WinMenu Contents

A Windows-based menuing system

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Note: The shareware version has a 30 menu command limit (including the standard items under File). Registered users can have up to a possible of 300 menu commands! All brandnames and products are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies.

Overview

WinMenu provides a simple yet powerfully usable menu for Windows 3.1 or above. Network administrators will find this program useful as I designed it for their consumption. However standalone PCs can also benefit from WinMenu. Network managers, especially new ones, will find it cumbersome to support a Windows environment when all you have is Program Manager as your primary/standard interface. With this goal in mind QAA Software Inc, developed WinMenu. Without using icons to represent programs, QAA exploits the menu bar, a standard interface for Windows programs (i.e., with an exception of a few, all Windows programs have a menu bar).

By modifying WinMenu's .INI file, network managers can quickly provide access to programs from the network to the user community. WinMenu can load up to three possible .INI files. The main and first loaded file is WinMenu.INI and in this file, a parameter tells WinMenu to load the third (in order of load) .INI file. This parameter, explained later, is called Other-INI. The second (in order of load) .INI file is the environment variable setting WINMENU. These three .INI files can be categorized in the following manner: WinMenu.INI is the main menu to load, this is common to all users of that particular network or server; the environment settings file can load the divisional or branch menu, a menu common to a division or branch; and finally, Other-INI (a parameter in WinMenu.INI) file loads a personal menu file for one particular user. If you can create an icon in program manager you can use this program. See <u>Setup</u> and Installation to successfully install WinMenu on your network or standalone PC.

Note: The shareware version has a 30 menu command limit (including the standard items under File). Registered users can have up to a possible of 300 menu commands! All brandnames and products are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies.

See Also:

<u>The Run Command</u> <u>Reset WinMenu</u> <u>Future Enhancements</u> <u>Evaluation and Registration</u> <u>QAA Software Order Form</u> <u>Limited Use Software License Agreement</u>

Setup and Installation

Upon running WinMenu.exe, it will make the following modification to WIN.INI:

[WinMenu] INI-Path=pathdir

The pathdir is the directory on which WinMenu will try to find WinMenu.INI. Normally, WinMenu will try to find it where WinMenu is loaded from and set INI-Path to this directory. Once established, WinMenu will try to load WinMenu.INI. If WinMenu.INI does not exist it will create a standard example .INI file. Please browse this file, it contains useful documented information about creating and maintaining an .INI file.

The WinMenu.INI file

In this file, as in other standard .INI files, you have sections noted by [brackets]. Within a section you have entries with variables set for each entry. Sections and entries can be commented out by using a semicolon at the beginning of the line (if you comment out a section without commenting its entries, they will *merge* into the preceding section, if there is one). First and WinMenu's initialization settings is called [WinMenu]. The following are the possible settings for this section:

[WinMenu] TitleName=QAA Software's OtherINI=C:\WIN\PERSONAL.INI

The TitleName entry will modify WinMenu to make it display the title of your choice. the Other-INI entry will tell WinMenu to load that particular .INI file to the menu bar. This file can be called anything you like and is loaded last out of the possible three .INI files. You should include the path to tell where WinMenu can find this file.

Any section following [WinMenu] are the menu items that appears on the menu bar. The entries are the commands under that particular menu item. To add a new menu item on the menu bar just add another section. Use the & (ampersand) for an [alt] key access to the menu when loaded. A menu command has the following parameters:

&Menu Command=C:\path\exec parms [,C:\startup\dir,exec style,Caption]

Exec style can be the following:

NORMAL	= Whatever way the program wants to load		
MIN	= Will be loaded iconized		
MAX	= Will take maximum screen size		

Please note: PIFs and Windows Applications override the exec style settings. However many programs will *accept* these values.

The startup dir and exec style are optional.

The fourth optional parameter, the program's text in the title bar, will let only one instance of the program to run. This is particularly useful if the program cannot have multiple instances running. Typically, they are DOS programs like WordPerfect for DOS. To use this parameter, supply the text of the Window's Title Bar. A pif file calls this the Window Title. Any program, especially Windows applications, that modify it's Window title, may not be able to use this feature. For example, if specified in an .INI file as:

&Command Prompt=C:\COMMAND.COM,C:\,NORMAL,COMMAND

COMMAND is the name of the Window title if Command Prompt is executed.

Note: Use the comma to separate parameters. Have no spaces after comma or equal sign.

See Also:

<u>Overview</u> <u>Reset WinMenu</u> <u>Future Enhancements</u>

The Run Command

Starts an application or opens a document. The Run dialog box has the following options:

Command Line

Type the application filename, including the path, if necessary. If you want to open a document, type the application filename following by a space and the name of the document.

If you don't know the name or location of the application or document file, use the Browse button to open the Browse dialog box.

Run Minimized

Select this check box if you want the application to be reduced to an icon every time it starts.

See Also:

The Browse Button under the Run Command

The Browse Button under the Run Command

Use this dialog box to easily find and select files. The following describes information about the dialog box:

File Name

Select the name of the file you want and then choose the OK button. Or type the filename in this box and then choose the OK button. If necessary, also specify the path and drive. If the file you want does not appear in the File name list, you can change drives or directories or specify a different type of file.

List Files of Type

Open the list and then select the type of file you want displayed in the File Name box. For example, if you Programs, the File Name list displays only program files (files with an .EXE, .PIF, .COM or .BAT filename extension).

Directories

Select the directory that contains the program file you want to use. When you select a directory, the files in that directory appear in the File Name box. If the directory you want does not appear in the list, you may have to change drives by choosing a different drive from the Drives list.

Drives

Open the list and then select the drive that contains the file you want to use. When you change drives, the directories on that drive appear in the Directories box.

See Also:

The Run Command

Reset WinMenu

This menu item will reread the three possible .INI files and recreate your menu bar. This is useful when you have updated your menu but do not want to exit from WinMenu. Thanks to DAB for this useful feature.

See Also:

Overview Setup and Installation

Future Enhancements

QAA Software has outlined some features for future versions of WinMenu. If you find this program interesting and have suggestions please, contact us at:

QAA Software Inc. 9200 Hunting Pines Place Fairfax, VA 22032 (703) 978-0561

The following are in the works:

A GUI interface to modify the .INI files. A WinMenu metering program.

See Also:

Overview Evaluation and Registration QAA Software Order Form

Evaluation and Registration

This is not free software. This shareware program allows you to use this software for evaluation purposes without charge for a period of 30 days. If you use this software after the 30 day evaluation period a registration fee is required. Please, print and mail the <u>QAA Software Order Form</u> or contact us at:

QAA Software Inc. 9200 Hunting Pines Place Fairfax, VA 22032 (703) 978-0561

See Also:

<u>Overview</u> <u>Future Enhancements</u> Limited Use Software License Agreement

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