UCDBackup

COLLABORATORS

	TITLE : UCDBackup		
ACTION	*NAME*	*DATE*	*SIGNATURE*
WRITTEN BY		January 31, 2023	

REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

Contents

Chapter 1

UCDBackup

1.1   main

UCDBackup 0.92b (7.11.95)

by Jamie A. Kennea

(c) 1995 Ulysses Computer Designs (UCD)

Welcome to UCDBackup Documentation. I'm hoping you have many fun with this

program.

Introduction - Program information.

Operation - How it works.

The GUI - Using the Program GUI.

The Menu - Extra bits.

Icon Tools - About Tooltypes

m Requirements - Can you run it?

History - Program so far.

Beta Notes - Notes for beta testers.

Thanks

Legal Stuff - Please read.

If you have any other questions or social problems - or if you simply like

this program and want to say hi - please write to me at

jak@star.sr.bham.ac.uk.

And why not have a look at:

http://www.sr.bham.ac.uk:80/~jak

A UCDBackup Support page is situated on this page - latest versions etc..

Thanks for listening,

Jamie A. Kennea BSc (Hons).

(Well I just got them and haven't had a chance to use them!)

I'm not interested in computers - I'm interested in Amigas.

1.2   **UCDBackup : Introduction**

What is it for.

When using my hard drive I noticed a nasty way of it blowing up when using
it to hard. I am a very lasy person and also a cheapskate so the idea of
buying a HD Backup program and Tape spooler or something was not much fun!
So instead I decided to write a program that will magically backup all the
new files created on my hard every week.

It started life as a sucky CLI program - and I used it for many year. So
now I've put a nice (standard - i.e. not slow MUI) GUI on it and made it a
nice little commodity type thing.

Now you can put the program in your WBStartup and it will check to see if
its UCDBackup Time. When it is it will open a CON: window and
scour the selected directories for files created since the last backup. It
will then archive these files using LHA (which you must supply yourself -
but hey every bloke has a copy). The archive will be then copied to a disk
- you must then lock this disk up and use plenty of security.

You will find that this program is most wonderful at doing backup. You can
even set the length of time between backup. However if you think it's crap,
please tell me via e-mail and I will attempt to fix it to your liking.

NB. I use LHA because it is the archiver everyone uses. I examined LZX as
well and was considering making the archiver used an option, but LHA does
something that none of the others do, it allows the files being archived to
be listed in a seperate file. UCDBackup does this by storing the file names
and pathnames in a file called t:backup.tmp and then archiving them with
the command "lha -x -m a <date>.lha @t:backup.tmp".

1.3   **UCDBackup : Operation**

How it works.

UCDBackup is a commodity - this means it stays in memory and does its job
when required. When it thinks a backup is needed (it's UCDBackup
Time!) it will do it. If the user wishes to change the setup he can
call up the GUI using CX or the hotkey (usually rawkey lalt b).
The GUI itself is an interface for the user to select which
directories to backup and also other opertions such as backup rate, pattern
matching and many more fun things.

The backup itself works by examing the datestamp on files in selected
directories and comparing them to the last known time of backup. The

directories are searched recursively, so for example, if you have a

sourcecodes directory called "Work:Data/Source" this can be added to the

directory list and UCDBackup will search through all of the subdirectories

in it. If the date of the file is the same day or later than the last

backup time then the program will append it to a list.

When all the scanning has finished this list is sent to LHA and the files

are archived. This archive is stored initially in the T: directory of your

system. The file is then copied to the specified device (usually df0:).

A log file of all the files backed up is placed in the T: directory also

for your later reading pleasure. It's filename is of the form:

03-Nov-95.log

I.e. a standard Amiga style date followed by a .log postfix.

When the UCDBackup program is first run the program will initially bring up

the Error "Unable to find Config File". It will then use the default

settings when running. These are:

o No directories in the directory list.

o Pattern set to #?

o Output device df0:

o Backup rate 7 days

o Date of last backup set to the current day.

Once you have responded to this error bring up The GUI and

add the directories you want to search, and then select "Save" Gadget or

the "Save Config" Menu item to save. The effect of setting the date of the

last backup to the todays date means that any file created from today

onwards will be backed up.

If you wish to set this to an earlier date the only way to do this is to

run the program with your computer's date set to the earlier date. This

will only work of course if there is no Config File.

The Config File is "s:UCDBackup.config". I do not recommed any altering of

this file by hand as I cannot predict how UCDBackup will respond to this.

Although the Config file is simply a text file at the moment I do plan to

change this to something more standard like an IFF file in the future to

allow better backwards compatibility with older versions.

1.4   UCDBackup : The GUI

The Graphic User Interface

The GUI is font sensitive - but if you use a font to large it will revert

to using topaz 8 point font. The window will open on the current main

pubscreen, normally Workbench, but if you are running a program that
Shanghai's windows (i.e. GoldED as I am currently using it), it will open
there).

Note that you can set the default pubscreen using Icon Tooltypes .

The main feature of the program window itself is the directory list. This
is a list of directories! These directories being the ones that you want to
backup files from. Directories may be added and removed to this list in
many way:

o The program window itself (called up by pressing the hotkey or
using the Show Interface button in CX) is an appwindow and dropping
a directory or file (only the directory of this file will appear)
in the window will add it to the directory list.

o Using the "ADD" gadget will cause an ASL Requestor to pop and you
can add directories by selecting them this way.

o If no item in the Listview is being selected typing directories
into the the listview's string gadget will add them to the list. If
an item is selected the current item will be modified.

o Clicking on a Listview item and then the "DEL" gadget will remove
that item from the list.

Below the Listview is the dates of the last and next dates for backup.

In the top right hand corner there is a "Pattern" string gadget - this
specifies the pattern with which to match files to back up. This is in the
standard AmigaDOS format, here are some examples:

#? - Backup everything

#?.c - only backup files ending in .c

~(#?.info|#?.log) - everything except icons and TeX log files.

I'm hoping you get the idea - or already knowing this. The form of the
Pattern is checked by the program - if it is invalid the program will be
telling you so.

Next below is the "Backup Rate" Integer Gadget - this is the number of days
in which UCDBackup will be doing another backup. If you change this the
date below the Directory list will change accordingly.

Now we have the "Output Dev:" String Gadget. This specifies where the LHA'd
backup files will be copied to, usually df0:. The input into this string
gadget is not checked, it should be of the standard AmigaDOS form, i.e.,

o df0: - for the internal drive

o tape: - for a tape drive

o Work:bak - to put the backup files in the directory called bak
on the drive Work:

Along the bottom of the window are four gadgets, these are:

o "Save" which saves the current configuration of the program. This

is done when you have been changing the settings.

o "Backup" will force the program to backup the files even though it

is not yet time to do so.

o "Quit" will quit the program - if you have changed any settings the

program will query this quit. If you wish to save the settings

select "Cancel" if not select "OK".

o "Revert" will revert to the current saved program configuration, so

any changes you have made will be lost. Again - if you have made

any changes you will be promptedf.

Also as the program is a commodity the closegadget on the window simply

closes down the GUI and does not quit the program. The GUI may be brought

up again using the hotkey or CX.

1.5   **UCDBackup : The Menu**

The Menu

The menu contains five functions:

o Backup - Force program to backup data (Amiga-b).

o Save Config - Save current configuration (Amiga-s)

o Revert - Revert to last saved configuration (Amiga-r)

o About - Program information (Amiga-?)

o Quit - Quit program (Amiga-q)

Further information on this functions can be found in The GUI

1.6   **UCDBackup : Icon Tooltypes**

Controlling program using Tooltypes

Although the program saves it's information in a file certain operations

can be controlled only by altering the tooltypes. At the moment these

tooltypes are:

o CX_POPKEY - The hotkey to bring up the program, usually set to

CX_POPKEY="rawkey lalt b".

o CX_PRIORITY - UCDBackup's priority in the Commodity Exchange

list, defaults to "CX_PRIORITY=1".

o CX_POPUP - Whether or not to open the GUI on running or not.

Set to "CX_POPUP=NO" normally, make it

"CX_POPUP=YES" if you want a GUI straght away.

o PUBSCREEN - This is the default PUBSCREEN on which the

UCDBackup GUI will open. Usually in brackets so the

program opens on the current default pubscreen. If

you wish to explicitly state the program has to

open on the Workbench you need to set it to

"PUBSCREEN=Workbench". This is of course best as it

means that the program's appwindow can be used.

o TESTANDQUIT - This tooltype when set to "TESTANDQUIT=YES" will

limit the usage of UCDBackup to just testing if it

is time to do a backup and act on it. Once the

testing as done the program will exit and will not

continue as a commodity. Because of this the user

will not be able to edit the backup preferences

unless he deletes or brackets this tooltype. This

was put in for users who do not wish to keep the

program in memory.

o DELAY - This makes the program wait for a set number of

seconds before performing any backup operations.

i.e. DELAY=10 for a 10 second wait. The reason for

this is to stop disk crunching while Workbench is

still loading other commodities.

o LOG - This defaults to YES. Setting LOG=NO will stop

creation of backup log files in the T: directory.

o CHECKSIZE - On some devices checking the size of the space

left on the disk will give an erroneous result. A

good example of this the the RAM: device that

always comes up as having no space left on it -

due to it's dynamical property. If you are

experiencing such problems - i.e. the program is

complaining that there is no space left on the

device you are backing up to - and there is.

Simply set this to CHECKSIZE=NO. The default

value is YES.

1.7   UCDBackup : Requirements

System Requirements

Most importantly you need to have battery backed up clock in your machine.

I'll put in my 2p on this one and say to Escom - please put clocks in all

Amigas as standard!

This program was entirely coded on an 7Mhz 68000 based A500 with 5Mb of ram
and 500Mb GVP hard drive. The operation system used was the Kickstart 39.106
and Workbench 40.42, i.e the 3.0 ROM and 3.1 system disks. I have not tried
it on a v37 (2.04/5) machine - however it should work okay. It will not
work at all on a 1.2/1.3 machine - it's time to upgrade!

As I have only tried this program on my computer please tell me if it
crashes or does anything wierd. It it does crash please try to give me
details using SegTracker/TNT, Enforcer or MJSoft's NewAlertHook. Also it
will help if you try to retrace the steps which caused the crash, otherwise
I won't know what the hell's going on.

1.8 UCDBackup : History

UCDBackup Program History:

0.1 - 0.9 : Program being coded.

0.9b : First public beta test release.

0.91b : Log files added

0.92b : Volume path problem removed.

CHECKSIZE Tooltype added.

Known Bugs:

o LHA does not keep volume information so if the files being backed
up are in different volumes a problem will arise when restoring
backups.

o There is something wrong with the file size checking - sometimes
the program seems to think there is enough room on a disk and tries
to copy the LHA'd file across. When the error occurs the program
puts up a file error requestor and prompts the user to insert the
backup disk again. This is not really a big problem - but the
program should in this case realise the disk is too full and ask
for another.

o Localisation is an unknown quantity.

1.9 UCDBackup : Beta Test notes

UCDBackup Notes for beta testers:

Several things need tweaking in this program, the main one being the GUI.
The GUI itself is fine (I think!) but the font sensitivity needs work. As I
have a 500 with a 1084 monitor I always use topaz, I have put in font

testing into the program but it probably doesn't work as well as you would like.

Also the program contains some experimental localisation, I have created a ucdbackup.cd file for people who wish to translate it and create a catalog with CatComp. I would be very grateful if anyone wishes to do this and try it out as I have not tested it (I know a little French but not much else).

1.10   UCDBackup : Thanks

Thanks to these people who make my life easier by being my friends:

(in alphabetical order so as to avoid conflict...)

* Katy Adamson

* Dave Aitken

* Iain Arnell

* Paul Barr

* Martin Cartwright

* Dave Churches

* Stef Collier (or :< as we call him)

* Micheal Birch

* Brandon Fernandez

* Chris Hall (who isn't real - only electronic)

* Helen Higgins

* Tim Hogan

* Martin Kemp

* Julia Kennett-Brown (who's only electronic now)

* Clare Martin

* Neil McErlean

* Jon Sarkies

* John Turner

* Louisa Welch

* Daniel Wells

Stars the lot of them - anyone I've missed out - you know who you are.

Thanks beta testers:

* Norman Baccari - for suggestions and bug reports.

Also thanks:

* Matt Dillion and the OIC clan (for my 5 years of happy DICEing)

* Dietmar Eilert (for his great GoldED and attachments - I will

register soon Dietmar - as soon as I get my grant!)

* My Family, for obvious reasons.

* Anyone who wrote anything on my hard drive!

1.11   UCDBackup : Legal Stuff

Legal Stuff

DISCLAIMER:

You use this program at your own risk and I will not accept any

responsibility for any damage done to you, your system or your files by

using this program.

LICENCE:

This program is free to use and own. I do not want any renumeration for

the use of this program. It's not that I couldn't use the money - it's just

that for a program of this simplicity I don't think anyone would really

want to pay for it - I certainly wouldn't!

However if you do use this program and are on the Internet - I do request

that if you use or install this program onto your system that you send me

an e-mail note telling me. I want you to do this so I can get some sort of

idea as to the popularity of the program (will make me want to update it

more often) and also so I can get feedback from you as to how I can improve

the program.

So please e-mail me at

jak@star.sr.bham.ac.uk

with the subject title of the "UCDBackup". If you've got nothing to say to

me don't worry - just send an empty e-mail.

I hope you find this program useful - to the best of my knowledge it does

not contain any major bugs that could harm or damage your system (see

disclaimer above). I look forward to hearing from you.