

**socklink.doc**

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# Chapter 1

## socklink.doc

### 1.1 socklink.doc

```
=====
socklink 1.00 -- links stdio to socket (AmiTCP/IP and AS225r2)
                Documentation
                - September 1, 1995 -
=====
```

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### 1.3 Copyright and disclaimer

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### 1.4 Introduction

socklink basically links the standard input/output (stdio) to a TCP/IP socket connected to a host. It reads data from a socket, writes it to standard output. Conversely, it reads from standard input and writes to the socket. It handles data asynchronously and in both directions simultaneously. No data translation is performed. This "pipe" enables BBS users, who lack Internet access, to use serial device based network clients (such IRC clients) through an Internet-connected Amiga BBS.

socklink runs on most modern BBSes capable of standard Command Line Interface (CLI) doors. It supports AmiTCP, AS225r2, and MLINK.

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## 1.5 Requirements

socklink runs on any Amiga with version 2.04 of the OS, with AmiTCP or AS225r2 installed. The BBS must also (obviously) have two phonelines, one connected to the net, and one for the BBS user. socklink uses about 10K per line, or even less if it's made resident.

## 1.6 Installation

The socklink archive contains the following files:

```
Makefile           - makefile for socklink.c
RawIN.h            - header file for rawin.library
rawin.library      - input/output handling library
socklink.c         - C source to socklink
socklink.doc       - socklink documentation in text format
socklink.doc.info  - icon for above
socklink.guide     - socklink documentation in AmigaGuide format
socklink.guide.info - icon for above
socklink_amitcp    - AmiTCP version of socklink
socklink_as225     - AS225r2 version of socklink
socklink_install   - Installer script
socklink_install.info - icon for the above
```

If you click on the installer script icon it should copy the files to the appropriate places. If you like to install the files manually, you may do the following:

```
AmiTCP manual installation
```

```
AS225 manual installation
```

## 1.7 AmiTCP manual installation

```
1> cd ram:
1> lha x dh0: (or whatever the socklink archive is)
1> cd socklink
1> copy rawin.library libs: clone
1> copy socklink_amitcp AmiTCP:bin/socklink clone
1> copy socklink.(doc|guide)#? amitcp:doc/ clone
```

## 1.8 AS225 manual installation

```
1> cd ram:
1> lha x dh0: (or whatever the socklink archive is)
1> cd socklink
1> copy rawin.library libs: clone
```

---

```
1> copy socklink_as225 Inet:c/socklink clone
1> copy socklink.(doc|guide)#? Inet:docs/ clone
```

If you use MLINK and it's emulating AmiTCP, you should install the AmiTCP version. Otherwise, install the AS225 version.

## 1.9 Using socklink

The command line usage for socklink is:

```
socklink <host> <port> [start-delay-seconds]
```

where:

```
<host> is the host you want to connect to,
<port> is the port you want to connect to, and
[start-delay-seconds] is an optional argument specifying the
number of seconds to delay before linking the socket
to stdio. This argument is here to give the user
enough time to quit their terminal program and load up
their net client. Some TCP servers may send data
immediately, which would normally not give the client
enough time to receive it.
```

e.g., `socklink irc-2.mit.edu 6667`

socklink is not BBS specific so it should run on most modern BBSes. No BBS specific installation is given here, but the following is a really simple procedure on how to set up socklink on your BBS.

- Add socklink as a CLI door to your BBS menu:  
e.g., `"AmiTCP:bin/socklink irc-2.mit.edu 6667"`
- Make the menu available to the user

To start socklink, the user first logs onto the BBS with a normal terminal program. He/she then proceeds to launch socklink program by selecting a menu option. socklink will attempt to connect to the host at a particular port. If a successful connection is made, the user quits the terminal program without dropping carrier and loads up a net client. If the user wishes to quit socklink, they simply quit the net client, reload their terminal program, and press ^C three times. The user can of course drop carrier to disconnect altogether.

## 1.10 Acknowledgements

Thank-you's go to...

- Dan Fraser (IRC nick: Optic) for the initial idea and testing,
  - ??? (IRC nick: Azar) for testing, and
  - Robert Reiswig (IRC nick: RobR) for writing the Installer script.
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## 1.11 Contact Address

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