

PhoneWizard

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PhoneWizard

Contents

1		neWizard	1
	1.1	main	1
	1.2	introduction	2
	1.3	requirements	3
	1.4	installation	4
	1.5	configuration	4
	1.6	tooltypes	6
	1.7	functions	7
	1.8	extras	8
	1.9	history	9
	1.10	future	9
	1.11	author	10
	1 12	convright	10

PhoneWizard 1/11

Chapter 1

PhoneWizard

1.1 main

```
'PhoneWizard'
=========
Answerphone software for voice modems! (Version 1.3)
This is the english documentation.
                Introduction
                PhoneWizard? What is it?
                Requirements
                What you need to use PhoneWizard
                Installation
                How you install it
                Configuration
                What there is to do to make it work
                Tool types
                Advanced configurations
                Functions
                How you control PhoneWizard
                Remote functions
                Actions you can do from the phone
                History
                Overview of all previous versions
                Future plans
                List of ideas for the next version
                Author
                How to contact the author
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PhoneWizard 2 / 11

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1.2 introduction

Welcome to the world of PhoneWizard!

Did you ever ask yourself what the 'voice function' of your modem is for? The answer is 'PhoneWizard'! It turns your computer into an answerphone (with some extras).

This package includes two english greeting messages. You can find lots of german greeting messages in the aminet at the same location

Yes, there are some features if you use your computer as an answerphone that you won't find on standard answerphones...

- · All voice texts will be played and recorded in digital quality. (The recording quality depends of the voice chip of your modem)
- · Anytime PhoneWizard answers a call, it can play a different (randomly selected) greeting message.
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ You can browse and archive the recorded calls comfortable in the PhoneWizard window.

There are two different versions of the PhoneWizard:

- a) The unregistered version:
 Only the first 2 callers can leave a message. All following callers can listen to the greeting message, but then the modem will hang up.
- b) The registered version: Unlimited number of incoming calls will be recorded and you can adjust the number of rings that will activate PhoneWizard.

And there are some special features in the registered version:

- · Remote call browsing: You can browse your calls remotely from a phone, using the touch tone recognition of your modem.
- Plugins: If there is a plugin for your modem, you can replay recorded texts directly to your computer and you can use computer samples as greeting messages. A plugin for ZyXEL modems is included.

```
(To get a registered version, read the conditions )
```

Additionally, there will be more features (which are not implemented, yet):

- · Voicebox: A message can be stored by PhoneWizard and people knowing the the according password number can play it remotely from a phone.
- · Delivery: If PhoneWizard has recorded a call, it can call you at another

PhoneWizard 3/11

- number when you are not at home and play the message to you!
- · Callback: PhoneWizard can call a number and send a message. (If someone does not have an answerphone. Well, this guy is out of date anyway); ^)
- · Caller-IDs: Some modems can send the phone number of incoming calls. So you will know who called you when the person was to lazy to talk.
- · Speakerphone: Use your modem as micro and speaker while phoning. (only available with voice modems that have full duplex voice)
- · Voice memory: The modem acts as answerphone while the computer is switched off. (requires modems with voice memory, e.g. USR Sportster MessagePlus)
- · FAX calls: Receiving incoming FAX calls without external software.

1.3 requirements

Requirements:

==========

- · An Amiga with Kickstart 2.0 (V37) or better
- gtlayout.library V32 or better (included in the archive)
- · xpkmaster.library V2 or better (included in the archive)
- · A voice modem

Notes:

PhoneWizard has been tested with the following voice modems:

- ZyXEL U-1496E+ (requires firmware V6.13 or better)
 All compression schemes are working.
 Plugin for ZyXEL·ADPCM·2 and ZyXEL·ADPCM·4 is available.
- · ZyXEL Elite

ADPCM compression schemes should work. (has not been tested with V1.3) (Please tell

me

whether it is working if you have this modem) Plugin for $ZyXEL \cdot ADPCM \cdot 2$ and $ZyXEL \cdot ADPCM \cdot 4$ is available.

- USR Sportster Voice Faxmodem
 ADPCM compression schemes are working. GSM compression schemes are
 working when the double write mode is enabled.
 No plugins available. (A Plugin for GSM is planed for V1.4)
- Elsa Microlink TQV
 TKR (compatible to Elsa Microlink TQV)
 ADPCM compression schemes are working.
 No plugins available. (But you can have sourcecode for a plugin)

whether it is working if you have this modem)

PhoneWizard 4 / 11

```
No plugins available. (But you can have sourcecode for a plugin)
  • Best 33614VE
    Should identify the chipset to standard +v, but PhoneWizard has
    still problems to replay recorded texts. Use the double write
    mode for better results. (I am working on it)
    (Please tell
              whether it is working if you have this modem)
    No plugins available.
  · Cirrus Logic
    Should identify the chipset to standard CL
    {\tt CL} and {\tt AD}({\tt T}) schemes should work. (has not been tested with {\tt V1.3})
    (Please tell
              whether it is working if you have this modem)
    No plugins available.
(if you encounter any problems while using PhoneWizard with your modem,
please let
             me
              know. I'll try to support your modem as well!)
```

1.4 installation

Installation

· Copy the xpkmaster.library and the gtlayout.library to LIBS:

the unit of your serial device appropriately. The 3rd entry is for the BPS speed between your computer and your modem. Do not touch it, until you have

· Move the PhoneWizard drawer whereever you want to have it.

That's all.

1.5 configuration

to! (see below)

 PhoneWizard 5 / 11

Step 2: Identifying the voice chipset of your voice modem.

Press the Identify button. After some seconds, the voice chipset cycle gadget should be set appropriately. The speaker, micro, line and compression scheme cycle gadgets cannot be identified and will be set to default values! Select a compression scheme (this is the recording quality) and close the settings window by pressing the Use or Save button. Compression schemes with ADPCM will make less trouble, so use one of them!

Step 3: Testing the record and replay function.

Set the Record from cycle gadget to Micro and press the Record button. PhoneWizard should record from the micro of your modem. Abort recording after a few seconds, set the Play to cycle gadget to Modem speaker and press the Play button. The recorded text should be replayed by your modem.

Look at your modem manual how to attach a micro. Some modems have an internal micro, others support recording from the handset of a connected phone or you will have to insert an external micro. (you may also have to change the Micro cycle gadget in the settings window to change the input device of your modem)

If recording and replaying is working, you should give your new answer machine a call to see if your voice modem works correctly together with PhoneWizard.

If something went wrong:

• Alter the compression scheme cycle gadget and the BPS input gadget. There could be compression schemes that will not cooperate with PhoneWizard. (Select an ADPCM scheme if possible) Also make sure that the BPS is set to the appropriate value. (57600 seems to work in most cases)

The internal serial port can only handle low BPS values! (if possible, use a third party serial port, otherwise use only recording qualities that require low BPS values and set the BPS value to the required minimum.)

If you get the warning "Compression scheme requires at least XXXXX BPS": PhoneWizard knows that the BPS setting is wrong for the selected scheme. You can test it anyway, but it is recommended to adjust the BPS value in the settings window!

If you get the warning "BPS for compression scheme cannot be identified": PhoneWizard does not know if the BPS for this scheme is correct. You can test it yourself, but it is recommended to use another scheme.

- · Adjust the Speaker, Micro and Line cycle gadgets. These gadgets set the modem devices that will be used, when playing to speaker/line or recording from mirco/line.
- If it still fails, contact me with E-Mail!

PhoneWizard 6 / 11

Advanced configuration of PhoneWizard:

US Robotics modems: If you replay to modem speaker and you cannot hear anything, insert an external speaker or headphones to your modem! This is not the fault of PhoneWizard, but of the engeneers that have built your modem!

Double write: This checkbox enables a special trick when replaying voicefiles. Do not activate this checkbox until you have to! Use it when you hear garbage from time to time while replaying. (You will need it with the GSM compression scheme on USR modems and with the Best 33614VE. This mode requires 1-2 seconds more to ready replaying than normal mode and some modems will not be able to replay voice files propperly when this mode is selected. You have been warned!)

Speaking time: This sets the maximum recording time of PhoneWizard. You will need this if your modem fails to recognice the period of silence after the caller hung op the phone. Hint: You may additionally alter the silence detection threshold in the initVoice entry in this case. Look for the command at your modem manual. Later versions of PhoneWizard may support this with a comfortable slider gadget.

Do not touch the other entries, until you know what you are doing.

1.6 tooltypes

All toolTypes for PhoneWizard:

- The settings in the voice settings window will be saved to the DEVICE,
 VOICEDEV, VOICESET, HASHVSET, EXTHVSET, ZYXELSET, CILOGSET and SCHEMExx
 toolTypes when you press the Save button.
- The state of the autostart, autoiconify, playTo and recordFrom gadgets will be saved to the AUTOSTART, AUTOICONIFY, SENDDEV and SCANDEV toolTypes when you exit PhoneWizard.
- TEMPFILE=<pathAndFilename>
 Default setting: TEMPFILE=T:PhoneWizard.tmp

Sets the tempfile which is needed when playing selected texts by the computer.

RINGS=<ringsToGoOffHook>
 Default setting: RINGS=1
 (For the registered version only)

Selects the number of rings, where the phone answer machine will be activated (1..9).

PLUGINxx=<format>/<FORMATtoIFF>/<IFFtoFORMAT>

Here you can add custom plugins for playing and converting voice files.

PhoneWizard 7 / 11

A maximum of 100 plugins can be added. The IFF8SVX format specifies the plugin to play converted files by the computer. (the xPlay program is included for this purpose) Plugin programs have to be placed in the Plugins drawer!

Example: PLUGIN00=IFF8SVX/xPlay GUI QUIET

The other plugins are called by PhoneWizard when modem voice files have to be converted. Until now, only one plugin (xConv) for the ZyXEL voice format is included. If you do not have a ZyXEL modem and you do not have a conversion program as plugin, you can only play recorded voice by your modem (and not by the computer) and you have to record your own greeting messages with your modem!

Example:

The first command after the voice type (cmd <sourceFile> <destFile>) is used to convert ZVD/MVD voice format to IFF8SVX (in order to play the file by the computer).

The second command after the voice type (cmd <sourceFile> <destFile>) is used to convert IFF8SVX (or others) to ZVD/MVD, so your modem can replay them. (This will be used when you "record" with PhoneWizard while the record from cycle gadget is set to file)

1.7 functions

Functions:

After starting the PhoneWizard, you will see the main GUI.

- · The Greeting messages list shows all available greeting messages.
- The Received messages list shows all messages that have been received.
- · With the Play gadget you can play the actually selected message. (The Play to cycle gadget selects the output device that will be used)

Warning: You will need an appropriate conversion plugin if you want to play a file with your computer! (Until now, only a plugin for ZyXEL modems is included)

 The Record gadget creates a new greeting message in the list. (The Record from cycle gadget selects the input device that will be used)

If recording from File, a file requester will pop up from where you can select your soundfile that will be read. Supported are the most common file formats like ZVD (ZyXELVoiceData file format), MVD (PhoneWizard ModemVoiceData file format), IFF8SVX (standard amiga sound file format), VOC, WAV, SUN and MAC formats. The destination file will

PhoneWizard 8 / 11

be stored in the Texts-drawer.

Warning: You will need an appropriate conversion plugin if you want to record from file! (Until now, only a plugin for ZyXEL modems is included)

- With the Select gadget, you can select a greeting message, that
 will be played if a phone call has been detected. If you select more
 than one text, the PhoneWizard will get one of the selected texts
 (randomly).
- · The Delete gadget deletes the actually selected message.
- The Label input gadget shows the name of the actually selected message. If you modify the name and press RETURN, the name will be changed.
- The Start gadget activates the answerphone. All incoming calls with 3 or more rings (see the RINGS tooltype) will be detected. The modem will connect in voice mode, one of the selected greeting messages will be played and the call will be recorded.
- · The Stop button deactivates the answerphone.
- If the Autostart gadget is activated, PhoneWizard will go into answermode automaticly next time you start it.
- If the Autoiconify gadget is activated, PhoneWizard will iconify automaticly when it is started.

1.8 extras

Remote functions:

Until now, only one remote function is implemented:

Remote call browsing:
 Add the tooltype RCCALLS=<number> to activate this feature.

The <number> is your password for the remote access. It can consist of the following characters: 0123456789 * #

Enter your password at the phone while the PhoneWizard is playing its greeting message. You will hear a tripple beep after the PhoneWizard has accepted your password. Then you can listen to all incoming calls. At the end you will hear a tripple beep again.

To enter the password if you have dialed with pulse, you will have to switch your phone to touch tone. On most phones you can switch the mode after you have dialed with the key sequence [->)] [*] [->)].

PhoneWizard 9 / 11

1.9 history

History:

V1.3: [19.04.1998]

- · Supports +V voice chipset. (Thanks to Giorgio Signori for testing)
- \cdot Special replay mode for the GSM compression scheme from USR modems.
- · Selectable maximum talking time.
- · Bug fixed: After playing a call, it could not be deleted.

V1.2: [09.08.1997]

 \cdot Bug fixed: Didn't recognice incoming calls with some modems.

V1.1: [13.07.1997]

- · Supports #V voice chipset. (Thanks to Wolfram Riedel for testing)
- · Supports extended #V voice chipset. (Thanks to Jim Anderson for testing)
- · Supports CirrusLogic voice chipset. (Thanks to Goran Gojkov for testing)
- · Modem voice chipset configuration window added.
- · Serial device will only be opened when necessary.
- \cdot PhoneWizard window is sizeable and iconifyable now.
- · Bug fixed: Sometimes, serial device was blocked.
- · Bug fixed: Sometimes, modem didn't recognice an incoming call.
- · Bug fixed: Sometimes, "rcCalls" failed.

V1.0: [12.02.1997]

- First public release. Thanks to Christian Buchner (xPlay source), Michael Cramer (sound format source), Olaf Barthel (gtlayout.library), Thomas Götz (greeting messages) and Marc Heuler (inspiration).
- Known bug: The xConv plugin might crash on exotic sound files. If you discover such a file, please tell me.

1.10 future

Future plans:

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- · Localisation (until now, all texts are in english)
- · Adjustable silence detection
- · Support selectable voice volume and sample speed with special modems
- · Support speakerphone with special modems (e.g. USR Sportster)
- · Support caller-ID with special modems (e.g. USR Sportster)
- · Support voice memory with special modems (e.g. USR Sportster MessagePlus)
- Enhanced GUI (iconify gadget, settings window, commodity)
- · More remote functions (rcVoicebox, rcDelivery, rcCallback, rcTexts)
- · Receive incoming FAX calls without external software
- Plugins for ROCKWELL·ADPCM, USR·GSM and MPEG3-audio

(Help for adapting plugins for available formats is welcome! contact

me

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PhoneWizard 10 / 11

1.11 author

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Contacting the author:
e-mail:
 starfox@cow.mayn.de (use standard mail if you get no response!)
WWW support page:
 http://www.amigaworld.com/support/phonewizard
aminet location:
 The actual version of PhoneWizard should be located in comm/misc.
 Also, take a look at the interesting german answerphone texts, which can
 be found at the same location. (phonetexts1.lha, phonetexts2.lha, ...)
                      __'=oo='
Matthias Bock
                Mähderweg 16
97225 Zellingen
Germany
```

1.12 copyright

Copyright & Disclaimer:

This software is shareware. The unregistered version may be freely copied if no modifications are done with the entire drawer! Any commercial distribution is strictly forbidden. There is no warranty or other guarantee of fitness of this software for any purpose. It is provided solely "as is".

If you like it, please register by sending 20 DM or \$15 US (or the same amount in your currency).

Notes:

- The registered version includes a keyfile that enables all features in this or newer version for you!
- · Please add your email address if you have one. (speeds up transfer)
- If you want to send cheques from outside of germany, you have to add 15 DM (\$10 US) for bank transfer fees! (So better do not use cheques!)
- · Inside of Germany, you can transfer the share to my Giro Konto. But first get in contact with

me to get my KontoNr and BLZ.

Do not forget to ${\tt read\ the\ registration\ address}$!

PhoneWizard	11 / 11