

Multiple Contacts Database Manager

MultiContacts^(tm)

for Revo, Revo+, Mako, Series 5mx, 7 and netBook

version 2.0

Introduction.

MultiContacts allows you to work with several Contact Lists.

Current release of EPOC Contacts application allows to have only one Contact List, MultiContacts makes it possible for you to work around the problem and maintain as many Contact Lists as you require.

MultiContacts is a Shareware Application. If you find it useful, please Register the Software. Please refer to the chapter "**Registration**" of this ReadMe file.

Compatibility:

This program was tested on Psion Revo, Revo+, Series 5mx, 7, netBook and Diamond Mako.

MultiContacts will not work on Psion Series 5, since its EPOC Release does not have Contacts Application (Epoc prior to 5).

Key Features of the Program are:

- ? **Data Safety.** MultiContacts takes extra care when it comes to the safety of your Contact Lists. It uses "cautious" copy routines that make sure your files are not corrupt when moved around.
- ? **Automatic Recovery.** Things do go wrong sometimes, but you need not to worry. MultiContacts registers its every step. If, for any reason, MultiContacts could not exit cleanly - it will recognize the problem and fix it during the next run. You can even "kill" the application to see this feature working!
- ? **Data Integrity.** MultiContacts will never start two instances of itself. MultiContacts always makes sure Contacts application is not running. And, as an extra protection step, MultiContacts will even **disable** Contacts application when your Contact Lists are copied around or Recovery module is running.
- ? **Speed.** When started from a ShortCut, MultiContacts uses a minimal set of routines to start your Contact List as soon as possible. Functions like creation of a new Contact List or File Recovery are stored in separate modules and loaded only when necessary.
- ? **Flexibility.** There is not limitation on the number of Contact Lists. You can have as many as you want. ShortCuts can be freely moved around your drive or even copied to several folders for your convenience.
MultiContacts recognizes both Contacts files and Shortcut files as argument files (in case you use such programs and Crypto^(c) and wish to associate the Encrypted Contact List with MultiContacts application)
- ? **Size.** MultiContacts is a relatively small application. It only requires ~45K of disk space.
- ? **Friendliness.** MultiContacts 2.0 has a standard EPOC look and feel and is Menu and Toolbar driven.
Although it is important to remind you to register MultiContacts from time to time, I also understand that Shareware "nags" are disturbing. There is no license check when you start MultiContacts via Contact List ShortCut.

Quick Start.

Installation

- ? Make sure you have Sysram1.Opx file installed on your machine. (It should be in C:\SYSTEM\OPX folder). If Sysram1.Opx is missing, please install it from the Sysram1.SIS file included in the package.
- ? You do not need to Uninstall the previous version of MultiContacts. The program is fully backwards-compatible.
- ? Install MultiContacts from the MultiContacts.sis file.

Organizing Contacts and Running the Program

- ? Create a Folder where you plan to store your Contact Lists (e.g. C:\Documents\Contacts)
- ? Start MultiContacts by tapping on its icon on the Extras Bar
- ? If you plan to Evaluate the Program, tap on Evaluate button, otherwise tap on the Register button and enter the Registration Key.
- ? Review the Preferences. Choose where you want your Contact Lists to be stored, whether or not you want to disable System Contacts App during certain periods of execution and whether you want to use Contact Lists with INI files (to preserve settings of every Contact List individually). Save the Preferences.
- ? Create as many Contact Lists as you feel necessary. Each Contact List is created in pair with a ShortCut to the list, which you can use for quick access. You can freely move the ShortCuts around your folders and create copies of them. However, the Contact List shall remain in the same folder, as each ShortCut points at the original location of the respective Contact List.
- ? Quit MultiContacts.
- ? Navigate to the Folder, where you have created the Contact Lists and start the necessary one by tapping on the respective ShortCut.
- ? If you chose to use Contacts INI files, you can change the view and fields of each Contact List individually!
- ? **ENJOY the variety of Contact Lists, and do not forget to Register should you decide to keep the program.**

User's Manual.

Terms and Definitions:

Contact List - a database file, which could be used with EPOC Contacts application.

Contacts App - an EPOC contacts application.

Contacts INI file - a file where Contacts App stores your preferences for each Contact List. Preferences include the view settings and field selection.

ShortCut to Contact List - a special file that references *Contact List* and can be use to start Contacts application with respective *Contact List*.

Broken ShortCut - a ShortCut which refers to the Contact List, that does not exist anymore or was moved from its original location.

Clean Exit - MultiContacts exists "cleanly" when it does not have any problems copying Contact Lists to their original locations.

Modes of Operations:

Full Operation Mode. MultiContacts starts in Full Operation Mode when started from the Extras Bar. Full Operation Mode allows creation of Blank Contact Lists and their respective ShortCuts, creation of ShortCuts to the existing Contact Lists, opening of the existing Contact Lists.

Create Operation Mode. MultiContacts starts in Create Operation Mode when started by the EPOC *Create New File* command (Ctrl+N). In this mode MultiContacts allows to create one blank Contact List and a ShortCut to it.

ShortCut Operation Mode. MultiContacts starts in ShortCut Operation Mode when started by tapping on the ShortCut to Contact List. In this mode MultiContacts starts EPOC Contacts application with the specified Contact List.

Data Recovery Mode. MultiContacts starts in Data Recovery Mode when it could not exit "cleanly" during the previous run (i.e. system crash, application was "killed", etc.). In this Mode MultiContacts will show which steps were executed successfully and propose to recover data automatically.

EPOC Contacts App will be disabled during the Data Recovery Mode even if you chose not to disable Contacts App in the Preferences.

Broken ShortCuts recovery.

MultiContacts will prompt you to delete and re-create a Broken ShortCut. ShortCuts are ALWAYS created in the same folder with the Contact List. You can copy or move the ShortCut after it is created.

Manual Data Recovery

In the unfortunate event of system crash or similar catastrophe, you might choose to Recover your Contact Lists manually.

Please note, that your Original (or System) Contact List can be found in C:\System\Data folder. File is: Contacts.cdb

During execution of MultiContacts, your System Contact List is backed up to C:\System\Apps\MultiContacts\Contacts.Cdb.Bak file. Your User Contact Lists remain in the Folder where you chose to keep them.

Original (or System) Contacts App INI file can be found in C:\System\Apps\Contacts folder. File is: Contacts.ini

During execution of MultiContacts, your System Contacts App INI file is backed up to C:\System\Apps\MultiContacts\Contacts.ini.Bak file.

Your User Contact List INI file remains in the folder with the Contact List itself.

Contacts App Remains Disabled

It is possible, however unlikely, that MultiContacts will leave Contacts App disabled. Most probable cause would be that MultiContacts is either "hang" or is still running in the background.

In this case navigate to the installation folder of MultiContacts: C:\System\Apps\Multicontacts and execute OPL module MCRECOVER.OPO

Then Re-start MultiContacts.

Your Contacts App shall be enabled again.

Execution Steps

It is very important to understand what Contact List is located where during MultiContacts session. Those are the steps of MultiContacts execution with file locations (assuming you use Contacts App INI files):

1. Back Up System Contact List

File c:\system\data\contacts.cdb is copied to
c:\system\apps\multicontacts\contacts.cdb.bak

File c:\system\apps\contacts\contacts.ini is copied to c:
\system\apps\multicontacts\contacts.ini.bak

2. User Contact List is copied to System Contact List

File c:\documents\contacts\private.cdb is copied to c:\system\data\contacts.cdb

File c:\documents\contacts\private.cdb.ini is copied to c:\system\apps\contacts\contacts.ini

3. EPOC Contacts application is started. MultiContacts waits for Contacts to finish.

4. EPOC Contacts application has finished. MultiContacts did not move any file yet.

5. User Contact List is copied back to Contacts Folder of User's choice. File c:\system\data\contacts.cdb is copied to c:\documents\contacts\private.cdb

File c:\system\apps\contacts\contacts.ini is copied to c:\documents\contacts\private.cdb.ini

6. System Contact List Restored

File c:\system\apps\multicontacts\contacts.cdb.bak is copied to c:\system\data\contacts.cdb

File c:\system\apps\multicontacts\contacts.ini.bak is copied to c:\system\apps\contacts\contacts.ini

!! Please Note that those steps are exactly the ones reported by the recovery module of MultiContacts. The one reported is the one **successfully** executed last.

Plug-Ins.

Plug-Ins are OPL programs that interact with MultiContacts in a specific way and extend MultiContacts functionality.

Up to 10 Plug-Ins can be actively used.

There are two types of Plug-Ins:

- **Inline**
Inline plug-in is executed while MultiContacts is waiting for it to finish. Inline plug-in may optionally return a Contact List name back to MultiContacts to be opened.
 - **Stand Alone**
Stand alone plug-ins are launched from MultiContacts without any further interaction.
- *MultiContacts 2.0 is shipped with 3 free plug-ins:*
- **Launch Smart Find**
for those who use Smart Find Program
 - **a la MultiContacts 1.20**
for those who likes the feel and look of MultiContacts 1.20
 - **Shutdown Phone & Email**
for those who use Phone and/or Email application, it is safer to shut those down before opening a Contact List.

Plug-In example source code and SDK is available upon request.

Intuitive Interface.

You will find that MultiContacts is very easy to use. the program is very straightforward. Right now I do not plan to create a step-by-step User Guide. However, if you feel that one is required, please contact me via email.

How to Split Existing Contact List?

Fortunately, EPOC Contacts application can store a part of your Contact List as a VCF file.

Take time to categorize your Contact List, then use Find Command (CTRL+F) to create a search results list.

Store the search results as a VCF file.

Start your Contact List using MultiContacts and Import VCF file into it. **DO NOT FORGET** to compress the newly created file!

Once you made sure all of your Contacts were distributed between new Contact Lists - remove the old List or (better!) back it up to PC for a rainy day.

Registration.

MultiContacts is a Shareware Application, which means that you need to register after a reasonable period of evaluation time.

You must read and agree with the Disclaimer section of this Document, before proceeding with Registration.

Upon Registration, you will receive Registration Key and also will be informed about new releases.

Registration also entitles you to Free Technical Support and Troubleshooting of MultiContacts.

MultiContacts costs \$15 and could be registered via PayPal.com or RegNet.com

Please visit PayPal site at <http://paypal.com> and send payment to sales@multicontacts.net

Please visit RegNet site at <http://www.reg.net>

MultiContacts RegNet id is: 9075

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Version History.

Version 2.0, October 02, 2001 – MAJOR RELEASE

New design – Menu and Toolbar support.

Fast Copy option. Ability to disable SafeCopy.

Contacts Application updates check (for correct disable)

Contacts store drive added to preferences.

Option of file highlighting.

Recent files menu.

Plug-Ins

Emergency Recovery module updated.

Minor bugs corrected.

Version 1.20, March 28, 2001.

Preferences are introduced allowing to choose the default folder for Contact Lists, enable/disable Contacts App, copying of contacts INI files with Contact Lists.

Corrected Blank.Cdb - a template for empty Contact Lists. The previous release contained an "emulator" or WINS version of empty Contact List, which happened to be different from the "device" or MARM version.

MultiContacts now tests for Contact App to exit to avoid running on Series 5 (not mx).

Installation self-test and Sysram1 presence tests were added.

Minor bugs corrected.

Version 1.10, March 25, 2001.

Error Handling routine updated to provide more information.

Additional Functionality for easier switching between Contact Lists.

Version 1.00b, March 21, 2001.

Initial Release.

Technical Support and Contacts Information.

MultiContacts web page is:

`http://www.multicontacts.net`

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