Guido Mersmann

COLLABORATORS						
	TITLE :					
MCControl						
ACTION	NAME	DATE	SIGNATURE			
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REVISION HISTORY				
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Chapter 1

MCControl

1.1 MCControl

MCControl V1.33

(C) Guido Mersmann in 1997-1999

MCControl IS A MAILWARE PRODUCT

READ THE DISTRIBUTION SECTION FOR INFORMATION ON DISTRIBUTION

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**** WANTED ****

My other amiga projects!

1.2 Introduction

Introduction

MCControl is a usefull tool for all PSX owner. Its a Hard and Software to read and write your memory cards.

So there is no need to buy new bigger memory cards. Just one card is needed.

MCControl allows to import savegames from internet to enable features and see stages you never been before.

1.3 Systemrequirements

System requirements

MCControl (should work) works on all Amigas with OS 2.0 or higher.

The gtdrag.library V3.2+ is required if you want to use the drag and drop features. I suggest to use this library, because the only other way to move save games between windows is to save and reload. The gtdrag.library requires OS3.x+!

A PSX and a MemoryCard should be around, too! (-8

You need to build a special hardware

That's all!

1.4 Features

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```
Features
------
[currently not 100% implemented]

\textdegree{} 100% Assembler

\textdegree{} Load and save the following files: MCD, VGS, GME, PSX, MEM

\textdegree{} Very quick MemoryCard access! (Internal Caching)

\textdegree{} Open as much virtual MemoryCards as you need.

\textdegree{} Drag'n Drop allows to move save games very easy between virtual MemoryCards.

\textdegree{} A save game converter allows to use any international save game!

\textdegree{} XPK support

\textdegree{} Locale support
```

1.5 Distribution

Distribution

This program should be published on every public medium, as long as all files in the archive are unchanged. If this medium is a CD I expect a free copy. (AminetCDs excluded)

MCControl is Mailware.

I expect from everybody, who uses MCControl regularly, to send me an email or postcard. I think this does not hurt anybody, and I will have more fun to integrate new features.

I am not liable for injures or data loss caused by MCControl or the

hardware

. The use of MCControl is on your own responsibility !!!

1.6 How to install MCControl

How to install MCControl

Just drag the MCControl drawer onto your Harddisk!

Thats all!

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```
Don't forget to build the CardReader !! (-8
```

1.7 History

```
History
This text is telling the story of MCControl like a diary.
V0.10 First beta demo version.
V0.11 Many internal changes.
V0.12 Painted some pictures to illustrate how to build the reader.
       (Thanks to Janne Lumikanta for the original pictures)
V0.13 Manual enhancement.
V0.14 Online help implemented.
V0.15 Some catalog fixes.
V0.16 Fixed some gadget positions.
V0.17 First official Aminet Version!
V0.18 BUGFIX: Fixed frame calculation!
      BUGFIX: Shit! The frame caching wasn't working correct! -> No
       read/write on some frames at the end of the card!
      Added parallel port allocation.
V0.19 FEATURE: Drag'n Drop implemented! Now it is possible to copy
       single game savings.
      CHANGED: The window title is now more useful.
      New
             MemoryCard test
             Chapter included.
      FEATURE: New file Support:
             #?.PSX
                V0.20 BUGFIX: Forgot to load Card Data before saving to disk!
      CHANGED: The process window now opens only if needed!
      CHANGED: Menu layout!
      BUGFIX: Many small internal fixes!
      BUGFIX: Extensions .vgs and .gme are now correct!
V0.21 BUGFIX: fixed memory loss!
V0.22 Many (many many) internal changes. Almost every card handle
       routine changed, but it was worth. Now all possible errors should
V0.98 be captured and most of the routines are likeable.
V0.99 FEATURE:
             Delete
              and
             UnDelete
              implemented.
V1.00 First true Aminet Version
V1.01 FEATURE: XPK support for card files!
V1.02 FEATURE: XPK support for PSX files!
V1.03 BUGFIX: Sometimes the wrong directory block was updated when
       writing to card.
V1.04 FEATURE: Added new (cool) settings window! GadTools only! So why
       using MUI or an other GUI library!
V1.05 Many catalog changes!
```

```
V1.06 BUGFIX: Card select doesn't work when using
             download card
                V1.07 FEATURE: Shell support! Now it is possible to read and \leftrightarrow
       card by using Shell. (Requested by Alessandro Zummo)
V1.08 Some documentation fixes.
V1.09 Some catalog changes
V1.10 Offical Aminet Version
V1.11 CHANGED: Load card is now more logical and easier to use (for me
       giggle giggle (-8 )
V1.12 CHANGED: No longer XPK compression when exporting files.
      BUGFIX: Fixed window resizing bug that caused program crashes.
       (reported by Timo Hegemann)
      CHANGED: Replaced the old directory routine by a new better one.
       No the directory should be less confusing.
      FEATURE: TV Mode added!
V1.13 CHANGED: Extension handling.
      BUGFIX: #?.PSX loader fixed.
      BUGFIX: Delete file marked the wrong block as modified.
V1.14 FEATURE: Save game converter!
      FEATURE: About window added!
V1.15 BUGFIX: Fixed MungWall Hit!
      CHANGED: Read/Write frame routines are now maximum save! There
       shouldn't be any damaged card memory areas when timing isn't
V1.16 CHANGED: Menu dis/enable added.
      BUGFIX: (SGP) Move command is now able to access the last 7
       blocks of an save game.
      BUGFIX: Fixed the schematics. (Thanks to Zeljko Vulinovic)
      FEATURE:
             quick format
                V1.17 CHANGED: About Requester!
      BUGFIX: Removed 68000 crashes!
      CHANGED: Card timing is now system independant! This is done via
             system speed
             . The new behaviour allows to
       specify exact delay values for different card.
V1.18 BUGFIX: Sony Cards are working again! (reported by Juergen Ofner)
V1.19 BUGFIX: Fixed
             settings window
              size.
      FEATURE: Abort button during card access!
V1.20 FEATURE: save game name => default save name (requested by
       Timo Hegemann)
      BUGFIX: Fixed stupid
             download card
              bug!
V1.21 FEATURE:
             New card configuration method
      FEATURE:
             Automatic card detection
              implemented.
      FEATURE:
             New preferences menu
                V1.22 BUGFIX:
```

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```
Save Card
              is now creating a
       correct default file name.
      Added some default cards, to make auto detection much easier.
      Added some save game converter. (Thanks to Andrea Favini)
      BUGFIX: Multi slot support is now 100% working. (Reported by
       Zeljko Vulinovic and Andrea Favini)
      FEATURE: Its no longer possible to drag free entries. (Thanks to
       Axel Doerfler for the GTDrag feature!)
      BUGFIX: The preferences window allows to specify the maximum of
       4 Slots.
      FEATURE:
             Delete all
              and
             Undelete all
              implemented. (Requested by
       Jürgen Ofner)
      BUGFIX: Gadgets in a new window were sized wrong. (reported by Timo
       Hegemann)
      BUGFIX: Double click handling in settings window is now correct.
      (reported by Timo Hegemann)
V1.23 BUGFIX: Fixed fout slot mode! (reported by Zeljko Vulinovic)
      BUGFIX: Forgot to implement the english version of the
             SGP file
                       documentation.
V1.24 FEATURE: MultiPage support implemented.
      FEATURE: New
             card settings
              window.
V1.25 FEATURE: Export directory (ASCII) (requested by Werner Ammann)
      CHANGED: Some small optimizations.
      BUGFIX: MultiPage support fixed (reported by Zeljko Vulinovic)
V1.26 FEATURE: Separate write delays to allow fast writing on slow cards.
      BUGFIX: Fixed some
             card settings
              bugs.
      BUGFIX: Fixed a problem with the
             SUPPORT
              command. (reported
      by Brice Terzaghi)
      Added some save game patches. (Thanks to Brice Terzaghi)
      FEATURE: New français catalog! (Thanks to Brice Terzaghi)
      FEATURE: Region/ProductID Output in directory list.
      FEATURE: DEL / Backspace keys are deleting/undeleting files.
      BUGFIX: Fixed the spaces in filename problem of some save games.
      BUGFIX: Fixed the window busy bug when using the save game
      patcher. (Reported by Brice Terzaghi)
      FEATURE: Complete
             #?.mem support
V1.27 BUGFIX: Edit card gadget was disabled when opening the settings
       window even if there was an personal card.
      BUGFIX: The auto generated file name for save games was 3 chars
       to long. (Dos limit)
V1.28 CHANGED: Found a new way to code a save game name. It seems to be
       very rare (see Example.mcd=>Worms). Now all these games should
       look good, too.
```

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```
CHANGED:
             FAQ update
      FEATURE: New function allows to
             save all save games
              at once.
      BUGFIX: During saving name fragments of prior saved games were
       saved, too! Not a real problem, but not very nice.
V1.29 BUGFIX: Its was not possible to save the window position of the
             Card Settings Window
              and the
             Main Window
             ! (Reported by Brice
       Terzaghi)
V1.30 FEATURE: New driver system for different card reader hardware. Now
       it is possible to create an driver for any hardware.
      BUGFIX: Forgot to disable save all menu when there is no file on
       memory card!
V1.31 Changed card reader driver system.
      The
             card editor
              gadgets are depending on the current
       driver.
      BUGFIX: Fixed a directory bug that produced unusable, free blocks.
      RamCard driver and source added for development information.
       The driver itself is only useful for playing with MCControl without
       owning an card reader.
      FEATURE: Menu and gadget disabling is now depending on driver
       module!
V1.32 FEATURE: Now you are able to select the GUI Font.
V1.33 BUGFIX: Fixed the settings window! MCControl was unable to store
       the card settings. (reported by Zeljko Vulinovic)
```

1.8 Future

```
Future
```

\textdegree{} I don't know. (-8 Your wishes are welcome.

1.9 Buglist

Buglist

same block again.

```
\textdegree{} After resetting the Amiga and reading a card the first frame ←
   is
  damaged. This is not really a problem, because MCControl is reading the
```

\textdegree{} Currently there are no known bugs.

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1.10 Thanx

```
Thanx
-----

\textdegree{} Many many thanks to Janne Lumikanta! He initiated the PSX \( \text{MemoryCard} \)

MemoryCard

reader project. Most of the pictures used within this project were made
by him and only adjusted by me!

\textdegree{} Thanks to all the guys lending me games and memory cards for \( \text{testing.} \)

\textdegree{} Thanks to Timo Hegemann! He found a lot of bugs and he told me how \( \text{tomake MCControl much better.} \)

\textdegree{} Thanks to Zeljko Vulinovic for extrem beta testing! (-8

\textdegree{} Many thanks to all the people spending money.
```

1.11 The Author

```
The Author

If you find bugs please report them, so that I can correct these bugs in the next version.

Any ideas and suggestions are welcome, too.

Guido Mersmann Glatzer Straße 12 48477 Hörstel Germany

INTERNET: geit@studST.FH-Muenster.DE FIDONET: 2:2449/246.15
```

1.12 Other programs!

```
Other programs!
-----

BoulderDäsh [game/jump/boulderdaesh.lha]
-----

Clone of the original Boulderdäsh for Amiga. It is the only version running faster on Amiga than the original. It looks and behaves like the original. I was asked, where the C64 is. (-8 And all this on a 68000 without Fastmem.
```

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SimpleCat [dev/misc/simplecat.lha]

This tool is for ers and user. Using this program you can change catalogues of programs with your favourite text editor in the easiest way. These programs must include a CS file. Search for it in the archive of the catalogues drawer.

Afind [util/misc/afind.lha]

With this program you can search for programs on your Aminet CDs in the easiest way. It is the same than the original tool on the CD, but here you can use AminetCDs and AminetSets mixed. So you are not forced to search for a program on the first 5 Aminet CDs, that is on AminetSet1 Disk b.

AView [util/misc/aview.lha]

AView is a great multiview enhancement/replacement! It is working like Multiview, but you are able to specify a special viewer/player for each file typ.

Guideformat [text/edit/guideformat.lha]

GuideFormat is a simple tool. It is easy to format text blocks, even if there are "links" or other guide commands in.

GuideCheck [text/edit/guidecheck.lha]

GuideCheck ist ein Tool, das es erlaubt ein Guidefile vollständig zu prüfen und alle eventuellen Fehler aufzudecken.

SiedlerBoot [game/patch/siedlerboot.lha]

This allows to start the Settlers direct via CD and save the scores on HD. There is no hard disk install required. SiedlerBoot requires the "Amiga Plus Sonderheft 9" cover CDROM.

Execute64 [misc/emu/execute64.lha]

Execute 64 allows to transfer file direct into the C64 and to start them. This allows to play games an use the Amiga a big file server.

R [util/cli/r.lha]

"R" creates an GUI for each DOS Programm. This allows you to use DOS commands even if you aren't very good in reading templates.

DVBControl [comm/misc/dvbcontrol.lha]

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DVBControl is an software project for the Nokia MediaMaster (D-Box) and DVB2000 firmware. It allows to update firmware, edit channel settings and much more. So if you are using DVB2000 and an Amiga DVBcontrol is your only choise!

MCControl [hard/hack/mccontrol.lha]

MCControl (MemoryCard Control) is an card reader for Playstation MemoryCards. It requires a little selfmade hardware (\sim \$5) and the free software!

1.13 The CardReader Specifications!

The CardReader Specifications!

Before you start to create your own hardware take a look on Timo Hegemanns version. Its pretty good. Here another photo without card. My version is build direct into an normal SUB-D25 plug.

First there is the MemoryCard connector! You need an old slot (old PC main board we do not destroy any amiga boards!!). This slot must be modified. This is shown by a little picture.

After doing this hard job its much easier! Just choose the card reader version you want to build:

3.6V Only Reader without external Powersupply

This is the easiest reader. Its using the 5V Power of the parallel port to create the 3.6V. In the result this reader only supports card using only this power. (just screw the card up and take a look)

This picture shows how to build it. An second easier version is Here

3.6V and 7.6V Reader with external Power Supply

This version requires an

external power supply

, but there should at

least one arround to use for a while (DiscMan, Walkman, Mobile,...)

This reader is full hardware compatible to all cards, because both voltages are available.

This picture shows how to build it.

Here you can find an multi slot ciruit.

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The pictures alone should allow you to build the interface. If you are not sure just read on for further information.

Additional Information

Memory Card Connector



pin No.	signal name	direction	logic	function
1	DAT	in	positive	Serial Output data(open drain)
2	CMD	out	positive	Serial Command data
3	+7V	_	_	+7.6V CD-ROM Drive Power
4	GND	_	_	Signal Ground
5	+3V	_	_	+3.5V System Power
6	SEL-	out	negative	pad/memory select
7	CLK-	out	negative	Serial Clock
8	_	_	_	no use
9	ACK-	in	negative	Acknowledge(open drain)

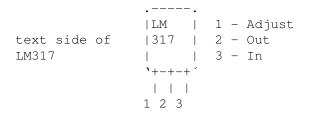
As you can see the MemoryCard needs two different voltages. I know this is not allways true, but I checked out four 15 block cards and 3 of them need 7.6V. This voltage requires an

external powersupply

, so why

not create a full compatible card reader!

The LM317 is an standard element. The additional characters can be ignored. You can use an LM317T as well as an LM317Q oder LM317LZ.



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For more information of LM317 check www.national.com $% \left(1,0\right) =0$ and $\left(1,0\right) =0$ correct PDF-files.

External powersupply voltage should be about 9V-18V if you want to get

If you use

7.6V.

external powersupply
for this hardware, DO NOT CONNECT it to
pin 14 of parallel port

Using parallel port pin 14 is 'very' safe because of low current supply <100mA, but remember using Pin 14 doesn't allow to create 7.6V.

1.14 Questions, Solutions and Tips!

Questions, Solutions and Tips!

What is a Playstation?

What is a MemoryCard?

What is the MemoryCard capacity?

What are the external power supply specifications?

What is a Region or Productcode?
Other

This manual is formated with centered blocks. How?

1.15 FAQ: What is a Playstation?

What is a Playstation?

Well, a Playstation is an game system developed by Sony!

If you don't know this, why are you reading this manual? (-8

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1.16 FAQ: What is a MemoryCard?

What is a MemoryCard?

A MemoryCard is an storage device for Playstation game scores.

1.17 FAQ: What is the MemoryCard capacity?

What is the MemoryCard capacity?

If we trust some magazins and MemoryCard manuals, then you can store 1 mega byte on an 15 block MemoryCard.

This is wrong!

A MemoryCard can hold 1 mega bit or 128KB!

1 MegaBit = 1048576 Bit

1048576 Bit / 8 = 131072 Byte

131072 Byte / 1024 = 128 KiloByte

One MemoryCard block contains 8KB! We have 15 blocks. The last block contains the directory of the card and some reserved data!

1.18 FAQ: What are the external power supply specifications?

What are the external power supply specifications?

The external power supply voltage should be about 9V-18V! The exact voltage isn't important because the LM317 is creating always the correct value by using the resistors.

The power supply should be able to output more than 200mA! The output of a playstation itself isn't more than 100mA per powerline, but the LM317 circuits are consuming some energy, too! If you are only using 15 block cards then 100mA should be enough!

Do not use power supplies with less than 100mA! They may work, but they are producing much heat and may burn out!

1.19 What is a Region or Productcode?

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What is a Region or Productcode?

Well, each game is developed with special feature of the region. Every one knows that a US game isn't working on an european Playstation. To make this work every game becomes an unique code for this region.

Example:

BESLES-00463

0123456789ab

- 0 The "B" is constant.
- 1 Region of the developer.
- 2 The "S" is constant.
- 3 "L" Licence
 - "C" Computer Sony products only.
 - So 234 on an european sony game results "Sony Computer Europe" or on an licenced game "Sony Licence Europe"
- 4 The Game is only working on Playstations for this region.
- 5 "S" Software
 - "D" Demo (a PSX demo software)
 - "H" Hardware (controller, memory cards, multitaps, light guns)
- 6 Separator, constant, "-"
- 789ab Number of the game (the licence number). Games may have differend numbers for different regions (4).

A geman developer for example would get BESLUS-12345 as product id for the US version of a game. The european id of the same game may look like this BESLES-22222.

Save games may contain 8 additional chars to separate types of save games for the same game. Its correct to save these 8 bytes are the file name.

```
"BESLES-22222Records "
```

The easiest way to get those IDs is to save a save game as #?.psx and use the following AmigaDos command line "Type SaveGameName.psx hex". The first 12 characters represent the complete product id followed by 8 bytes of file name, if available.

1.20 FAQ: This manual is formated with centered blocks, How?

This manual is formated with centered blocks, How?

This question is very old. I write all AmigaGuide text file by using GoldED. GoldED makes it very easy. Just open the "miscellaneus" settings and setup the fold markings ("@NODE" and "@ENDNODE"). Now you are able to open and close every node as an own document.

[&]quot;BESLES-22222Settings"

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But now the question. The problem is the link struction within the text. GoldEDs internal block format is not able to detect them an everything is text. An a word wrap within a link is deadly for this link. The other method is to edit the block by hand, but this is not very handy. (-8)

This was the reason to write

GuideFormat

. GuideFormat is doing this

job and it takes care about the links. I put it together with some GoldED commands on an GoldED hotkey. Now I can use it even like the internal block center command.

I wrote all dokumentations of

my programs

by using GuideFormat. It

saves years of my life.

And the text looks great!

1.21 WANTED !!!!

Wanted !!!

I am searching the following games for my PlayStation:

Bubble Bobble2 Sentinel Returns Kula World

If you wanna sell one or more of these games, then let me know!

1.22 All MemoryCard checked with MCControl

All MemoryCard checked with MCControl

If one of your MemoryCards is not listed here, than let \mbox{me} know your results.

MemoryCard	Blocks	Delay Settings	(Byte,Bit,Data)	Tested by
Tosa	15	(1,0,0)		Guido Mersmann
Gamester	15	(1,0.0)		Guido Mersmann
GameMedia	15	(1,0.0)		Timo Hegemann
Joytech	15	(1,0,0)		Janne Lumikanta
MemoryCard				
Plus	120	(1,0,0)		Zeljko Vulinovic
Sony Blue	15	(0,2,0)		Timo Hegemann

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Sony GreyOld 15 -> Let me know! Try (0,5,0)

Atomic 15 (0,5,0) Andrea Favini

Blaze 24Mb

MegaMemory 360 (0,2,0) MegaByte

Naki 15 Not working Zeljko Vulinovic

1.23 This is a list of all files that can be used with MCControl

This is a list of all files that can be used with MCControl

Well the first PSX MemoryCard Software was designed for PCs and PCs are stupid! So they created many formats for the same shit, because there is no reason for creating a specific format.

MCD - Real MemoryCard Image

This is an 1:1 card read out! It is the best format for storing complete MemoryCards, because its easy to detect and it is small.

If you own other save game types, then send me two files of each type!

GME - Game file

This file contains a complete MemoryCard!

This is the most stupid card image file type! Its a MCD File using an 3904 Byte header! Most of this Bytes are unused. Even the name is stupid, because this file may contain the storage of up to 15 games.

I was told that these additional bytes are used to contain special information about the MemoryCard and each block. Well, I scanned around 100 files and all of them are only using the general MemoryCard information, so there will no MCControl support for these additional information.

Even some PC tools are not able to write these files correctly! I own some files that are longer than an standard game file. After scanning the file I found the problem. They just saved to much data, so you'll find windows specific strings behind the real image.

VGS - Video Game Strategies

This file contains a complete MemoryCard!

This format is performing a small header with informations about reading the file. Well, quite useless! It was IMHO created by an organisation named "Video Game Strategies". You'll find them in internet.

PSX - Playstation Game File

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These files contain the savings created by one game. This may be one block, or more.

This format is great for holding only one saved game.

Attention: There are damaged (patched) files around. These files aren't working with MCControl, because important data is missing! If you use AmigaDos and "type Filename hex" you will see, that these files contain a small message, where you get a working version! Don't do this! Get a serious source for PSX save games and do not support such "We spread damaged files to powerup our homepage" suckers!

MEM - Memory File

This format is the most stupid save game format. It requires two (2!!) different files for holding only one save game. Together these two files are nearly equal to the PSX file.

I think someone decided to create this format for saving programming time. I strongly suggest not to use this file format, because it doubles the chance to loose data and it requires more disk space.

1.24 The Windows of MCControl

The Windows of MCControl

The Main Window

The Preferences

The Card Preferences

The About Window

The Save Game Converter
There is also an
DOS Template
!

1.25 MCControl - The Main Window

The Main Window

Main window isn't correct at all, because you are able to open as much windows as you want. But if you close all you quit MCControl.

MCControl 18 / 47

Each window contains an independent virtual MemoryCard. This Card can

```
be loaded, saved or even be an readout of an real MemoryCard.
All functions (even the
            format routines
            ) are accessing the virtual
card buffer only! The only way to
             (over) write
             the real card is
protected by an savety requester!
Don't forget to read about the
            Menu
             !
Gadgets
             Directory
             Type
             Slot
             Read Directory
             Download Card
             Upload Card
```

1.26 MCControl - Hauptfenster/Verzeichnis

```
Verzeichnis
-----

This Gadget is views all MemoryCard files. First a flag and than the block name:

- Block free (may be recovered)
U Block in use
L Block link (part of an multi block file)
I Entry damaged.
```

1.27 MCControl - The Main Window/Read Directory

```
Read Directory
```

This is the fastes way to take a look on the contents of the current inserted memory card.

MCControl 19 / 47

1.28 MCControl - The Main Window/Type

Type

This button is only visible if the auto detect mode is disabled and you defined more than one personal card

This gadgets allows to activate the special configuration for the current card.

1.29 MCControl - The Main Window/Card

Card

This button is only visible if you have selected a multi slot reader by using the $\ensuremath{\mathsf{I}}$

preferences
 gadget
reader typ
.

This gadget selects the card slot for all read/write actions of this window.

1.30 MCControl - The Main Window/Download Card

Download Card

This button forces the reading the whole MemoryCard.

1.31 MCControl - Hauptfenster/Upload Card

Upload Card

This gadget is updating all modified blocks, or just writes the whole card.

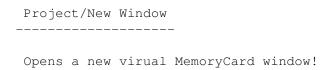
MCControl 20 / 47

1.32 MCControl - The Main Window/Menu

The Main Menu Project New Window Preferences... About... Quit MemoryCard Load... Save... Export... Read Directory Download Card Upload Card Complete Format Speed Format Save Games Load... Save... Save All... Export... Delete File Undelete File Delete all Files Undelete all Files Convert File...

MCControl 21/47

1.33 The Main Menu/Project/New Window



1.34 The Main Menu/Project/Preferences...

```
Project/Preferences...

This item opens the preferences window!
```

1.35 The Main Menu/Project/About...

```
Project/About...

Hui! The

about window
opens!
```

1.36 The Main Menu/Project/Quit

```
Project/Quit
-----
This item is quiting MCControl!
```

1.37 The Main Menu/MemoryCard/Load...

```
MemoryCard/Load...

Here you can load complete memory card images.
```

1.38 The Main Menu/MemoryCard/Save...

MCControl 22 / 47

```
MemoryCard/Save...

Here you can save a memory card image. The Fileformat is #?.MCD and the result may be compressed
```

1.39 The Main Menu/MemoryCard/Export...

```
MemoryCard/Export...

Here you can save a memory card image. The
Fileformat
can be specified
by the submenu.

MCControl is not compressing files for export.
```

1.40 The Main Menu/MemoryCard/Read Directory

```
MemoryCard/Read Directory
-----
MCControl is only reading the directory.
```

1.41 The Main Menu/MemoryCard/Download Card

```
MemoryCard/Download Card
-----
MCControl is reading the complete card into the window buffer.
```

1.42 The Main Menu/MemoryCard/Upload Card

```
MemoryCard/Upload Card

This item is updating all modified blocks, or just writes the whole card.
```

MCControl 23 / 47

1.43 The Main Menu/MemoryCard/Complete Format

MemoryCard/Complete Format

The window buffer will be initialized like an empty MemoryCard.

You should use this function only to remove any sign of prior usage. If you just want to clear a card for reusing with your PSX than use the much faster

speed format
function instead!

1.44 The Main Menu/MemoryCard/Speed Format

MemoryCard/Speed Format

The window buffer will be initialized like an empty MemoryCard.

This operation is very simular to the complete format! The only difference is the amount of erased data.

The speed format option is only formating the 15 directory frames instead of writing all 1024 Frames.

1.45 The Main Menu/SaveGames/Load...

SaveGames/Load...

Here you can load an saved game file.

1.46 The Main Menu/SaveGames/Save...

SaveGames/Save...

Here you can save the selected game file. The Fileformat is #?.PSX and the result may be compressed

.

MCControl 24 / 47

1.47 The Main Menu/SaveGames/Save all...

SaveGames/Save All...

Here you can save all files of the current memory card. If a filename already exists, then you can choose the way to proceed.

The

Fileformat

is #?.PSX and the result may be compressed
.

1.48 The Main Menu/SaveGames/Export...

SaveGames/Export...

Here you can save a single game file. The
Fileformat
can be specified
by the submenu.

MCControl is not compressing files for export.

1.49 The Main Menu/SaveGames/DeleteFile

SaveGames/Delete File

The

selected
game file will be deleted.

1.50 The Main Menu/SaveGames/Undelete File

SaveGames/Undelete File

The

selected

game file will be undeleted.

MCControl 25 / 47

1.51 The Main Menu/SaveGames/Delete all Files

1.52 The Main Menu/SaveGames/Undelete all Files

SaveGames/Undelete all Files
----Undelete all games files of the current memory card.

1.53 The Main Menu/SaveGames/Convert File

SaveGames/Convert File

The selected game file will be converted to other regions if a compatible save game patch file (#?.sgp) is found in the "patches" directory.

1.54 MCControl - Preferences

Preferences

This window allows to configurate MCControl. This window also contains an menu

Communication

Driver

Startup Speed Check

MCControl 26 / 47

System Speed

Auto Detect

Your Cards

Default Cards

Auto Configuration XPK

XPK Compression

XPK Method Miscellaneus

Multi Card Reader

Quick Access Other

Use

Save

Cancel

1.55 MCControl - Preferences/Driver

Driver

This gadget specifies the hardware used for reading MemoryCards. If you build my

hardware

then "Standard.mcm" is the right driver.

The debug version ("StandardDebug.mcm") is viewing a lot of information during reading/writing. The debug driver requires MCControl to be startet via CLI/Shell to see the output.

The debug version wasn't made for normal usage, because the debugging output takes a lot of time. This makes the debug version much slower than the normal version!

The RamCard driver ("RamCard.mcm") is only an example for development. There for the sourcecodes are included. This driver may be useful if you want to use MCControl without an card reader hardware. I use it for

MCControl 27 / 47

programming MCControl without the need of reading and writing real memorycards.

1.56 MCControl - Preferences/Startup Speed Check

Startup Speed Check

Depending on the used

driver

this gadget may not be available.

MCControl is processing a speed check each startup to calculate the

system speed

If you want to save your own optimized or adjusted system speed

it is

required to disable the startup speed check.

1.57 MCControl - Preferences/System Speed

System Speed

Depending on the used

driver

this gadget may not be available.

This gadgets is only available to make corrections if MCControl isn't able to get the correct system speed. There is no reason to change this value

This value specifies the speed of your Amiga system. A faster system causes a bigger value. An normal A500 has a speed of "1" and an A2000 68030/25 Mhz is using a speed of "8"!

If the

Startup Speed Check is enabled this value is set automaticaly during MCControl startup!

1.58 MCControl - Preferences/Auto Detect

MCControl 28 / 47

Auto Detect

Depending on the used

driver

this gadget may not be available.

Auto detect enables a special mode for auto detecting the card. So its not required to change the card type (=configuration) by hand.

MCControl is using your

personal card list

to configurate the reader.

If there is no compatible card, then MCControl is using the

default card list

as source for a valid configuration. If this is also failing then MCControl is using the specifications of an NoName Card.

The auto detection is done every time MCControl tries to access an MemoryCard, so there is a small delay. This delay depends on the number of

personal cards and their configuration.

1.59 MCControl - Preferences/Your Cards

Your Cards

Use this list to specify all memory cards you own. Just use the

default card list

to drag all your cards into this gadget. An other

way is to insert an card and run the

automatic configuration

Feel free to

change the card names

and delay values.

As long as this gadget is empty $\mbox{MCControl}$ is using the \mbox{NoName} specifications.

If you are not able to use the gtdrag.library (e.g. you are using OS2.0) it is required to move the entries via double click

1.60 MCControl - Preferences/Default cards

Default Cards

MCControl 29 / 47

This list contains all pre defined cards. Just drag all needed cards to $your\ personal\ list$

All cards draged into this gadget will be deleted.

If you are not able to use the gtdrag.library (e.g. you are using OS2.0) it is required to move the entries via double click

1.61 MCControl - Preferences/Auto Configuration

Auto Configuration

Depending on the used driver this gadget may not be available.

This button allows to auto detect and configurate the needed card config.

1.62 MCControl - Preferences/XPK Compression

XPK Compression

This gadget enables the automatic compression during file save.

The automatic decompression is always working!

1.63 MCControl - Preferences/XPK Method

XPK Method

This gadget specifies the compression method! Consult your XPK manual for further information.

1.64 MCControl - Preferences/Font

GUI Font

This gadget allows to specify a new GUI Font. The screen font is used if this font isn't available.

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1.65 MCControl - Preferences/Multi Card Reader

Multi Card Reader

This gadget allows to select the number of card reader slots!

1.66 MCControl - Preferences/Quick Access

Quick Access

The quick access is done by skipping some MemoryCard parts during read and write actions.

These part are reserved and normaly contain no special data.

1.67 MCControl - Preferences/Use

Use

This button confirms all changes and closes the window.

1.68 MCControl - Preferences/Save

Save

This button confirms all changes, saves the preferences to disk and closes the window.

1.69 MCControl - Preferences/Cancel

Cancel

All changes are lost.

1.70 MCControl - Card Preferences

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Card Preferences

This window allows to configurate MCControl cards.

Name

Card read delays

Byte Delay

Bit Delay

Data Delay

Card write delays

Byte Delay

Bit Delay

Data Delay
MultiPage Settings.

MultiPage Start

MultiPage Next

MultiPage Previous

MultiPage End

Use

Cancel

1.71 MCControl - Card Preferences/Name

Name

Here you can specify the name of your card.

1.72 MCControl - Card Preferences/Byte Delay

Byte Delay

MCControl 32 / 47

```
Depending on the used driver this gadget may not be available.
```

This value specifies the delay before reading a new byte.

1.73 MCControl - Card Preferences/Bit Delay

Bit Delay

Depending on the used driver this gadget may not be available.

This value specifies the delay before reading a new bit.

1.74 MCControl - Card Preferences/Data Delay

Data Delay

Depending on the used driver this gadget may not be available.

This value specifies the delay before reading a new data packet.

1.75 MCControl - Card Preferences/Byte Delay

Byte Delay

Depending on the used driver this gadget may not be available.

This value specifies the delay before writing a new byte.

1.76 MCControl - Card Preferences/Bit Delay

Bit Delay

Depending on the used

MCControl 33 / 47

driver

this gadget may not be available.

This value specifies the delay before writing a new bit.

1.77 MCControl - Card Preferences/Data Delay

Data Delay

Depending on the used driver

this gadget may not be available.

This value specifies the delay before writing a new data packet.

1.78 MCControl - Card Preferences/MultiPage Start

MultiPage Start

Depending on the used

driver

this gadget may not be available.

This gadget specifies a key sequence! These keys are always used first during page selection.

There is a 1/2 second delay between any key sequence. Within one sequence there is a 1/10 second delay between key down and key up.

Examples:

"L1 L2 SELECT"

All these 3 controller keys will be pressed but not released.

"L1 -L1 L2"

 ${\tt L1}$ and ${\tt L2}$ are pressed. ${\tt L1}$ will be released after 1/10 Second.

1.79 MCControl - Card Preferences/MultiPage Up

MultiPage Up

Depending on the used

MCControl 34 / 47

driver

this gadget may not be available.

This gadget specifies a key sequence! These keys are only used during the page up command.

There is a 1/2 second delay between any key sequence. Within one sequence there is a 1/10 second delay between key down and key up.

Examples:

"L1 L2 SELECT"

All these 3 controller keys will be pressed but not released.

"L1 -L1 L2"

L1 and L2 are pressed. L1 will be released after 1/10 Second.

1.80 MCControl - Card Preferences/MultiPage Down

MultiPage Down

Depending on the used driver

this gadget may not be available.

This gadget specifies a key sequence! These keys are only used during the page down command.

There is a 1/2 second delay between any key sequence. Within one sequence there is a 1/10 second delay between key down and key up.

Examples:

"L1 L2 SELECT"

All these 3 controller keys will be pressed but not released.

"L1 -L1 L2"

L1 and L2 are pressed. L1 will be released after 1/10 Second.

1.81 MCControl - Card Preferences/MultiPage End

MultiPage End

Depending on the used

MCControl 35 / 47

driver this gadget may not be available.

This gadget specifies a key sequence! These keys are only always used after any page command.

There is a 1/2 second delay between any key sequence. Within one sequence there is a 1/10 second delay between key down and key up.

Examples:

"L1 L2 SELECT"

All these 3 controller keys will be pressed but not released.

"L1 -L1 L2"

L1 and L2 are pressed. L1 will be released after 1/10 Second.

1.82 MCControl - Card Preferences/Save

Use -----

This button confirms all changes and closes the window.

1.83 MCControl - Card Preferences/Cancel

Cancel

All changes are lost.

1.84 MCControl - The Preferences Window/The Preferences Menu

The Preferences Menu
----Project

Open...

Save

SaveAs... Edit MCControl 36 / 47

Reset To Default

Last Saved

Last Used

Save Card...

1.85 MCControl - The Preferences Menu/Project/Open...

Open...

This item allows to load a prefs file.

1.86 MCControl - The Preferences Menu/Project/Save

Save

This item allows to save the prefs file.

1.87 MCControl - The Preferences Menu/Project/SaveAs...

SaveAs...

This item allows to save the prefs file under a given name.

1.88 MCControl - The Preferences Menu/Edit/Reset to Default

Reset To Default

The preferences window will be reseted to the internal defaults.

1.89 MCControl - The Preferences Menu/Edit/Last Saved

Last Saved

This menu point forces an reload of the last saved preferences.

MCControl 37 / 47

1.90 MCControl - The Preferences Menu/Edit/Last Used

Last Used

This menu item forces the preferences window to come up with the last used settings. It works like aborting and reopening the preferences

window.

1.91 MCControl - The Preferences Menu/Edit/Save Card...

Save Card...

Here you can save a single card profile. If you specify the "DefaultCards/" directory the new card will be used as default card.

1.92 MCControl - About

About

This window i showing the version of MCControl and my name.

During startup this window opens automaticaly to pay tribute to me. (-8 $\,$

If you deserve it then I'll tell you how to remove this window!

Gadgets

Ok

1.93 MCControl - About/Ok

Ok

The about window shuts down. Using the ESC or RETURN key has the same effect.

MCControl 38 / 47

1.94 MCControl - The Save Game Converter

The Save Game Converter

This window only opens, if an compatible save game patch file (#?.sgp)
is found in the "patches" directory.

Gadgets

Name

Author

Convert to

Convert

Cancel

1.95 MCControl - The Save Game Converter/Name

Name

Here you can see the name of the game to patch.

1.96 MCControl - The Save Game Converter/Author

Author

The guy shown here created the SGP file.

1.97 MCControl - The Save Game Converter/Convert to

Convert to

Here you can specify the region id for your game version. The save game will be patched to this ID!

The number of supported regions are depending on the

MCControl 39 / 47

#?.SGP file

1.98 MCControl - The Save Game Converter/Convert

Convert

The save game will be patched.

1.99 MCControl - The Save Game Converter/Cancel

Cancel

Aborts convertation.

1.100 The SGP File Format

```
The SGP File Format
  The convert commandos work like DOS commands. If you want an argument
  containing a space, then it is required to use "".
  First let us take a look into the SGP of Heart of Darkness:
;--- Begin
SUPPORT EUR BESLES-00463 US BASLUS-00696
NAME "Heart of Darkness"
AUTHOR "Guido Mersmann"
VERSION "$VER: HeartOfDarkness.SGP 1.00 (13.06.99)"
PATCH ALL
 CONVERTID
ENDPATCH
; --- End
   This convert file is the lowest level of converting. In many cases the
   save game is full compatible. It doesn't work because the
               region
                 isnít
  the same.
   The first command
                (SUPPORT)
                 specifies all game versions working with
   this patch.
                NAME
```

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```
AUTHOR
              and
             VERSION
             are to easy to explain here.
Skip.
             PATCH ALL
             means that all version specified by the
             (SUPPORT)
                command are converted by the following lines.
             CONVERTID
             converts the
            region code
             into the destination defined by the user when selecting
the
            patch to gadget
              in the
             patch window
             ENDPATCH
             terminates the
             PATCH
             command.
Here are all currently supported commands:
             SUPPORT
            NAME
            Author
             Version
             Patch
             EndPatch
             ConvertID
            Move
```

1.101 The SGP File Format - SUPPORT

	Support
Template:	-
Support	ASIA/K,EUR/K,JAP/K,US/K
Function:	

MCControl 41 / 47

This command must be specified! It contains all region

product codes

for the game.

Its is logic that at least 2 ID are required, because we need a source and an destination format.

How to get these

Product codes

? Very easy! Just take the .PSX file,

open an DOS window and type "Type savegamename.psx hex". At the beginning of the dump you'll find an string starting with "B". This is exactly what wie need. Just must deliver this complete string to the support command.

If spaced are present, then it is required to use "".

Examples:

SUPPORT EUR "BESCES-01078BOMBER " US "BASLUS-00680BOMBER " JAP "BISLPS-01155 \leftrightarrow BOMBER "

SUPPORT EUR BESLES-00486TOMBRAID US BASLUS-00152TOMBRAID SUPPORT EUR "BESLES-00720TOMB2" US "BASLUS-00437TOMB2"

Its not always required to specify the complete ID string. "BESCES-00808GMEDAT01", "BASLUS-00707GMEDAT03" As you can see is the

file name

of this game different. The contents is compatible. This is made by games using a whole block for saving the data for one player. The next player get an different number. Sometimes the filename is equal to the player name. To convert such save game its required to setup this command line:

SUPPORT EUR BESCES-00808 US BASLUS-00707

All bytes after these IDs stay unchanged.

1.102 The SGP File Format - NAME

Name

Template:

Name Name/A

Function:

This command is required! It contains the name of the game. This name will be shown later in the patch window

MCControl 42 / 47

```
The name should be correct and readable. Do not use upper case ← or lower
case at all. "HEARDOFDAKNESS" is wrong! "Heart of Darkness" is fine!

Examples:

NAME "Tomb Raider II"
NAME "Colin McRae Rally"
NAME "Spyro The Dragon"
```

1.103 The SGP File Format - AUTHOR

```
Author

Template:
Author Name/A

Function:

This command is required! It contains the name of the author of the converter. This name will be shown later in the patch window Examples:

NAME "Testy Testman"
NAME "Guido Mersmann"
```

1.104 The SGP File Format - VERSION

```
VERSION -----

Template:

VERSION String/A

Function:

This command is required! It contains an amiga standard version string.

Example:

VERSION "$VER: HeartOfDarkness.SGP 1.00 (13.06.99)"
```

1.105 The SGP File Format - PATCH

MCControl 43 / 47

Patch

Template:

PATCH From/A, To/A

Function:

This command must be specified at least one time. The FROM argument is a little special. If the from argument contains the string "ALL", then no other argument is required. In all other cases 2 arguments are required.

All commands betweem PATCH and

ENDPATCH

are only used, if the FROM

argument is equal to the version of the game and the user defined target is equal to the TO Argument.

Example1:

SUPPORT

EUR BESCES-01438 US BASCUS-94228

PATCH EUR US

XX

ХX

ENDPATCH

PATCH US EUR

УУ

УУ

ENDPATCH

The xx commands are only used when you're converting an save $\ensuremath{\hookleftarrow}$ game from

 ${\tt EUR}$ to the US version. The yy commands are used only when converting from US to ${\tt EUR}.$

Example2:

SUPPORT

EUR BESCES-01438 US BASCUS-94228

PATCH ALL

XX

XX

ENDPATCH

The xx commands are used during any conversion.

MCControl 44 / 47

1.106 The SGP File Format - ENDPATCH

EndPatch

Template:

EndPatch

Function:

This command is required for each

Patch

command. This command defines

the end of an convertation block.

Example:

SUPPORT

EUR BESCES-01438 US BASCUS-94228

PATCH ALL

XX XX

ENDPATCH

1.107 The SGP File Format - CONVERTID

CONVERTID

Template:

ConvertID

Function:

This command converts the

product ID (region) of the save game.

Under normal circumstances this command is always present, because the europe version of an game is only seeking after an european region id.

You should by able to convert most of the games, by using only this $\operatorname{\mathsf{command}}$.

Example:

MCControl 45 / 47

SUPPORT

EUR BESCES-01438 US BASCUS-94228

PATCH ALL

CONVERTID ENDPATCH

If the you want to convert an US version into the ERU version, then $\mbox{\tt MCControl}$ is replacing the US-

product ID

by the string "BESCES-01438"!

1.108 The SGP File Format - MOVE

MOVE

Template:

MOVE START/K/A, END/K/A, TO/K/A, FILL/K

Function:

MCControl is copiing the data even if the two memory areas are overlapping. E.g. The TO argument may be 1 Byte before or after the START and during copy process there is no data loss.

This command allows to copy save game data areas. You have access to an area of $140\,\mathrm{KB}$. A save game maximum is $120\,\mathrm{KB}$, so you can use the other memory as buffer.

Example:

MOVE START \$1000 END \$1100 TO 8192

The Memory \$1000 (4096) to \$1100 (4352) will be copied to 8192 (\$2000). The old space (\$1000-\$10ff) will be filled by zero.

MOVE START 1000 END 1100 TO 8192 FILL 3

The memory area begining at 1000 (\$0388) and ending at 1100 (\$044c) will be copied to offset 8192 (\$2000) The source area fill be filled with \$03.

1.109 Using MCControl DOS Only

Using MCControl DOS Only

MCControl 46 / 47

READ/K
,
WRITE/K
,
BYTEDELAY/N
,
BITDELAY/N
,
DATADELAY/N
,
SLOT/N
,
PROGRESS/S

1.110 The DOS Arguments - Read/K

Read/K

Here you can specify the filename to save the MemoryCard as. The file format is $$\operatorname{\text{MCD}}$$!

1.111 The DOS Arguments - Write/K

Write/K

This gadget specifies the filename of the card image to store on MemoryCard. Any memory card file format is valid, as long its holding a complete card!

It is possible to use

Read

and Write arguments together! In this case first the ${\tt MemoryCard}$ is read and then overwritten by the new data.

1.112 The DOS Arguments - ByteDelay/N

ByteDelay/N

ByteDelay describes the delay after each byte, like used in the card settings

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1.113 The DOS Arguments - BitDelay/N

BitDelay/N

ByteDelay describes the delay after each bit, like used in the card settings

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1.114 The DOS Arguments - DataDelay/N

DataDelay/N

DataDelay describes the delay before each data block, like used in the card settings

1.115 The DOS Arguments - Slot/N

Slot/N

Here you can select the slot number for read/write action!

1.116 The DOS Arguments - Progress/S

Progress/S

This switch enables the progress bar for reading and writing!