WinX 1.5:
Windows User Interface Extensions

To install WinX: Create a directory for WinX on your hard disk, such as "C:\ WINX", and copy the WinX distribution files to it (a readme file "readme. txt", this file "winx.wri", the executable "winx.exe", its companion executable "winx_.exe" and DLL "winxdll.dll", and the Windows help file "winx.hlp").

Before running WinX: Since most Windows applications perform common windowing functions in similar ways, it is often possible to use a new application without reading its help manual. The whole point of WinX, however, is to allow the user to perform windowing functions in new and better ways. That being the case, a quick review of the online help manual prior to using WinX is highly recommended (hit the Help... button on the WinX main window). It provides an overview of what WinX is and how to use it, detailed explanations of its features and controls, instructions on how to contact the author and register this shareware, and a list of known problems.

To run WinX: There are no special instructions for running WinX. Simply use the Program Manager (select Run... in the File menu, then hit the Browse... button to locate and select the WinX executable "winx.exe"). To run WinX automatically upon startup, add it to the Startup group in the Program Manager (open the Startup group window, select New... in the File menu, create a new Program Item by hitting OK, hit the Browse.... button to locate and select the WinX executable "winx.exe").

While running WinX: While WinX is running, certain user interface characteristics of Windows will be modified. Most noticeably, windows on the desktop will automatically activate when the mouse cursor moves over them, and the activated windows will not pop to the front as they would normally. Also, menus always close when the mouse button is released. To change a window's Z position (depth), place the mouse cursor on a **window border** or **title bar**. Click the **left** mouse button to pop the window to the front. Press and hold the **right** mouse button to pop up a menu of commands which move the window backwards and forwards. Equivalent keyboard **command keys** are also provided.

Changes to WinX: Considerable effort has gone into making WinX work more smoothly with Windows and Windows applications. These and other improvements since WinX 1.0 include:

- Windows is allowed to pop windows to the front as a result of button pushes, menu selections, screen savers, and system commands (Alt+Tab, Alt+Esc, Task List, Ctl+F6, etc.).
- The "Owner Behind" Restriction is enabled as the default upon installation to prevent owned windows (dialogs, control windows, information overlays) from getting lost behind their owners.
- Buttons have been added to the main window to hide WinX (run hidden), and to conveniently disable and enable WinX for trouble shooting.
- A pull-right "WinX" menu has been added to the popup Accelerator Menu for easy access to WinX controls when WinX is minimized or hidden.

- Interference with the order in which Windows activates windows (after creation, minimization, close, etc.) has been minimized.
- Accelerator Capture allows application accelerator and shortcut keys to be used even if automatic activation is enabled and the mouse is not on the window.
- The Accelerator Capture cursor has been changed to include an arrow for more convenient use as a pointing cursor.
- Clicking on a borderless window pops it to the front.
- Warning beeps work with sound cards, and are used more sparingly.
- "Unsticky" menus are more reliable and works with other application accelerator menus (e.g. Word 6.0 and Excel 4.0).
- The Shift key will "hold" automatic window activation to allow use of "shy" windows which disappear when deactivated.
- The Shift key will "hold" the Accelerator Capture target so it won't be lost through inadvertent mouse movement or button pushes.
- An option has been provided in the Save Settings Dialog to run WinX hidden at startup.
- Alt+Enter toggles the DOS window display mode correctly.
- The Accelerator Menu can be popped up on a disabled window the same as for any other window.
- The Esc key closes the Accelerator Menu the same as for any other menu.
- The list of Known Problems has been updated.

Registering WinX: WinX is distributed as shareware. You may evaluate it for up to 30 days after which time it must be either registered or removed from your system. If you find WinX useful please register it by sending the product name, version, and US $20 to its author:

>Jon Barrilleaux
>3800 Lake Shore Ave.
>Oakland, CA 94610

If you register you will receive notice of updates, a registration number to block the About popup, and priority on suggesting changes.

Questions and Comments: Please send questions and comments by mail to the above address, or via e-mail to:

>(Internet)   71461.432@compuserve.com
>(Compuserve)   71461,432

>Thank you for trying WinX,

>Jon Barrilleaux
>Peculiar Technologies