your environment variables prior to running
Windows or use MS-DOS Prompt to run these applications.

DOS Devices
The DOS devices CON, LPT1, LPT2, PRN and NUL are not supported in Dashboard Run.

DIR /B
Drag drop is not supported in a directory listing generated by DIR with the /B option.

Unsupported Commands
The following commands are not supported in Dashboard Run: Append, Choice, DOSkey,
Graphics, Join, Fastopen, Loadhigh, Share, Defrag. Also, accessing a program or file via the
Microsoft Networks UNC format (\\SERVERNAME\SHARENAME\FILENAME.EXT) is not
supported.

Current Working Directory
Sometimes, programs can change the current working directory on drives other than the current
drive. For example, if the Dashboard prompt is on C:, a program may change the current working
directory on the D: drive. Consequently, if a command depends on the current working directory
on the destination drive other than the one Dashboard is on, you should check to make sure it's
the right directory before executing the command. For instance, if you want to copy files from C:
to D:, check the current directory on D: before running the Copy command.

Removing Dashboard

Use the Remove Dashboard program found in the Dashboard Program Group to completely
remove Dashboard from your system.

Although the Remove Dashboard program will remove all files supporting Dashboard, you will
have to manually remove the file, DASHZAP.EXE, from your Windows directory, as well as any
personal files that you may have stored in the Dash directory.

NOTE: If you have a previous version of Dashboard installed on your system, you DO NOT
need to remove it from your system to install version 2.01. Removing your previous version will
eliminate any custom Quick Launch buttons, layouts, etc. Follow the procedure outlined in the
section entitled "Installing Dashboard 2.0 over Previous Versions" to install Dashboard 2.01 while
retaining any customizations made to your previous version.

Contacting Borland

Dashboard for Windows is available at your favorite retail store. Please contact your local
Borland office for reseller, product and technical support information.

Borland Offices

U.S. Headquarters

Tel: 1-800-533-0004, ext. 1276

Asian Headquarters
Tel: 852 540 4380

Korea
Tel: 82 2 551 2795

Australia
Tel: 61 2 911 1000

Latin America
Tel: 1 408 431 1074

Belgium/Luxembourg
Tel: 32 2 4610 448

Malaysia
Tel: 60 3 230 2618

Brazil
Tel: 55 11 851 5326

Netherlands
Tel: 31 020 540 5400

Canada
Tel: 1 416 229 6000

New Zealand
Tel: 64 9 443 8890

Chile
Tel: 56 2 233 7113

Russia (C.I.S.)
Tel: 7 095 366 4634

Denmark
Tel: 45 48 14 00 01

Singapore
Tel: 65 339 8122

European Headquarters
Tel: 33 1 41 23 11 00

Spain
Tel: 34 1 650 7250

France
Tel: 33 1 41 23 11 00

Sweden
Tel: 46 8 634 35 00

Germany
Tel: 49 6103 9790

Switzerland
Tel: 41 31 761 2604

Hong Kong
Tel: 852 540 4380

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Tel: 886 2 718 66 27

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