

ReqTools

Magnus Holmgren

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| COLLABORATORS |
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| | <i>TITLE :</i> ReqTools | | |
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Chapter 1

ReqTools

1.1 ReqTools.guide

reqtools.library

The requester toolkit.

Release 2.9

© 1991–1994 by Nico François
1995–1997 by Magnus Holmgren

Welcome to ReqTools, a shared requester toolkit library for the AmigaOS.

Introduction
Features
Installation

Distribution
Using reqtools.library

Preferences
RTPatch

Version history
The future
Contacting the author

Acknowledgements

1.2 ReqTools.guide/Introduction

Introduction

reqtools.library is a standard Amiga shared, runtime library. The purpose

of ReqTools is to make it a lot quicker and easier to build standard requesters into your programs. ReqTools is designed with Commodore's style guidelines in mind, all requesters have the look-and-feel of AmigaDOS Release 2.

If you use ReqTools in your programs you do not have to worry about requesters too much. You'll have a lot more time to concentrate on the really important stuff your program does.

The library has been inspired by req.library (by Colin Fox & Bruce Dawson) and Commodore's own asl.library. You will find it shares a lot of the features with these two libraries, while it has some additional ones as well. While asl.library was great in look-and-feel I [Nico François] felt it lacked quite a bit in the power department. This power is mostly available in req.library, but this doesn't fit in too well with AmigaDOS Release 2. So the idea for a new requester library was born.

I tried to make all requesters in ReqTools very powerful, easy to use and with a very nice new-look 3D interface. Efficiency was also considered very important. The library is about 45K large. I'm sure you will agree this is not too much considering what ReqTools offers.

ReqTools features the following requesters: a query requester, a string requester, a number requester, a file requester, a font requester, a palette requester and new in release 2.0 of ReqTools a volume requester and a screen mode requester.

1.3 ReqTools.guide/Features

Features

The requesters have following features:

All requesters:

- Have a pixel-perfect Workbench 2.0 3D look.

- Are completely localized! If you are using Workbench 2.1 or higher the text in ReqTools requesters will appear in the language of your Workbench (if the catalog for this language is available).

- Adjust to interlaced screens and to the screen's font. Requesters can also use any suitable font you specify.

- Can appear under the mouse pointer, centered on the screen/in a window or at the top left of the screen/a window.

- Can be used asynchronously.

- Check pr_WindowPtr of your process is to find the screen they should appear on (can be overridden).

- Uses tags for maximum future extendibility. All standard 2.0 tags are supported (like TAG_SKIP, TAG_MORE, etc.).

- Bring the screen they appear on to the front. The screen that was

in front previously will be put in front again when the requester finishes (if it is still open). This behaviour can be switched off.

Will always appear in the visible portion of the screen (support of virtual screens).

Are extensively tested using enforcer and mungwall debugging tools.

Have the ability to lock the parent window from all user input and give it a standard wait pointer automatically.

Can share the IDCMP port of the parent window.

Supports a callback hook for handling IDCMP messages from a shared IDCMP port.

Have keyboard shortcuts for gadgets (key underlined in gadget label). Use Right Amiga key with shortcut if a string gadget is active.

rtEZRequest, the query requester:

Easy keyboard shortcuts:

Left Amiga V and Left Amiga B (like the standard requesters).

Y for positive response.

N, R, Esc for negative response.

Return can also be used as a shortcut and can be associated with any response. The gadget in question will have its text printed in bold. Default response for Return is the positive response.

Buttons give visual feedback when keyboard shortcuts are used.

Keyboard shortcuts can be canceled by pressing Shift before releasing the key.

Keyboard shortcuts can be defined to be any character in the button's label. The character in question will be underlined.

Function keys can be used to select the "first" ten gadgets.

Number of responses only limited by screen width.

Allows for multiple lines of text.

Text can be centered in requester (great for about requesters).

Supports the use of 'printf' formatting codes in text and in responses.

Can be terminated by IDCMP events.

rtFileRequest, the file requester:

Similar in use and look-and-feel as Asl file requester.

Buffers directories in memory.

Files and directories can be added or removed from the buffer by the calling program.

Can be put in save mode, disabling double-clicks and asking you if directories that can't be found (entered manually) should be created.

Optional callback hook for verification of files before they are added to the buffer.

Supports multiple selection of files and optionally of directories.

When multi-select is on, All, Clear and Match... buttons are available. All selects, and Clear unselects all files. Match... brings up a requester where the user can enter a pattern to select files.

Can be used as a directory requester (showing ghosted files).

Optional pattern gadget to match files on.

Shows all volumes (with device names) and all assigns made.

Can be used as a volume requester to get a device or an assign from the user.

Can be resized in height to show more files.

Shows disk percentage used next to volume names.

Allows you to enter paths in the filename string gadget. If the requester finds a path in the filename it will change the directory to that path. So if you e.g. enter 'Devs:mountlist' in the filename gadget the requester will read the 'Devs:' directory and set the filename gadget to 'mountlist'. If you enter 'printers/' it will go into the printers directory. Enter '/' to go to the parent directory.

Completely keyboard controllable: use up and down cursor keys to select files or directories. Use Shift-Up and Shift-Down to jump by one window-full. Use Ctrl-Up and Ctrl-Down to jump to the start or end of the directory.

rtFontRequest, the font requester:

Buffers all fonts in memory.

Shows sample of font you click on.

Can be also be used to select the font's style.

Supports color fonts, can change the screen's palette.

Supports scaled fonts.

Optional callback hook for verification of fonts before they are added to the buffer.

Supports TABCYCLE under 2.0

Can be resized in height to show more fonts.

Makes sure selected font is visible in listview when it comes up.

rtScreenModeRequest, the display mode requester:

All modes in the DisplayInfo database can be displayed.

Allows you to pick a standard overscan setting.

User may enter preferred size or choose to get the defaults.

Number of colors selectable.

Can be put up with the attributes from a given screen.

Optional callback hook for examining a display mode before it is added to the requester.

Can be resized in height to show more modes.

Makes sure selected mode is visible in listview when it comes up.

rtPaletteRequest, the palette requester:

Features Copy, Swap and Spread functions. The currently active mode (if any) is shown in the requester title.

Current values of red, green and blue are displayed.

Returns the selected color.

Optionally displays a colorwheel.

rtGetLong, the long integer requester:

Width of requester can be set by caller.

A minimum and maximum can be supplied and will be displayed in the requester.

A value to show up when the requester appears can be supplied.

Can display buttons with several possible responses.

Invisible entry is possible (useful for getting a code number).

Patterned backfill of requester can be switched on or off.

Some line(s) of (centered) text may be displayed above the entry gadget to give the user some extra information.

rtGetString, the string requester:

Width of requester can be set by caller.

A string to show up when the requester appears can be supplied.

Can display buttons with several possible responses.

Invisible entry is possible (useful for getting a password).

Patterned backfill of requester can be switched on or off.

Some line(s) of (centered) text may be displayed above the entry gadget to give the user some extra information.

1.4 ReqTools.guide/Installation

Installation

To install reqtools.library copy it to your Libs: directory by hand, or run the Installer script. The script will also install the needed language files, if needed.

The installer script also lets you install RTPatch. In case you want to install REXXReqTools as well, simply use the Installer found in the REXXReqTools drawer.

1.5 ReqTools.guide/Distribution

Distribution

The programs and files in this distribution are freely distributable, but are also Copyright © Nico François and Magnus Holmgren. They may be freely distributed as long as no more than a nominal fee is charged to cover time and copying costs. ReqTools is distributed as non-crippled (optional) shareware, it is fully functional.

- Registration
- Support
- Freeware usage
- Shareware usage
- Commercial usage

The complete ReqTools package consists of two archives; One user archive, containing everything the normal user needs; One developer archive, containing all developer files needed, in order to use ReqTools in other programs. Note that the catalog translations are located in the developer archive.

Check out the README files and documents in the Glue directory (from the developer archive) for copyrights of all the glue code.

REXXReqTools is Copyright © Rafael D'Halleweyn and is included with his kind permission.

All of the files copyrighted by the author must remain unmodified. None of these files may be distributed on its own, the entire package must be distributed as one whole. 'demo.c' is full public domain and can be used in any way you like.

There is one exception to the above. If you plan to release a freely distributable program (either public domain, freeware or shareware), you may include 'libs/reqtools.library', the installation scripts (with icon), the catalogs and the preference editor (with documentation and icons) with your distribution.

Whether your program is freely distributable or commercial, you must state in your documentation that your program uses reqtools.library and that ReqTools is Copyright (c) Nico François and Magnus Holmgren.

1.6 ReqTools.guide/Registration

Registration

People wishing to register ReqTools can do so by sending US\$25 to:

Magnus Holmgren
Kvarnbergsvägen 5
S-444 47 Stenungsund
SWEDEN

Send money by postal(!) money order (international, not e.g. limited to North America or similar), or cash (SKR or US\$)!

Please state the version of reqtools.library you have (use the C:Version command to display the version).

By registering you support the further development of ReqTools. If you use it and like it, please consider registering.

Important note: If you already have registered ReqTools with Nico François, you don't need to do that again. It should be noted that I don't have the list over who have registered ReqTools with Nico François.

1.7 ReqTools.guide/Support

Support

If you need some support, you can always send me a message (preferably via e-mail). See Contacting the author for how to reach me.

I am not familiar with the current status of the REQTOOLS FidoNet echomail area (where support previously was available). If there is interest for this, I can try to reactivate it (in one way or another).

As the old support BBS (Great Balls Of Fire BBS) is located in another country, I will not myself upload the latest version to it. However, I will

try to upload the latest version on Aminet, from where many BBSes can get it.

1.8 ReqTools.guide/Freeware usage

Freeware usage

Freeware usage of ReqTools is allowed if the following conditions are met:

You state in your documentation that your program uses reqtools.library and that ReqTools is Copyright © Nico François and Magnus Holmgren.

A registration would be appreciated, but is not required.

1.9 ReqTools.guide/Shareware usage

Shareware usage

Shareware usage of ReqTools is allowed if the following conditions are met:

You state in your documentation that your program uses reqtools.library and that ReqTools is Copyright © Nico François and Magnus Holmgren.

You send me a fully functional copy of your finished product(s) using reqtools.library.

A registration would be appreciated, but is not required.

1.10 ReqTools.guide/Commercial usage

Commercial usage

Commercial usage of ReqTools is allowed if the following conditions are met:

You register ReqTools (see Registration).

You state in your documentation that your program uses reqtools.library and that ReqTools is Copyright © Nico François and Magnus Holmgren.

You send me a copy of your finished product(s) using reqtools.library.

If these conditions are met you are allowed to include the Kickstart 1.3 and/or the Kickstart 2.0 version of reqtools.library and the installation script(s) with your commercial product.

1.11 ReqTools.guide/Using reqtools.library

Using reqtools.library

If you are a C programmer all you need to do is include the correct header ('libraries/reqtool.h') and open reqtools.library. After that you can use the functions in the library as if they were C functions. If your program quits it must of course close the library again. See 'demo.c' for an example.

Glue code for several compilers/languages is included with ReqTools. Look in the Glue directory of the ReqTools distribution to see if glue code exists for your compiler and/or programming language. If it doesn't and you write your own please send it to me and I'll include it in the next release of ReqTools.

Note that the source for the Manx C libraries is the same as for the SAS/C libraries. See the README.Manx file in the archive 'Glue/Sas-C/LibSource.lha'.

Manx C users may have to edit 'libraries/reqtools.h' and change the library (GfxBase, IntuitionBase, etc.) fields to rt_GfxBase, rt_IntuitionBase etc. Seems there is a bug in some versions of the Manx C compiler that has problems otherwise. Let's hope this gets fixed soon :-)

If your compiler doesn't allow using pragmas (in-line library calls, no glue code required) for functions with a variable number of arguments, then you must always link with the reqtools.lib for your compiler.

Assembly programmers should also include the correct files and open reqtools.library. To call a function they must load A6 with the library base, put the arguments in the appropriate registers and jump to the library vector offset of the function they want to call.

Remember to open the library with a specific version number if you wish to use features only found in that version (for example: screen mode requester).

All library functions are explained in the autodoc file 'reqtools.doc'.

Enjoy.

1.12 ReqTools.guide/Preferences

Preferences

ReqTools Preference Editor

Release 2.8

© 1991-1994 Nico François
1995-1997 Magnus Holmgren

Options
The Editor
Program history

1.13 ReqTools.guide/Preferences/Options

Options

The ReqTools preference editor recognizes the following command line options when started from the CLI:

FROM <ReqTools preference file>
Edit specified preference file.

SCREENFONT=<YES|NO>
Use screen font for editor or use the standard Topaz 8 font (default YES). This option is ignored by the ClassAct version of the preferences editor.

PUBSCREEN <public screen name>
Open on specified public screen.

The following tool types are recognized when started from Workbench:

CREATEICONS=<YES|NO>
Create icons for preference files (default YES). Note that if the editor is started from the Shell the menu item will not be checked so no icons will be created.

SCREENFONT=<YES|NO>
Use screen font for editor or use the standard Topaz 8 font (default YES). This option is ignored by the ClassAct version of the preferences editor.

PUBSCREEN=<public screen name>
Open on specified public screen.

1.14 ReqTools.guide/Preferences/The Editor

The Editor

This documentation is still very basic, it very shortly describes the checkboxes and default requester settings available.

General settings:

Pop Screen To Front
Allows you to switch off the default behaviour of all ReqTools requesters popping the screen they appear on to the front.

Use system default font

Force the use of the system default font in the file, font, directory, screenmode, volume and palette requesters (instead of the screen font). Note that if a program uses the RT_DefaultFont tag to select a specific default font this font will be used.

Use function keys

Allow function keys to be used as shortcuts for gadgets in the text requester (rtEZRequestA). F1 means leftmost gadget, F2 the next, etc. This means that up to 11 gadgets can have shortcuts (10 function keys, and ESC), even if no underscores or similar are used.

Wheel type

Specifies if the palette requester should display a color wheel (if possible), and if so, how it should look. The following alternatives are available:

No color wheel

Don't display any color wheel

Simple color wheel

Display a monochrome color wheel and brightness slider, if possible.

Fancy color wheel

Display a colorful color wheel and brightness slider, if possible. For this to be shown, several free pens on the screen must be available, or it will revert to a simple color wheel.

Please note that this fancy color wheel can cause some "problems", since if you try to edit one of the colors used by the wheel and the brightness slider, then it either won't be possible, or the wheel will not look good any more. Thus, certain colors should not be changed. Keep this in mind if you use the fancy color wheel.

The color wheel will only be displayed if the screen is large enough to accomodate the extra size needed for the wheel, and the colorwheel and gradientslider gadgets are properly installed (part of OS 3.0 and higher).

File Requester settings:

Immediate sort

If checked makes the file requester sort the directory contents automatically.

Display drawers first

Display drawers before the files in the file requester.

Mix files and drawers

Mix files and drawers in the file requester. If none of the 'Display Drawers First' or 'Mix Files And Drawers' is checked files will be displayed before drawers.

Disk activity LED

Switch the disk activity LED in the file requester on or off.

MMB gives parent

Specifies if a click with the middle mouse button should make the file requester go to the parent directory or not.

Default settings:

For each requester type you can set the following defaults:

Size (% of visible height)

Default height of the requester (relative to the visible height of the screen it will appear on).

Number of visible entries

Minimum and maximum number of entries that are initially displayed. With this you can assure you won't see less or more entries than the minimum or maximum you set when the requester first appears. You can for example set the font requester to use 75% of the visible screen height. If you set the maximum number of visible entries to 10 the font requester will not display more than 10 entries no matter how high the screen is it appears on.

Position

Default position of requester.

Offset

Offset (in pixels) from the default position.

Note that you are setting defaults; not all requesters will appear as you have selected. If a program explicitly sets a requester's position ReqTools will make the requester appear as asked. The defaults will be used when the calling program doesn't set specific settings itself.

1.15 ReqTools.guide/Preferences/Program history

Program history

History before 2.3 deleted...

Release 2.3

Release 2.4

Release 2.5

Release 2.6

Release 2.7

Release 2.8

1.16 ReqTools.guide/Preferences/Program history/Release 2.3

Release 2.3

Added a 'Use function keys' checkbox for ReqTools 2.3 or higher.

A few gadgets weren't properly updated when changing the prefs (using a menu item).

1.17 ReqTools.guide/Preferences/Program history/Release 2.4

Release 2.4

Fixed the bug that cause crashes on startup for 68000 users.

1.18 ReqTools.guide/Preferences/Program history/Release 2.5

Release 2.5

Added the 'Color wheel' option.

1.19 ReqTools.guide/Preferences/Program history/Release 2.6

Release 2.6

The localized strings were not always correct.

The 'Color wheel', 'Disk activity LED' and 'Use system default font' gadgets were not always correctly updated.

1.20 ReqTools.guide/Preferences/Program history/Release 2.7

Release 2.7

Changed the color wheel option to a cycle gadget, to accomodate the 'Fancy color wheel' option.

Wrote a ClassAct version of the preferences editor.

1.21 ReqTools.guide/Preferences/Program history/Release 2.8

Release 2.8

The wheel type cycle gadget wouldn't allow you to go back to simpler wheel types. It wasn't updated when loading prefs either.

In the GadTools version, the placement of some gadgets were wrong, from the "Use function keys" gadgets, and downwards in that column.

Added the "MMB gives parent" option.

Note that the problem with the ClassAct version, that the requester height numeric display was (re)displayed incorrectly, was caused by a bug in ClassAct. Try getting the latest version of ClassAct if the problem remains (it works fine here).

1.22 ReqTools.guide/RTPatch

RTPatch

The ReqTools patcher.

Release 1.7

© 1992-1994 Nico François
1995-1996 Magnus Holmgren
1996-1997 Dave Jones

Welcome to RTPatch, the ReqTools requester patcher.

Introduction

Usage

Compatibility

Controlling RTPatch

Version history

Contacting the author

1.23 ReqTools.guide/RTPatch/Introduction

Introduction

RTPatch is a small program that will re-route functions from most popular requester libraries to ReqTools. Libraries currently supported are Arp, Req and Asl. RTPatch will also patch some functions in Intuition to give you improved system requesters.

The patches RTPatch makes are these:

Intuition:

AutoRequest and EasyRequest (on 2.0) are patched so normal system requesters, like 'Insert Disk...' requesters, will be replaced by ReqTools EZRequesters. They will appear near the mouse pointer and respond to many keyboard shortcuts.

On 2.0 OpenScreenTagList() is also patched to always open a new-look 3D screen. This will make for example CygnusEd 2.12 open a nice new-look screen. You may also ask RTPatch to patch OpenScreen() to open all screens with a 3D look. Beware however that this makes a lot of old programs look ugly!

req.library:

File requester, font requester, palette requester, string requester and integer requester are replaced by ReqTools requesters.

arp.library:

File requester is replaced by ReqTools file requester.

asl.library:

Currently only file requester is replaced by ReqTools file requester. Font and screen mode requesters are not patched yet.

RTPatch uses an intelligent patch mechanism. It will only patch a library when it is actually opened. This means that if you never use the arp.library (for example) it will not be patched and, more importantly, it will not unnecessarily be loaded into memory! If you do run a program that uses Arp and you quit it, it will close Arp. RTPatch will then allow the patched Arp to be expunged from memory. If Arp is reloaded again later it will be re-patched. Note that RTPatch patches exec.library/OpenLibrary() and exec.library/OldOpenLibrary() to accomplish all this.

RTPatch is a 100% assembly program, for maximum efficiency. It only takes about 5K of memory once installed (excluding memory occupied by reqtools.library). It uses no processor time while installed.

1.24 ReqTools.guide/RTPatch/Usage

Usage

RTPatch can be used from Workbench and from the Shell (CLI).

Shell usage:

```
RTPatch [NOREQ] [NOASL] [NOARP] [NOINTUITION] [OPENS CRPATCH]
        [NOOPENS CRTAGPATCH] [NOFILEREQPATCH] [IGNOREHEIGHT]
```

Explanation of options:

NOREQ

Do not patch req.library.

NOASL

Do not patch asl.library.

NOARP

Do not patch arp.library.

NOINTUITION

Do not patch intuition.library.

OPENS CRPATCH

Patch OpenScreen() in intuition.library so all screens will open with a 3D look.

NOOPENS CRTAGPATCH

Do not patch `OpenScreenTagList()` in `intuition.library`.

`NOFILEREQPATCH`

Do not patch any file requester functions.

`IGNOREHEIGHT`

Ignore height setting of Asl file requester.

Workbench usage:

RTPatch recognizes following tooltypes:

`NOREQ`

Do not patch `req.library`.

`NOASL`

Do not patch `asl.library`.

`NOARP`

Do not patch `arp.library`.

`NOINTUITION`

Do not patch `intuition.library`.

`OPENSCLPATCH`

Patch `OpenScreen()` in `intuition.library` so all screens will open with a 3D look.

`NOOPENSCLTAGPATCH`

Do not patch `OpenScreenTagList()` in `intuition.library`.

`NOFILEREQPATCH`

Do not patch any file requester functions.

`IGNOREHEIGHT`

Ignore height setting of Asl file requester.

`QUIET`

Don't open requester informing patches have been installed. Set this tooltype if you intend to drag RTPatch to your WbStartup drawer.

Note: Run RTPatch when no program has `req.library`, `asl.library` or `arp.library` open! RTPatch will complain if one of these libraries is in use and will refuse to install or remove patches. Running RTPatch in your user-startup or from your WbStartup should be ok.

Warning: Asl V38 (distributed with Workbench 2.1) always keeps its library open count at 0. It does this so that the system (rather, `ramlib`) will always call its `Expunge()` function when memory is low. This does however mean RTPatch cannot see if this library is in use or not. So you must be very careful not to install or remove RTPatch when you have a program running that uses Asl. If you are still using Workbench 2.0 there is no problem.

1.25 ReqTools.guide/RTPatch/Compatibility

Compatibility

RTPatch supports all basic requester functions and options. Other supported things that are worth mentioning:

arp.library (V39):

File callback function (FRF_DoWildFunc). The A4 global data register is valid when this callback function is called (documented feature).

Message callback function (FRF_DoMsgFunc) for requesters which share their IDCMP port with the parent window.

Save mode (FRF_DoColor flag).

Shared IDCMP with parent window or new IDCMP (FRF_NewIDCMP flag).

'Empty filename is ok' behaviour is supported.

asl.library (V36/V38-V40):

File callback function/hook (FRF_DOWILDFUNC and ASLFR_FilterFunc tag). The A4 global data register is valid when this callback function is called for maximum compatibility (undocumented feature of Asl V36).

Intuition message callback function/hook (FRF_DOMSGFUNC and ASLFR_IntuiMsgFunc tag) for requesters with shared IDCMP.

Multi-selection (FRB_DOMULTISELECT flag or ASLFR_DoMultiSelect tag).

Directory requester, no files (FRF_DRAWERSONLY flag or ASLFR_DrawersOnly tag).

Save mode (FRF_DOSAVEMODE flag or ASLFR_DoSaveMode tag).

Shared IDCMP with parent window or new IDCMP (FRF_PRIVATEIDCMP flag or ASLFR_PrivateIDCMP tag).

Putting to sleep of parent window (ASLFR_SleepWindow tag).

Font for requester (ASLFR_TextAttr tag).

Pattern gadget (FRF_DOPATTERNS flag or ASLFR_DoPatterns tag).

'Empty filename is ok' behaviour is supported to ensures compatibility with e.g. AssignX, PageStream 2.2 and no doubt many other programs.

Undocumented fields in file requester structure are filled in, so even "dirty" programs will work.

Accept and reject patterns (ASLFR_AcceptPattern/ASLFR_RejectPattern).

req.library (V2):

Multi-selection.

Buffers for file and font requester.

Directory requester (no files).

Save mode (FRQSAVINGM flag).

Minimum and maximum value of GetLong() requester.

Additional enhancements:

Buffered directories for Asl file requester.

Following things are not supported (yet?):

arp.library:

FRF_NewWindFunc and FRF_AddGadFunc/FRF_GEventFunc callback functions are not called. As far as I can tell nobody ever used the latter two and the former function is certainly not used a lot. In short: this should not pose any problems.

asl.library:

ASLFR_InitialWidth and ASLFR_NegativeText tags are ignored.

FRB_REJECTICONS flag and ASLFR_RejectIcons tag are ignored.

FRB_FILTERDRAWERS flag and ASLFR_FilterDrawers tag are ignored.

req.library:

Timeout and abort mask (req.library requester will be used).

freq->frq_Hide is ignored (freq->frq_Show is however supported).

TR_KeyMask is not completely supported. If it is not 0xffff (no qualifers) the requester will only respond to Left Amiga V/B. This should suffice in most cases however.

If you find any compatibility problems let me know. Please give a detailed description of the problem. Not 'RTPatch doesn't work with NeatProg', but more like: 'when I do this and this in NeatProg ... doesn't work'.

1.26 ReqTools.guide/RTPatch/Controlling RTPatch

Controlling RTPatch

From version 1.1 on RTPatch's message port can be used to control certain patches from an external program.

The message port is called 'RTPatch.rendezvous' and looks like this:

```
struct RTPatchPort
{
    /* PRIVATE FIELDS */
    struct MsgPort  rtport_port;
    ULONG          rtport_version;
```

```

/* PUBLIC */
UWORD   rtport_easyreqautocancel;
UWORD   rtport_skipeasyreqpatch;
UWORD   rtport_skipopenscrpatch;
};

```

Set the `rtport_autocancel` field to non-zero to make easy requesters cancel themselves automatically. The `rtport_skipeasyreqpatch` field can be used to temporarily disable the patch for `EasyRequestArgs()`. Note that the `rtport_easyreqautocancel` field will be ignored if the `rtport_skipeasyreqpatch` field is non-zero (TRUE). RTPatch must have been installed without the `NOINTUITION` argument (default).

Set the `rtport_skipopenscrpatch` field to non-zero to temporarily disable the `OpenScreen()` patch. This will of course only work if the `OPENSSCRPATCH` argument was used (not the default!).

To change these fields simply do a `FindPort()` for `'RTPatch.rendezvous'` and change the fields like this:

```

Forbid();

if( rtport = ( struct RTPatchPort * ) FindPort( "RTPatch.rendezvous" ) )
{
    rtport->rtport_easyreqautocancel = TRUE;
}

Permit();

if( !rtport )
{
    Message( "RTPatch not found!" );
}
else
{
    Message( "Easy requesters will now be canceled!" );
}

```

Note that you absolutely must use the `Forbid()/Permit()` pair since RTPatch can quit at any time.

Enjoy.

1.27 ReqTools.guide/RTPatch/Version history

Version history

History before 1.4 deleted...

```

Release 1.4
Release 1.5
Release 1.6
Release 1.7

```

1.28 ReqTools.guide/RTPatch/Version history/Release 1.4

Release 1.4

Forgot to bump version number in the ReqTools 2.3 release. :)

Increased compatibility for the ASL patch, so that e.g. Visage should work better (i.e. not throw up an odd requester when requester is cancelled).

Fixed a bug in the 2.3 release that made RTPatch print way too much text most of the time.

1.29 ReqTools.guide/RTPatch/Version history/Release 1.5

Release 1.5

RTPatch now needs a minimum of KickStart 2

Huge CLI Arguments routine replaced by Dos.library/ReadArgs() call

Quite a few optimisations made.

Simple processor optimisations (Quick form e.t.c.)

Lots of compares changed to use jumptables.

All zero data moved to end of hunks.

Made all code PC relative (Removed reloc entries)

Removed a small bug in the ASL filerequestor patch. No longer returns wrong IoErr() return codes.

The [old]openlibrary patch[es] now search PROGDIR:, PROGDIR:LIBS/ and PROGDIR:CLASSES/ for libraries, as the 'OpenLibEnhancer' on Aminet does, It's therefore no longer necessary to run it.

1.30 ReqTools.guide/RTPatch/Version history/Release 1.6

Release 1.6

No longer prints the ANSI codes (anywhere).

Now if started from Workbench it will print sensible stuff in the requester. Before it was skipping the first two chars off each line of text.

Rewrote the tooltype/command line arguments handling code. Now recognises the QUIET Workbench tooltype again. Note: When removing the patches, the "All Patches Removed" string will override the QUIET setting.

Forgot to mention that the idea for the OpenLibEnhancer was by Thomas Kessler (fw117@fen.baynet.de). Thanks for that, and also for the reminder that you'd not been credited.

The OpenLibEnhancer feature has now been removed from RTPatch, as quite a few people said they didn't want such a feature, so if you miss it, you'll have to download Thomas's version from Aminet:Util/Boot/OpenLibEnhancer.lha

Fixed a bug in the req.library filerequest() patch. Wasn't adding a ':' mark where it should have. Deksid should now work correctly.

1.31 ReqTools.guide/RTPatch/Version history/Release 1.7

Release 1.7

39.3: Removed Enforcer hits from Openlibrary patch. Thanks to Felix Hepfeld and Troels Walsted Hansen for the reports.

39.4: Optimised all bit setting & clearing instructions.

39.5: Reassembled using v40.16 includes

1.32 ReqTools.guide/RTPatch/Contacting the author

Contacting the author

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If you can please use e-mail. That way you'll stand a much better chance of getting a reply quickly.

Please contact me, for suggestions, remarks, bug reports e.t.c.

Dave Jones took over the development of RTPatch, since Magnus Holmgren wasn't very motivated to work on RTPatch and ReqChange, both programs doing basically the same thing.

1.33 ReqTools.guide/Version history

Version history

History before 2.3 deleted...

Version 2.3
Version 2.4
Version 2.5
Version 2.6
Version 2.7
Version 2.8
Version 2.9

1.34 ReqTools.guide/Version history/2.3

Version 2.3

Library version 38.1292

[Magnus Holmgren took over ReqTools]

Release 1.3 of RexxReqTools included.

Recompiled using DICE 3.01. This was forced by the fact that I don't have SAS/C (yet, at lest). As a result, the library now is a couple of KBs larger.

Bug fix: screenmode requester now works better when showing a depth gadget for HAM screens. Most notably, the requester will not crash under certain circumstances, and will also handle HAM modes with a depth of 8 (earlier, only depth 6 was supported). The HAM support was a kind of hack, which was incomplete. Its still a hack, but it is better now. ;)

In the file requester, when displaying the volumes list, RMB acts like pressing the Get gadget. I.e., you can go back to the original list by a simple RMB click. The "Volumes" gadget also acts like Get, if pressed while the volume list is displayed.

The resizable requesters now uses "OS 3 zooming". I.e., the requester doesn't move (unless needed) when zoomed.

Added zoom gadget for the palette requester. When zoomed, the requester resizes to "titlebar" size; again, using OS 3 zooming if possible.

Updated the Swedish translation a little.

In rtEZRequest, function keys can now be used to select the first ten gadgets, if enabled in the prefs editor.

Added the 'Use function keys' option to the prefs program. Currently this is the only way to enable this function. In the future there will probably be a new tag/flag for this as well.

Increased the stack some requester functions allocates, if needed. Should solve the crashing requesters with some programs when e.g. CyberGraphX is

installed.

Added missing tags to ReqTools.h (RTGL_CenterText and RTGS_CenterText).

Fixed the prefs editor so that all gadgets are updated when new settings are loaded.

Rewrote the DICE-C glue. Now includes autoopen code.

New distribution layout. There are still two different archives, but the contents are different little: reqtools<ver>.lha is replaced with reqtools<ver>dev.lha, and contains only the developer files (glue, examples, includes and autodocs). The user archive (reqtools<ver>usr.lha) haven't changed.

The filerequester (and the font- and screenmode requester as well) will now look better when the screen they open on have "strange" dri-pens.

Support for OS 1.3 completely dropped. The 1.3 version of reqtools.library is no longer included.

Made a minor change in the ASL patch in RTPatch, so that it returns errors more correctly (avoids annoying error requesters after having cancelled certain file requesters). I hope the reassemble didn't break anything. I haven't tested it much. ;)

1.35 ReqTools.guide/Version history/2.4

Version 2.4

Library version 38.1296

As you may have noticed, a slightly different version numbering scheme have been adopted. I simply removed the letter extensions. ;)

Fixed a problem in RTPatch, introduced in the re-assembly in 2.3. It would (often, but not always) print way too much text.

Made some fixes to the installation script. I had forgot to change it. ;)

Hopefully fixed the startup crash in the preferences editor.

Included glue for Maxon Pascal, written by Falk Zuehlsdorff.

rtEZRequestTags() was missing in new DICE glue.

Fixed bug in password requester (used by powerpacker.library). DICE bug if you ask me. ;)

French, Italian and Polish catalogs updated.

1.36 ReqTools.guide/Version history/2.5

Version 2.5

Library version 38.1387

Now really includes RextxReqTools 1.3. Sorry about that.

RTPatch now reports itself as 1.4 (forgot to assemble that minor change ;).

Improved pragmas for SAS/C, to make better use of the tagcall. Note that this may cause problems (I got a CXERR in one case). Also changed the name to "reqtools_pragmas.h".

Changed the LED rendering a little. It is now done earlier, to work nicer with custom handlers that can be slow in certain operations (like ArcHandler).

Recompiled with SAS/C again. ;) I don't think any problem have been introduced due to this.

Increased the pattern text buffer in the file requester.

The volume list in the file requester should now show all real volumes, including e.g. network volumes. In fact, it should display the same volumes as ASL, since the same algorithm is used. Thanks to Martin Taillefer for showing me how to do it properly.

Added a little "hack" to make ReqTools work better with BetterEdit. It was so simple, so why not? ;)

Added color wheel to the palette requester! There is a switch in the preferences editor, in case you don't like it. Some notes: You need properly installed colorwheel and gradientslider gadgets (part of OS 3.0 or higher) for it to be displayed. The colorwheel will only show up if the screen and window are large enough. The gradient slider doesn't have any fancy background currently, as it requires a rather large number of colors to be displayed nicely, IMHO. And most importantly; the top value of the slider is to the left for some reason. Not my fault! ;)

Selecting parent in the file requester, when the parent does not exist does now work. Sort of. The drawer gadget is now updated, so that you can "parent back" to a drawer that do exist.

In the palette requester, when you are in copy, swap and spread modes, the title of the window will show the current mode.

The palette requester should now work better on deep screens (more than 8 bits). It will then limit itself to display only 256 colors.

1.37 ReqTools.guide/Version history/2.6

Version 2.6

Library version 38.1413

Forgot to update the proto include file in 2.5.

The ReqTools preferences program got wrong (localized) strings sometimes.

The file requester still did not show all volumes (but the volume requester sometimes did). I also realized that this change in the volume listing code means that the VREQF_ALLDISKS flag doesn't work. A workaround would be possible (for most disks at least), but is it really worth it?

Fixed a bug in the volume listing code, that could cause an incorrect device name to be added to the volume name (if the dol_Task was NULL).

E-version of the demo included.

The color wheel didn't have its initial color right. Seems like WHEEL_HSB doesn't work on ON_NEW...

Added soft link support to the file requester. Note that hooks need to read the link themselves.

Russian translation added.

Updated Installer script to make use of some new features.

The palette requester would try to load the color wheel, and cause Enforcer hits (or worse), when the wheel shouldn't be displayed.

The screen depth gadget in the screen mode requester didn't always behave properly. Also added some safety checks.

The copy and spread gadgets in the palette requesters didn't work properly. Made a silly mistake when adding the mode indicator in the window title. ;)

The color wheel gadget will now always render in monochrome state, to minimize the impact on the screen in question.

1.38 ReqTools.guide/Version history/2.7

Version 2.7

Library version 38.1434

German translation updated.

The file requester produced enforcer hits when the user had selected some drawers in a no files requester with multiselect.

Certain volumes in the file requester (e.g. network volumes) showed no information about size and amount used.

Re-enabled the VREQF_ALLDISKS flag. Found a relatively nice way of doing it.

My original intention for the 2.x ReqTools releases was to keep it pretty much the same way Nico did it. However, a guy named Brad Avery convinced me

that the distribution archive needed some work. ;) So, as a result you have this new and nice AmigaGuide file, a better installer script that allows you to install most user files, NewIcons etc.

Reformatted the autodoc file, to a more "standard" look. It will now convert much better to AmigaGuide format by ADtoHT or similar. It is also 18 KB smaller. ;)

Added a "Fancy color wheel" option. Also changed the configuration for the color wheel a bit due to this. If enabled, the brightness slider will also be a bit fancier (if possible).

A ClassAct version of the ReqTools preferences editor is now included (in addition to the normal version). The ClassAct classes are not included, so you'll need to get them from somewhere else (ftp://ftp.warped.com/pub/classact is a good place). Note that the current solution for the requester height option isn't the best. I've been told a new ClassAct class is in the works, that will be better for the job. Thus, I haven't put any large effort in it for now. ;)

Recompiled with SAS/C 6.57.

1.39 ReqTools.guide/Version history/2.8

Version 2.8

Library version 38.1435

A program was missing (C/FixAG) in the user archive, causing problems for the installer.

Added an option for the middle button parent function, as some users didn't like it. ;)

Fixed some minor bugs in the prefs editor.

RTPatch 1.6 included.

Included Finnish catalogs that I had received, but forgot to include. :/ I did not receive the catalog sources though.

Czech translation included.

Serbian catalogs and Installer script included (but no catalog sources).

Dutch translation updated (yet another old catalog update not previously included ;).

1.40 ReqTools.guide/Version history/2.9

Version 2.9

Library version 38.1436

Hopefully fixed the problem that `rtEZRequestA()` could make the requester too wide when no gadgets were displayed. As I never noticed the problem here, it is a bit hard to know for sure if it really is fixed.

RTPatch 1.7 included.

Updated Deutsch, Finnish, Norwegian and Russian translations, and added Serbian catalog sources (don't know if they're update though ;).

1.41 ReqTools.guide/The future

The future

This release is only a minor update. I don't intend to make any major work to the current sources (maybe some minor updates and bug fixes), as my intention is to make a (more or less) complete rewrite of ReqTools.

I have the famous TODO file Nico maintained, and I'll try to add any useful suggestions found therein. There are also some other nice features planned, like e.g. an API (so that the application - or external "modules" - can extend ReqTools). Exact details have not yet been worked out.

If you have a suggestion you don't think is in the TODO file, feel free to tell me about it.

1.42 Contacting the author

Contacting the author

If you have suggestions or remarks about ReqTools, or if you find any bugs, please let me know. Here is how to reach me:

Mail: Magnus Holmgren
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FidoNet: 2:203/512.10 (Magnus Holmgren)

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If you can please use e-mail. That way you'll stand a much better chance of getting a reply quickly.

If the suggestions or remarks are about RTPatch, please contact Dave Jones instead. Any messages regarding RTPatch I receive are forwarded to him anyway.

The original ReqTools was written by the (famous) Nico François. I [Magnus Holmgren] took over as of release 2.3, since Nico didn't have the time to work on

ReqTools.

1.43 ReqTools.guide/Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements

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Kertai Gábor for the Hungarian translation.

Dmitry Mikhilov for the Russian translation.

Rafael D'Halleweyn for writing RextReqTools.

Vit Sindlar for the Czech translation.

The remaining translators not mentioned above. ;)

Roger McWay and Phil Vedovatti for most of the NewIcons in the user archive.

Dave Jones for updating RTPatch.

All registered ReqTools users/developers.
