PowerDesk Utilities 2.0 Notes

Thank you for evaluating PowerDesk Utilities 2.0

Please read this document to familiarize yourself with PowerDesk Utilities and refer to it later as necessary.

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1. Introduction

PowerDesk Utilities is an award winning Windows 95 and now Windows NT 4.0 enhancer. It is designed to give you more flexibility and power to manage your files and disk, to launch applications and to access system functions.

PowerDesk is composed of several modules which together make the PowerDesk Utilities Suite:

PowerDesk ExplorerPlus is an advanced file management application, a Windows Explorer put on 'steroids'. Features include a Drivebar, a customizable toolbar, a Launchbar, integrated support for many archive formats (zip, arj, lzh, z, gz, tar, etc), encryption, built-in file viewer which supports QuickView and QuickView Plus, dual-pane display modes, a DOS command line, history and "favorites" support, easy access to commonly-used file management functions, font selection, and many other innovative and intuitive features.

PowerDesk Toolbar is a fully-customizable toolbar that can contain a variety of tools to make working in Windows easier and more pleasant. Tools include QuickLaunch, for fast access to commonly-used programs and documents; StartMenus, for easy access and editing of the Start Menu (plus fast access to Control Panel, etc, and customizable menus for storing internet shortcuts and other commonly-accessed items); MultiView, which provides multiple desktops; System Access, for fast access to such features as shutting down Windows, changing screen resolution, and printing the screen; a DOS command line; Printer Manager, for easy access to printing functions; and more. You can create as many Toolbars as you want and configure each one to fit your needs. Toolbars can be floating, docked to the side of the screen, or can be placed inside the Taskbar.

PowerDesk Size Manager is a tool which is designed to help you better understand what your disk space usage is. With it you can discover which folders occupy a lot of space and which ones don't. Size Manager will help you recover space by telling you where and how much space is used on your hard drives. Features include complete built-in file management and powerful searching, sorting, printing, graphing, and analysis tools.

PowerDesk File Finder is an advanced searching utility which provides more power and flexibility than the file finder which ships with Windows. Features include powerful searching options, an integrated viewer pane, the ability to print the list of results, the ability to refine searches, and more.

2. What's New in Version 2.0?

PowerDesk Utilities version 2.0 contains significant enhancements over PowerDesk version 1.1. These enhancements are numerous and the more important ones are summarized here:

2.1 ExplorerPlus

* ExplorerPlus is now compatible with Windows 95 and NT 4.0.
* ExplorerPlus can now replace Explorer for opening folders, My Computer, etc.
* Many more compression formats are supported in addition to the zip format: z, gz, tar, taz, tgz, lzh/lha, and arj.
* The 'Extract To' feature has been enhanced to let you select the destination path for the extraction from a folder tree.
* The 'Copy/Move To' has been enhanced as well to let you select the destination of the file operation from a folder tree.
* Files can be encrypted and decrypted. 'DES' encryption is also available.
* A "Destroy" option is now available for removing all traces of a file (delete using the DoD delete algorithm).
* The 'XTree Gold' emulation has been completely rewritten and enhanced. The 'Norton Commander' emulation has been enhanced as well.
* There is a "favorites" feature for storing commonly-used paths and programs.
* A history of folders you opened is remembered so that you can navigate back and forward to this paths you visited.
* A 'Start' button can be displayed in the toolbar for fast access to your Start menus.
* ExplorerPlus now has a Launchbar for quick access to the programs you commonly use. Drag and dropping a file onto a launch button will also open the dropped file with the application associated with the button.
* There is now a "vertical" option for the dual panes, as well as a "swap panes" command.
* "Undo" is now supported in the Edit menu and works hand in hand with the Windows 95 and NT 4.0 Undo.
* The "New" menu item is now available in context menus and in the 'File' menu.
* The "Send To" menu is enhanced and now supports sub-folders.
* You can now select which ExplorerPlus shell context menus are available and if you want them to be cascaded into a popup menu.
* A 'Print Tree' feature is available to print the contents of the displayed folder tree (entire tree or only the current branch).
* An "Edit File" command can open the selected file with a configurable editor.
* The date/time stamp of files can be set or modified from within ExplorerPlus.
* The font used in ExplorerPlus can be configured.
* The DOS command line can now accept URLs to open your web browser at the entered URL or ftp server, e.g. typing http://www.mijenix.com for example will bring you directly to the Mijenix home page.
* Over 30 new buttons are now available in the Toolbar to quickly access the ExplorerPlus functionality.
* You can now drag files from ExplorerPlus to another application without having ExplorerPlus come to the foreground.
* Plus other enhancements and bug fixes!

2.2 PowerDesk Toolbar

* The Toolbar is now compatible with Windows 95 and NT 4.0.
* The DOS command line can now be placed in the taskbar toolbar.
* The DOS command line can now accept URLs.
* The System Access tool now contains a 'Print Screen' function.
* The Start Menus tool now caches program groups to provide a much better response and faster access.
* Keyboard support has been greatly enhanced:
* The hotkey for a toolbar will make that toolbar the current window When a toolbar is the current window, the TAB key moves from one tool to another
* The arrow keys can be used to move between items in tools where this makes sense

* The enter key will invoke the selected item
* Shift+F10 brings up the context menu for the selected tool
* Several bugs have been addressed

2.3 Size Manager

PowerDesk Utilities now contains a Size Manager program; this is a powerful tool for analyzing disk space usage and making it easy to clean up disk space being taken up by files that are no longer needed. Use this utility to see where your disk space is being used.

2.4 File Finder

PowerDesk Utilities now contains a File Finder. This File Finder includes more flexible search options than the file finder built-into Windows 95, and has many more features, such as an integrated viewer pane, the ability to refine a search, a command to print the list of files found, and other useful functions.

3. Feedback and Support

We welcome and encourage your feedback about PowerDesk so that we can improve it as much as possible. To communicate with us about PowerDesk, please send electronic mail to the following address:

  support@mijenix.com

4. Uninstalling PowerDesk

If you wish to uninstall PowerDesk, you can run the included Uninstall program. You can do this from the "Add/Remove Programs" control panel applet or by running the "Uninstall PowerDesk" program from the PowerDesk 2.0 group in the Start Menu.

5. Mijenix Corporation

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Thank you for evaluating PowerDesk Utilities 2.0.

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