EnglishManual

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1.2 Introduction

1. The birth of AmiSearch

When you download files from Aminet, either from the Net or CD ROM, you need to ←
    search
through indexes. But as Aminet grows every day indexes become larger and larger, ←
    so
it is not very easy to find what's you're looking for in big indexes (more than
3 MB for Aminet main index) and people can't afford to print indexes every day.

The easiest solution is to use a program like grep to search through the indexes.
But I think that typing each time a command line like "grep module work:cdindex"
is not really the easiest way to find what you are looking for. According to
me a program with a nice graphical user interface is a better solution. I know
there are also tools allowing to do some Aminet searches on Internet, but it could
become expansive and not everybody have Internet at home, an offline search
program is more useful.

Some months ago Arne Meyer created AST (Aminet Search Tool), which is a GUI for
Aminet searches. This program was quite nice but used too much memory. A newer
version has corrected this memory problem but I think it is too slow and too ←
    limited,
so I decided to create AmiSearch.

2. From AmiSearch to AmiSearch II

One year have passed since AmiSearch. I have received lots of interesting ←
    suggestions
to improve it, but due to a very busy year I was not able to work on it. This
summer I decided to take some time to make a new AmiSearch program, much
better than the previous one. It took me two months of hard work but now
there's a new searcher : AmiSearch II, which offers many
                features
                .

1.3 Features

AmiSearch II offers the following features :

- Quite fast : I totally rewrote the search engine, based on optimsed search
  algorithms. On my Amiga 1200/030/50 an index with more than 60000 entries is
  searched in less than 10 seconds (20 seconds for AmiSearch).

- Nice graphical interface using
                MUI
                , very easy to use
  (help bubbles and on-line help).

– Many

                  configuration
                   options.

– Instead of having a single search pattern you have one for each Aminet index
  field : name, path, size, age, disk, description. This allows you to have
  more precise searchs (ex : name containing "web" and path containing "comm").
  Your last 10 patterns are saved to disk and are usable with a popup gadget.

– The 'age' pattern can also use operators <, >, <= or >= so you
  can easily know which files came to Aminet while you were sleeping
  on the beach...(ex : pattern '<=8' looks for files of max. age 8 weeks).
  Moreover all patterns can be used with a negative operator ('!') for more
  complex searches.

– Indexes are no longer treated like text files : a special file format, named
  AS2DB, turns indexes into real databases. The conversion of indexes to this
  format is totally handled with the graphical interface and is very easy.
  Moreover converted indexes are smaller than the original ones.

– Full FDB support : you can use your FDB bases as input files like indexes
  and they will be converted to AmiSearch II file format.

– You can

                  update
                   your databases very easily, and you can even update the Internet
  databases with a RECENT file (or an Aminet Daily file). For Aminet CDs and FDB ←
     bases you can even
  use an automatic script which will do everything for you (except changing CDs ←
     ...).

– Many

                  index formats
                   are handled, including all Aminet CD formats and FDB.

– Databases can be
                  exported
                   to other formats if needed (ex : Superbase).

–

                  Search
                   result is shown in a special lister, allowing you to calculate ←
                        the size
  of your selection (you can even know how many disks are needed to store this
  selection) or to apply a defined command to each entry : you can define 12 user
  commands (ex : extraction) and you have 7
                  internal
                   ones, including HTML or
  Amiga Guide output.

– The internal commands allow you to handle your files very easily : the Amiga ←
   Guide
  file can extract/view archives/pictures from your CDs and the AmFTP scripts ←
     allows
  you to download files from Internet automatically (with the ability to download
  .readme files if you want). For each internal command you can specify a program ←
     which will

be launched automatically (ex : a Web browser).

– A supplied script, AS2Audio, allows you to play modules very easily after a ↩
  search
  (DeliTracker required).

– AmiSearch II is almost free, as it is
                  mousepad–ware
                     .

1.4 Requirements

                1. Librairies

   – MUI 3.8+
   – RexxSupport.library for AmFTP scripts
   –
              NList
                classes 19.81+ (supplied)

2. Minimum

   – OS 2.x (but the logo in the windows only appears on OS 3.x)
   – 2 MB of RAM
   – A hard drive with enough space to store indexes, databases and
     temporary files

NB : AmiSearch II works with such a configuration but you won't
      see its optimum features with it...

3. Recommanded

   – OS 3.x
   – 6 MB of RAM or better
   – A fast hard drive
   – A fast CD ROM drive (for CD support)
   – DeliTracker 2.27+ (for AS2Audio)
   –
              FDB
                1.4+ (especially program UDB version 1.60, part of FDB package)

4. Tested configurations

AmiSearch II has been tested with following configurations :

   – Amiga 1200 CBM with a 020/14 Mhz, 2 MB Chip and a 80 MB IDE
     internal harddrive (OS 3.0).

   – Amiga 1200 CBM with a 030/82/50 Mhz, 2 MB Chip, 16 MB Fast and
     a 500 MB IDE hardrive in an Overdrive box (OS 3.1).

   – Amiga 1200 Tower CBM with a 030/82/50 Mhz, 2 MB Chip, 24 MB Fast and
     two IDE internal harddrives (80 MB + 500 MB) linked by an IDE MUX (OS 3.1),
     and a SCSI–2 X12 CDROM drive plugged to the Phase 5 SCSI–2 kit.

- Amiga 1200 AT with a 020/14 Mhz, 2 MB Chip, 4 MB Fast and a 250 MB
  IDE internal hardrive (OS 3.1).

- Amiga 4000 CBM with a 040/25 Mhz, 2 MB Chip, 16 MB Fast and a 230 MB
  SCSI-2 Optical Magnetic Disks drive (OS 3.1 and Cybervision 64/3D
  gfx card).

(I only detailled the drives used for the tests).

1.5 Installation

1. Automatic

Just launch the install script. If you are an AmiSearch II user upgrading to ←
   AmiSearch II.2
please save immediately your settings when you launch AmiSearch II.2 for the first ←
    time,
in order to convert your settings to the new format used.

2. Manual

   - Create a drawer where AmiSearch II files will be located.
   - Copy all files and directories from the archive to this
     directory (except the Locale, Envarc and Libs ones).
   - Copy to LOCALE: the content of Locale directory according to your
     country.
   - Copy to MUI:Libs/MUI the content of the Libs directory.
   - Copy to ENVARC: and ENV: the content of the Envarc directory.
   - Rename the documentation file corresponding to your language to
     AmiSearchII.guide.
   - Add the assign "AS2:" pointing to this directory

If you are an AmiSearch II user upgrading to AmiSearch II.2
please save immediately your settings when you launch AmiSearch II.2 for the first ←
    time,
in order to convert your settings to the new format used.

1.6 Usage

              Start AmiSearch II

              The first things to do

              Search

              Databases

              Configuration

              How do I...

```
                          AmiSearch II's interface is a
                          MUI
                           window divided into register pages
(I like it like this but please let
                          me
                           if you prefer several
windows).
```

All functions are present on this window, but they are also available from
menus (can save time instead of changing pages). The gadgets and the menus
are fully equivalent.

AmiSearch II is a commodity, i.e. it can be iconified or removed with
Exchange or equivalent (I use CX Handler). There's also a 'Hide' menu,
allowing you to iconify AmiSearch II when you want.

Every gadget has a help bubble : try to let your mouse for some seconds on a
gadget to see the bubbles. If you press Help key this manual will be loaded.

1.7 Start AmiSearch II

```
                    1. From Workbench
```

Easy : just double-click on AmiSearch II's icon.

You can edit icon's tooltypes with the following effects :

```
    ICONIC   : AmiSearch II will be launched but no window will appear,
               except an icon on the Workbench. Very useful if you put it
               in WB-Startup.
    SLEEP    : Instead of closing windows when working on databases (creation,  ←
        update
               and search) AmiSearch II will disabled them (the windows, not the  ←
                  databases!).
    NOICONS  : When a file is created by an
                internal command
                 an icon is automatically
               associated to this file. This tooltype prevents AmiSearch II from  ←
                  doing
               this.
    GUIDEC   : If you want to launch a program when you create an Amiga Guide file ←
        you have to
               specify which one you want to use with this tooltype.
               Ex : GUIDEC="SYS:Utilities/Multiview"
    WEBC     : The same for HTML files.
    FTPC     : The same for FTP commands files.
    TEXTC    : The same for text files.
    AMREXXC  : The same for AmFTP ARexx files.
    AMBATCHC : The same for AmFTP batch files.
```

2. From CLI

Usage : AmiSearch2 [ICONIC] [SLEEP] [NOICONS] [GUIDEC=<command>] [WEBC=<command>]
[TEXTC=<command>][FTPC=<command>[AMREXXC=<command>][AMBATCHC=<command>]

The keywords are identical to the tooltypes described before, and the syntax is ←
    identical.

1.8 The first things to do

When you launch AmiSearch II for the first time a requester
will tell you that you have no
                configuration
                 file yet
(except if you use the
                default config file
                 supplied).

You have to give the following info in order to use AmiSearch II :

    1. Databases name and path
    2. Temporary file name and path
    3. Name and path used to export databases
    4. Name and path used for
                internal commands
                 output
    5. Additional info used for
                internal commands
                 output

It is very important that you take some time for these settings before playing ←
    with AmiSearch II,
as they are very important. The supplied config file should help you with that but ←
     check these settings
to be sure they are good for your system.

1.9 Search

1. Control

On the Search page you can see several patterns. Each one represents
a standard Aminet field, allowing you to specify which parts of the index
will be searched. An empty pattern means that this field is not
important for the search and will be ignored.

If you click on the popup icon near the pattern a window will appear,
containing your last 10 patterns. This history is saved to disk
(in the file S:AmiSearch2History) and can help you if you often
look for the same patterns.

The lines begining by a -- (ex : -- Name --) allow you to copy other patterns
into the one you are editing. For example imagine that you have typed a long name
pattern but you also have to type it in the description pattern : you just have
to open the description pattern's popup window and click on -- Name --

to see the name pattern's content appear.

To close a popup lister just click on the wanted entry or on the icon if you don't
want to select an entry.

All patterns can be used as negative ones : use the operator '!' as first ↩
   character
and then only files which do not match this pattern will be kept. For exemple,
if you don't want to see modules enter the following pattern for directory : !mods

The 'age' pattern is a little different : you can use the following mathematical
operators : <, >, <= and >=, for example <= 8. This can be useful if you're ↩
   looking
for files belonging to a given time period.

The search begins when you click on 'Search' button or when you select
the 'Begin search' menu.

2. Search options

   – Category : select here on which database you will search patterns.
     If you choose CD ROM of Local the pattern 'Age' will be ignored,
     and if you choose Internet the 'Disk' one will be ignored. You can
     find some details about categories in the chapter about
              databases
              .

   – Case : if you decide to have a case sensitive search upper and lower
     case letters will be different for AmiSearch II. A case sensitive search
     is faster than an insensitive one but you should be sure of what you're
     looking for before switching to 'sensitive'.

   – Pattern : if you're looking for a pattern contained into an index field
     (ex : if you want all names containing mod) you should 'substring'. The
     'exact' option means that AmiSearch II will look for the exact pattern,
     and won't consider that fields containing it among other letters are
     correct.

   – Required : as you have multiple patterns you have to define how they
     will work together. If you choose 'all patterns' an entry will match
     only if it matches all non-empty patterns (so the patterns are linked by
     an 'AND' operator). If you choose 'at least one' an entry will match if it
     matches at least one non-empty pattern (so the patterns are linked by
     an 'OR' operator). The first is more precise but the second is faster.

3. During the search

A small window with a gauge tells you what's going on during the search.
You can click on the button to stop searching (found entries until you click
are listed).

4. Search results

If some entries match your pattern(s) then a special lister is displayed.
All matching entries are displayed in a table and you can select the ones
you want with your mouse (multiselect is possible). You can :

   - Select all entries

   - Deselect all entries

   - Toggle selection

   - Calculate selection size : sizes are added and displayed in KB.
     AmiSearch II also tells you how many Amiga and PC floppies are
     required to store this amount of files. This options does not work
     with FDB bases.
     NB : I have not (and never will) sold my soul to Bill Gates, PC floppies
          are displayed because I need them to carry files from the University
          to my Amiga (and I know many people who do this too).

   - Select an
                internal
                 command : the cycle gadget is here to let you choose which
     command will be used. You can use 7
                internal
                 ones.

   - Select an external command : the cycle gadget is here to let you choose ←
       which
     command will be used. The text gadget below the list shows you the content ←
        of the selected
     command You can
                define
                 upto 12 external commands.

   - Execute selected command : command will be applied on each selected entry.

1.10 Databases

                Databases are the heart of AmiSearch II system. Indexes are ←
                    converted into
databases in AS2DB format. Several
                index formats
                 are supported
by AmiSearch II. Databases are divided into 3 categories :

   - CD ROM   : Aminet CDs
   - Internet : Aminet files on Internet
   - Local   : I use this category for my floppies but it can handle another
                Internet base if you want (ex : global Internet index stored
                as Internet and your prefered mirror index stored as Local).
                I also use this for my FDB base, which contains data about all
                my non-Aminet CDs.

These categories are not rigid : their main goal is to make the link with
a given file, set in

```
                            configuration
                             section. If you want to put another Internet
base as local you can do it ! The only thing to remember is that you have
three databases, and these categories are only a mean to make a difference
between them.
```

```
1 . Page description
```

```
The database page contains 4 main elements :
```

```
    - Update file : this file will be used to create/update databases. This
      file is an
                 index
                  or an index additive (for exemple RECENT for Internet
      Index). If you have a compressed file (ex : INDEX.Z) don't forget to  ←
          uncompress
      it first.
```

```
    - Database category : here you will choose on which database changes will be
      made. Check this gadget twice before destoying your bases...
```

```
    - Update specification : according to
                 format
                  some info may be
      needed to identify the update file. Useless info are always disabled,
      to let you know easily which info AmiSearch II needs (for example
      if your file is about CD you will have to give its number).
```

```
    - Update file format : AmiSearch II is not a magical program (not yet...) so
      it won't guess what kind of file you want to use to create/update your
      database. A cycle gadget is here for this, as it contains all
                 formats
                  handled
      by AmiSearch II. According to your choice the specifications described  ←
          before
      will be activated or desactivated.
```

```
When all settings are right you can now choose one of the buttons to act on your  ←
   base.
```

```
2. Database creation
```

```
When you decide to create a database the existing one is replaced by the
one you're creating. The created base will only contain files listed in
the update file, which is directly converted and stored as database.
```

```
3. Database update
```

```
Once you've created a database you will need to update it. The update process
is divided into 3 steps :
```

```
    - Update file conversion : this file is converted into database format.
```

```
    - Database backup : existing database is copied, to handle errors during
```

next step (if there is a problem the database is restored). You can choose
to keep this backup after the update process.

- Data merge : the two database are merged together. This step can take some
  time if updated database is large.

If no error occured your database is now updated and sorted.

4. Database export

AmiSearch II can export its databases into 3 formats :

- Plain ASCII text

- Superbase import file : once you have this file you just have to create a ←
   database
  using info given by AmiSearch II for sizes, and import data.

- SQL commands : the generated file is made of SQL request for entries storing ←
   .

For the last two formats I used my routines from I2DB.

Once you've chosen the format with the cycle gadget you can export or cancel.

5. Database info

This option gives you the following info :

- Filename of selected database

- Database type

- Amount of stored entries

1.11 Configuration

All settings can be used or saved. If you only use settings they ←
                 will be
lost once you turn off your computer. Following settings are remembered
when you use/save :

- Current search
           options
                - Paths
- Commands
- Misc settings

To use/save you just have to click on buttons located on several configuration
pages, or to select menu item. All buttons save the whole configuration, they are
located in several pages to be easier to use. The supplied

```
                defaut config file
                is my config file, so it can be used as an example.
```

1. Paths

Here are the most important settings of AmiSearch II, as it needs to know
on which files it will work.

    1.1 Databases

        Here you specify name and path for each database category.
        The gadget calls a file requester, to help you enter them easily.
        If your database is not created yet just use the requester to enter
        the path and add the name you want for this base.
        Example : AS2:Databases/cdbase

    1.2 Files

        Here you specify name and path for files used by AmiSearch II to work.
        These files are very important, as AmiSearch II will react in a really
        strange way (or refuse to work) if they are missing.
        Files to specify are :

            - Database backup : this file is used when databases are updated.
              If you have enough memory you should locate this file in RAM:
              (or T: if your assign is located in RAM:). But don't do this if
              you don't have enough memory to store current database in memory !
              (if you don't have enough memory locate this file on your hard disk)
              Example : T:BaseBackup

            - Basename for export files : when you export databases you need a
              filename. AmiSearch II uses the basename (and path) you enter for
              this, and adds a number (or a letter) to prevent existing files
              from being overwritten (0..9 then a..z). An extension is added
              according to format used to export database (ex: .sql).
              Example : Ram:Export

            - Basename for commands output :
                internal
                 commands are here
              to make an output file, so AmiSearch II uses the given name and path
              for this output. The number and the extension works like the ones
              detailled before.
              Example : Ram:Result

2. Commands

    2.1 External

    External commands are fully handled by the user, AmiSearch II will apply
    them to selected entries without checking if command exists or not. So
    if you enter wrong commands you will have wrong results...
    You have 12 commands, located on 3 register pages : commands 1 to 4,
    5 to 8 and 9 to 12.

    Each command is divided in 2 parts :

- The command and its path. You can use the popup file requester to find
  your command easily.

- The command's arguments. Here you will specify all keywords needed
  by the command. You will also specify here what you need to know about
  selected entries with special keywords begining by a '%' : name
  (%n), path (%p), size (%s), age (%a), disk (%d) and description (%e).
  There's also the special keyword %w which means that command will need
  an output window. For example if the argument is x Aminet%d:%n
  the values of disk and name will be inserted for each selected entry.
  The popup gadget allows you to enter these keywords easily.
  The keyword %m inserts the disk name 'AMINET' or 'SET' depending on
  the Aminet CD type (so you can use the same command for a set and
  a normal disk). If you use an FDB file the disk name is included
  in the %d keyword (ex for ADE-2: the %d will contain ADE-2).

In this archive you will find some
          scripts
           you can use as external commands.

2.2 Internal

Here you can specify some settings used by
          internal
           command :

- Aminet Web site : this address is used for HTML output. Enter here an ←
    address
  allowing to dowload files from an HTML file.
  Example : ftp://www.wustl.edu/systems/amiga/aminet

- Aminet path : this path is used for FTP/AmFTP output. Enter here the ←
    path of
  the Aminet FTP site you use (the one in the prolog).
  Example : pub/aminet

- FTP prolog : FTP and AmFTP modules need this prolog to be initialized, ←
    as it
  must contain site address and init commands. Example prologs are ←
      included
  in this archive.
  Example : AS2:Prologs/FTP-WUSTL.prolog

- Script : this script is used for Amiga Guide output. Select here a ←
    script
  able to handle archives and pictures. I have put a very simple one in ←
      the
  archive (based on filenames), able to work with LHA/LZH, LZX, DMS, GIF,
  JPEG and PNG files. Feel free to customize it (especially paths and
  commands) or to study it if you want to make a better one (if you have a ←
        more
  efficient script please send it to
          me
           , I will include it with new versions).
  Example : AS2:ArchiveScripts/AS2H

- Files to download : here you can choose which files will be brought by ←
  FTP or
  AmFTP. You can dowload archives only (i.e. files you select in the list) ←
   ,
  .readme files only (i.e. .readme files corresponding to the files you ←
   select
  in the list) or both of them. This is very useful if you have the habit ←
   to
  download .readme files with your archives.

- Commands execution : here you can choose to generate output files only ←
   or
  to launch the program you defined in the
          tooltypes
          .

3. Misc

   - Stats cycle : after a search AmiSearch II can display some stats. Use this
     gadget to select which info you want to see (you can also turn these stats
     off).

   - Keep database backup : when
               updating
                databases a copy is made. If you want to
     keep it set this checkmark.

   - Detailled messages during search : usually AmiSearch II just tells you if ←
      something
     has been found or not. But if you want it can also tell you in real time how ←
         many
     files match. Warning : this slows down the search VERY MUCH.

   - Quit without confirm : AmiSearch II usually wants to be sure that you really ←
       want to
     quit and shows a requester for this. You can use this checkmark to quit ←
        without
     confirmation.

   - Quiet search failure : when AmiSearch II finds nothing a message is shown ←
      saying
     that nothing matched. If you don't want to see this message just use this
     checkmark.

1.12 Internal commands

           AmiSearch II comes with 7 internal commands which can be applied
to entries.

NB : these commands only generate files, after that you will need
     the right program to use them (ex : a Web browser). This program can
     be launched automatically (see the
               config
                part).

1. HTML output

The generated HTML page shows you selected entries (read it with your prefered
browser). If you click on the name the file will be downloaded and if you click on
the description you will see the .readme file.
A logo located in AS2:Gfx will be copied with this page.

This output has been tested with IBrowse 1.1, Voyager 2.88, AWeb II and even ↩
   Netscape
on HPUX (thanks to people who let me try it with their software).

2. Amiga Guide output

The generated Guide shows you selected entries (read it with your favourite Guide
browser). If you click on file name the archive handling script will be called
(an archive is extracted and a picture is displayed).

3. Text output

Very simple command : the selected entries are stored in a plain ASCII text.

4. FTP commands

The generated file is made of command for standard FTP, like the one which you can
find on UNIX (it also works with NCFTP). Don't forget to set the prolog !

On UNIX I do the following to use my file result.ftp :

    ftp <result.ftp

5. AmFTP ARexx script

This file is a script allowing you to download files automatically (don't forget ↩
   the
prolog !). Then you just have to launch it as a standard ARexx script, once
you've started your TCP stack and AmFTP :

    SYS:Rexxc/RX result.rexx

In the window you will see messages telling you which files are being downloaded ↩
   and
in which directory AmFTP is working.

Don't forget to edit the prolog : the included ones consider that downloaded
files are stored in RAM:, but it is easy to change this.

This script needs RexxSupport.library to work.

6. AmFTP batch file

To use this file load it from AmFTP as a 'marked files list', then open the ' ←
    marked
files window' to download files. For this file you don't need a prolog.

7. Copy to clipboard

The selected entries are copied to clipboard unit 0, so they can be imported in ←
    any application
able to read this clipboard unit.

1.13   Index formats

                    1. Aminet CD (normal)

Needed info : Disk number
Creation   : Yes
Update   : Yes
Description : Standard five fields Aminet CD index, used since Aminet CD 5.
              The age is not important for a CD database so it is removed and
              replaced by the disk number. For automatic creation scripts the
              keyword of standard indexes is NORMAL CD.
              Usually this file is Aminetxx:Aminet/INDEX.

2. Aminet CD (old)

Needed info : Disk number
Creation   : Yes
Update   : Yes
Description : Old Aminet CD index format, used from CD 1 to CD 4. It is like
              standard one, except there is no age (so the disk number is inserted
              instead of replacing the age). For automatic creation scripts the ←
                keyword
              of old indexes is OLD CD.
              Usually this file is Aminetxx:Aminet/INDEX

3. Aminet CD (set)

Needed info : Set number and disk letter
Creation   : Yes
Update   : Yes
Description : Index format for Aminet CD set. Each set is divided into 4 disks
              (A, B, C, D) so give the set number and the disk letter for each
              disk index you add. For automatic creation scripts the keyword of
              Aminet sets is CD SET.

4. Aminet CD (global)

Needed info : Nothing
Creation   : Yes
Update   : No
Description : CD index contaning several Aminet CDs. You can use it to import your

AmiSearch index or with global indexes which can be found on Aminet
in docs/lists.

5. Automatic creation script

```
Needed info : Nothing
Creation    : Yes
Update      : Yes
Description : Such a script allows you to create a CD base automatically, you just
              have to change CDs. It also works for FDB bases. A script must begin ←
                with
              the line ;AmiSearch II base creation script
              and the syntax for each entry is :
              File, format, number
              where file is the full filename (and path) and format a keyword
              among the following ones : OLD CD, NORMAL CD, CD SET and FDB.
              The number is the disk number, and if it is an Aminet set
              just put the disk letter after the set number (ex : 1A). For FDB
              just put a '-' instead of this number.

              Have a look at supplied scripts to see how they work.
```


6. Internet (standard index)

```
Needed info : Nothing
Creation    : Yes
Update      : No
Description : Standard Internet index. Usually the file is /pub/aminet/INDEX.
```


7. Internet (RECENT file)

```
Needed info : Elapsed weeks since last base update
Creation    : No
Update      : Yes
Description : Standard Internet RECENT file. This file contains the last 7 days
              uploads and is used to update Internet database. Usually the
              file is /pub/aminet/RECENT.
```


8. Internet (weekly file)

```
Needed info : Elapsed weeks since last base update
Creation    : No
Update      : Yes
Description : File sent by e-mail if you have subscribed to Aminet-weekly. This  ←
    file is like
              a standard Internet RECENT file, but slightly different. Before  ←
                processing this
              file don't forget to remove the e-mail header.
```


9. Local

```
Needed info : Disk number
```

```
Creation    : Yes
Update      : No
Description : A custom format I created for my Aminet floppies. The fields are
              name, size, disk number and description.


10. FDB database

Needed info : None
Creation    : Yes
Update      : Yes
Description : Database generated by UDB, a software belonging to the
                FDB
                 package by Klaus Melchior.
              This format allows you to create a catalog for every volume you want ←
                 (CD, hard drive...).
              Be careful : you still have to generate the file with UDB, then you  ←
                give it to AmiSearch II.
              For the input file you have to choose the .codes file. Some internal ←
                commands do
              not work for FDB files, like HTML and FTP ones for obvious reasons.
```

1.14   Mousepad-ware

This is a special form of giftware. I collect mousepads and I really enjoy having
new ones (especially Looney tunes or Star Wars).

I spent two months to give life to AmiSearch II, and believe me it was not a piece
of cake ! So if you like AmiSearch II and use it, please think of this poor
student who spent his summer holidays coding and send me a mousepad.

Moreover AmiSearch II may become shareware in the future, so people who
sent me a mousepad would be registered for free if it becomes shareware.

By the way people who sends me a mousepad will also receive by e-mail each
new version of AmiSearch.

Thank you in advance !

Here is a list of people who already sent/gave me a mousepad :

- Gérard Marie
- Bruno Beauchamp
- François Nihou
- Freddy Govaerts

Thank you very much, it's people like you who give me the will to continue the ←
   AmiSearch adventure.

1.15   Legal

```
                 AmiSearch II has been tested for hours on several Amiga models.  ←
                        But nobody's perfect, so
I can't be responsible in any way if my program breaks something. Due to  ←
    algorithms
used it should be harmless. To sum up : you fault, not mine.



AmiSearch II is
                 mousepad-ware
                  and freely distribuable.
So it can be included on CD ROM like Aminet CDs, magazine cover disks or public  ←
    domain
collections. BUT FRANCE FESTIVAL DISTRIBUTION AND AMIE WILL NEVER BE ALLOWED TO  ←
    DIFFUSE
AMISEARCH II.
```

1.16   About the author

```
                 AmiSearch II comes from the mad brain of :

Franck ANIERE
30, rue Jean Bouin
93220 GAGNY
France

e-mail : aniere@univ-mlv.fr
         aniere@hotmail.com (summer only)
         faniere@chez.com
Web    : http://massena.univ-mlv.fr/~aniere
         http://www.chez.com/faniere (under construction)
         Very soon the AmiSearch II home page will be created
         at http://massena.univ-mlv.fr/~aniere/as2e.html
         and/or http://www.chez.com/faniere/as2e.html
IRC    : FSA, Wolf or Wolf24

You can join me for bug reports, suggestions, critics,
                 mousepads
                 ...
Translations are welcome !

Don't hesitate, I don't bite ;-)
```

1.17   Thanks

```
I would like to thank the following people :

    - Kirsten Davis : I dedicate AmiSearch II to her
      (hmmm...not only AmiSearch II in fact... ;-))
```

- Gérard Marie, for all the ideas, the hardware lent
  for tests and his patience when he tested beta
  versions (sorry, another version for you to install ;-)),
  and also for the mousepad.

- Colin Thompson, for ideas and AmiSearch icon

- Andreas Kuerzinger, for his many good ideas. I hope
  you like it now Andreas ;-)

- David 'Reez' Le Corfec, who gave me idea when I was
  fighting against a nasty bug (still not tried it Reez ? ;-)).

- Roger Kolomlocki, for AmiSearch Polish catalogs, sample files for
  AmFTP & Aminet weekly and many good ideas (here's a new version
  waiting for a translation Roger ;-)).

- Jean-François Lévèque, for bug reports and ideas (is the
  manual clear enough this time Jef ? ;-)).

- Vincent 'Vodka' Oneto, for ideas, critics and his article (do you have
  enough external commands now Vodka ? ;-)).

- Christophe 'JB' Labouisse, for bug reports and ideas (now JB you won't
  be able to destroy your base if you forget to change the disk number ;-)).

- Juergen Kempkes, for bug reports, ideas and example code for tooltype
  handling.

- Gérard 'Shaman' Cornu, for another example code for tooltype handling.

- François Nihou, for his support and the mousepad (I hope you like the
  manual now ;-))).

- Pascal Willano, for his article (sorry, but the interface is getting more
  and more complicated ;-)).

- Burno Beauchamp, for his support and the mousepad.

- Frédéric Merchiers, for his support.

- Freddy Govaerts, for his support and the mousepad.

- Klaus Melchior, for his help about FDB (I hope you like AmiSearch II).

- Ken Green, for bug reports (I hope it will work on your screen now...).

- Manuel Rozier de Linage, for bug reports (may this version solve all the ↩
   problems...).

- Max Headrom (sorry I lost your address and real name with
  my mailbox :-() for ideas.

- Urban Mueller for Aminet

- Eric Totel for MUI Builder, the wonderful tool which allowed me to
  gave life to AmiSearch.

- Stefan Stuntz for MUI (so when do you code a pOS version of MUI ? ;-)).

- Arne Meyer for Aminet Search Tool (AST), which insprirated me for AmiSearch,
  and for what he said about I2DB in AST's manual.

And people who write me to tell me they use AmiSearch II...thanks a lot !

1.18 History

                 AmiSearch

    1.0 (may 96) : First Aminet Release

    1.1 (july 96) : Now a message is displayed if the search pattern cannot be
                    found in the index. According to suggestions by Max Headrom
                    the final stats can be customized and more settings are saved
                    (stats, category and upper/lower case). The file ReadMe.mui
                    has been added (sorry, I forgot it in the first release).
                    A script called ConvertConfig has been created to convert the
                    AmiSearch.paths to AmiSearch.sets. AmiSearch now has a new ←
                        icon,
                    created using a nice brush created by Colin Thompson.

    1.2 (june 97) : Rewritten output routine, now search is 10% faster.
                    Unreleased version.

AmiSearch II

    2.0 (oct 97) : 99 % rewritten code (except the config save routine).
                    The program is now totally different and database oriented.
                    Its new
                features
                 are listed in another chapter.

    2.1 (nov 97) : At first the manual has been improved. Now let's see
                    what have changed...

                    1) New features

                        - Added an output window for initialization error messages
                          (they could not been seen if lauched from WB).

                        - Now when you click on 'Search' button it closes all ←
                           popup and message
                          windows.

                        - A new script named AS2Audio is included : it can copy/ ←
                           unpack modules/module
                          archives and automatically create a program for Deli ←
                             Tracker.

                        - Now you can decide if windows should be closed during ←
                             database operations

or just disabled.

– Improved installation scripts : the keyword DEFER allows ←
   you to store
   AmiSearch II on a removable media (ex : a floptical) and ←
      the '"' have
   been added to handle correctly directories with spaces.

– Full icon tooltypes handling.

– New
index format
 : Aminet weekly file (slightly different from
   RECENT files).

– FTP and AmFTP
outputs
 now allow to download .readme files.

– New security test for database creation/update : it is ←
   now impossible
   to entrer the same disk number twice (useful when you ←
      forget to change
   the disk number).

– When you double click on a found entry the choosen ←
   command is automatically
   executed.

– New security test for result window : when there are too ←
    many entries (so
   the window cannot be opened) the list is automatically ←
      erased and the user
   is warned.

– The manual can be called from AmiSearch II with 'Help' ←
   key.

– Improved installation script, allowing easy II -> II.1 ←
   updates

2) Bug fixes

– Fixed message windows bug (text in the wrong place).

– Now the name for Aminet sets is correct.

– Stupid bug removed for empty patterns recognition.

– The filename pattern had a tendancy to be re-activated ←
   when it should
   not, now it is fixed.

– Message windows could not be closed with close gadget.

– Empty files were not handled correctly, now they can be ←
   read without

generating an infinite loop (totally useless but safer).

– There was a problem with pattern option ('at least one ←
  '/'all patterns'), now
  it works normally. I should stop coding in the middle of ←
  the night...

– Small error in database creation error message fixed.

2.2 (jan 98) : major update

    1) New features

      – Full FDB support : you can now use an
FDB
 base as input file
      and it will be handled like an
index
.

      – Now you have 12 external commands instead of 4.

      – New
internal command
 : copy to clipboard.

      – '!' operator has been added to allow pattern exclusion.

      – A
default config file
 is now supplied.

      – You can launch a program associated to each internal ←
        command
        (ex : a Web browser for HTML output).

      – The new external command keyword (%m), which gives the disk ←
        name, allows to
        use the same commands for Aminet CDs and Sets.

      – AS2Audio can now launch Deli Tracker automatically on ←
        selected modules and
        filter .readme/.diz/.txt/.guide files.

      – Files generated by
internal commands
 now have an icon.

      – Result window now use listviews from MCC
NList
 by Gilles Masson.

      – The result window now displays the content of external ←
        commands
        (useful if you don't remember which command does what).

                              – AS2H now recognizes IFF pictures and Amiga Guide files.

                              – A new script named DMS2Disk will help you unpack your DMS ←
                                files directly
                                from AmiSearch II.

                         2) Bug fixes

                              – Small search bug removed.

                              – Optimized compilation, providing a slight speed gain.

                              – Init code rewritten, much smaller & cleaner.

                              – JPEG logo for HTML docs was not copied with HTML files.

                              – The letter for Aminet sets is now automatically converted ←
                                 to
                                upper case.

                              – AS2Audio had some little problems, they are now fixed.

                              – The message displayed when result window could not be ←
                                 opened was
                                not clear.

                              – The Shell interface has been improved, to remove all ←
                                 problems that could
                                occur.

                              – Some users complained about a bug preventing result window ←
                                 from opening.
                                With
                         NList
                          it should be fixed.

                              – No more command execution if no entries are selected.

     2.3 (jan 98) : minor update

         Some bugs came because of the optimized compilation, so I decided
         to use a standard one instead.

1.19 To do...

– New index formats

– New export formats

– Faster I/O

– New internal commands

– ARexx port

– Some still secret ideas to code

And whatever you want me to add, if I can...

1.20   About MUI

This application uses

MUI – MagicUserInterface

(c) Copyright 1993/94 by Stefan Stuntz

MUI is a system to generate and maintain graphical user interfaces. With
the aid of a preferences program, the user of an application has the
ability to customize the outfit according to his personal taste.

MUI is distributed as shareware. To obtain a complete package containing
lots of examples and more information about registration please look for
a file called "muiXXusr.lha" (XX means the latest version number) on
your local bulletin boards or on public domain disks.

If you want to register directly, feel free to send

DM 30.– or US$ 20.–

to

Stefan Stuntz
Eduard-Spranger-Straße 7
80935 München
GERMANY

1.21   How do I...

Know if there is enough memory for temporary files in RAM

This temporary file is a copy of your current database. So if you don't have at ←
   least this
amount of memory free don't even think of it ! You also need enough room for ←
   update file,
which is always copied in memory.

Create/update a CD database

Go to

databases
page. Enter the name of the index file you want to use
(you can use the popup file requester), and the disk number. Then use
the cycle gadget to select an Aminet CD index format according to your
file's

format
. Click on 'New database' to create a new base with this file
or on 'Update database' to update existing database with this file.

If you are using an Aminet Set index it is slightly different : you have to
give the set's number and the disk's letter in the set. For example,
for disk 2 from Aminet Set 1, you will enter '1' as set number and 'B' as
disk letter.

Don't forget to click on the right database category, according to the
database you want to create/update.

Create/update an Internet database

Go to

databases
page. Enter the name of the index file you want to use (you can ←
use the
popup file requester) and use the cycle gadget to select an Aminet Internet index ←
format,
according to your file's
format
. If you want to create an Internet database the file format
to use is 'Internet index (standard)', but if you want to update this base you ←
have the
choice between 'Internet index (RECENT)' and 'Internet index (weekly)'. For an ←
update you
have to specify how many weeks there are between your last update of this base and ←
this file.
If you update your Internet database every week you will always enter '1'.
After this you just have to click on 'New database' or 'Update database'.

Don't forget to click on the right database category, according to the
database you want to create/update.

Use

FDB
databases

Since version II.2 AmiSearch can use FDB databases. With the help of FDB you can ←
have a file
about every volume you have. In the FDB package you have the command UDB, it's the ←
one we need
to create an FDB base. You can also use all the FDB bases available on Aminet.

To create a database with FDB you have to type (CLI) :

UDB Volume: db=Base dbp=Path

This will create a base of Volume named Base.codes in the path Path.

Example : UDB Mods-1: db=MA1 dbp=RAM:

Now we can import this base in AmiSearch II. Go to
                databases
                  page. Enter the name of the
index file (.codes file) you want to use (you can use the popup file gadget), ←
    select the 'FDB database' type
in the cycle gadget and then click on 'New database' or 'Update database' button. ←
    You don't need extra
info, as the volume name is stored in the database.

Don't forget to click on the right database category, according to the
database you want to create/update.

Create a local database

Go to
                databases
                   page. Enter the name of the index file you want to use (you can ←
                    use
the popup file gadget), select the 'Local' type in the cycle gadget and then click ←
    on 'New database'
button. For the moment it is not possible to update such a database.

Don't forget to click on the right database category, according to the
database you want to create.

Configure external commands

Go to
                configuration
                  page, then to external command configuration subpage. For
each command you can enter command's path and arguments, in separate gadgets.

For example, if we have to enter the following command :

    C:Lha x archive Ram:

The first gadget will only contain the 'C:Lha' and the second will contain the ←
    arguments.
To identify the archive you have special keywords begining by '%' (you can insert ←
    them
with the popup list if you want).

So, for our example the definitive line is (for AminetCDs) :

First gadget (left)   : C:Lha
Second gadget (right) : x Aminet%d:Aminet/%p/%n

Search patterns

Now let's see how we could do some very used

```
                       searches
                       ...
```

1. Search all files with name containing 'gif'

    Just fill the file pattern with the word gif and choose search pattern
    as 'substring'.

2. Search all files with description containing 'web' AND located in a
   directory containing 'comm'

    Fill description pattern with the word web and the path pattern with the ←
       word
    comm. For 'required' search option you must choose 'all patterns'.

3. List all files of the past 5 weeks (Internet databases only)

    Just fill age pattern with the expression <=5.

4. List all files with name containing 'st' OR with description containing ' ←
    trek'

    Fill name pattern with the word st and description pattern with the word ←
       trek.
    For 'required' search option you must choose 'at least one'.

Make AmiSearch II run automatically at boot time

Copy AmiSearch2 and AmiSearch2.info to SYS:WB-Startup, and edit the icon's ←
   tooltypes
to set the 'iconic' keyword. Now at each boot AmiSearch II will be loaded in ←
   iconic form,
ready to work once you click twice on its icon.

Crash a PC under Windows 95

Turn it on...

Hints and tips

- If you have enough memory you can speed up AmiSearch II by copying databases
  to memory. A cache program like Hypercache (or Powercache) can also speed up
  AmiSearch II.

- If you have pens problems on Workbench after exiting AmiSearch II try to type
  'avail flush' in a Shell window and it will work fine.

- If you update your Internet base every week with a RECENT file you should always ←
     dowload
  this update file the same day, in order to have coherent files ages (I do this ←
     on Monday).

- If you use Aminet Weekly files don't forget to remove the e-mail header.

– If you have enough memory you should put as many files as you can in memory
  (for example the temporary base backup and update file). This will speed up
  AmiSearch II a lot.

– AmiSearch II doesn't handle file which are removed from Aminet. So I suggest you
  create a new Internet base sometimes (for example once a month) whereas you ←
     update it
  with RECENT/Aminet weekly during the month.

1.22   Known problems

                    On some screens the result window refuses to open unless you are ←
                      in a very high screen
resolution. I still don't know why it occurs, as it works perfectly on usual ←
   screen sizes
on many configurations. The usage of
                NList
                 should solve this problem but it does not work
on your system just contact
                me
                 and I'll try to find the real origin of this problem.

1.23   About NList

Copyright
****

   NList.mcc (C) 1996-1997 Gilles Masson

   This data is freely distributable, but copyrighted by me. This means
you may freely copy them as long as you do not charge more than a
nominal fee for copying. This data may be put on PD disks, especially
on Fred Fish's AmigaLibDisks and Fred's or Aminet CDROMs. If you want to
distribute the data you MUST keep this document with it. All documents,
programms and files must be distributed in their original unmodified
form.

   The author can not be made responsible for any damage which is
caused by using these programs.

 This class is FreeWare for end users, but ShareWare for developers :
 Anyone which make a Shareware or commercial application using it
 must send me a registered/full working release of the application
 and updates, there is no other fee (and will not ever).

 Anyway, i'll be happy if you send me something... ;-)

The AUTHOR of a program can include the NList.mcc, NListview.mcc,
NFloattext.mcc, NListviews.mcp and Install files in its program archive
as soon as the above is respected. You can install them from you're own
script or use the provided one as you want.

   I'm interesting in who is using my classes in his own programs, so don't
hesitate to contact me. (just a mail telling what you're doing with NList
would be nice :)

   Send comments, suggestions or bug reports, or some money ;) to:

     Gilles Masson,
     Les Balcons d'Antipolis
     Bloc C
     15, Traverse du Barri
     06560 VALBONNE
     FRANCE

     e-mail: masson@iut-soph.unice.fr

I am currently on holidays, so don't expect any new release, bug fix or
e-mail reply before september (97).

What are NList.mcc/NListview.mcc/NFloattext.mcc/NListviews.mcp ?
****

   NList is a Custom Class for the Magic User Interface (c) by Stefan
Stuntz. It's a subclass of area-class which make the same stuffs
than the MUI List/Listview class, and more.

   NList implement horizontal scrolling, built-in copy to clipboard,
classic char precision selection of area, drag and drop and some others.

   NListview give NList scrollbars, vertical as Listview, but horizontal
too.

   NFloattext is like Floattext and do automatic word wrap. The interest
to do it with NList is the builtin copy to clipboard.

   There is a mui pref class NListviews.mcp with it, which permit the
user to choose all default backgrounds, pens and fonts.

NEW There is a Floattext.mui replacement which should work with all
programs. It's simply a stub to NFloattext.mcc.
To work that class must have the same major version number than original
have (ie 19.x for MUI 3.8), so it will surely have to be upgraded for next
MUI release.

1.24 About FDB

```
Copyright
*********

   FDB (C) 1993-95 kMel, Klaus Melchior

   These programs are freely distributable, but copyrighted by me. This
means you may freely copy it as long as you do not charge more than a
nominal fee for copying. These programs may be put on PD disks,
especially on Fred Fish's CDROMs, Meeting Pearls CDs or other cheap
CDROMs. If you want to distribute this program you MUST keep this
document with it. The program and the documents must be distributed in
their original unmodified form.

   These programs cannot be used for commercial purposes without written
permission by the author. The author can not be made responsible for
any damage which is caused by using these programs.


------------------------------------------------------------------------
These programs are GiftWare. If you like them and use them regularly,
you should consider to send a small donation to the author in order to
honor the work he has put into these programs.
------------------------------------------------------------------------

   Send comments, suggestions or bug reports, and the gifts to:

     Klaus Melchior, Schulstrasse 17
     D-52156 Monschau, Germany
     Phone: +49 (0)2472 4710

     DE:   kmel@eifel.tng.oche.de
     BIG:  kmel@et1.etechnik.fh-aachen.de
     ADSP: kmel@eifel.adsp.sub.org
     FIDO: 2:242/158.2@fidonet
     FIDO: 242:3001/100.2@fido.de

What is FDB?
************

   FDB & UDB are based on find/updatedb-utilities from Larry Phillips
and Martin Steppler. If you already have installed them it is easy to
use my tools, because they are compatible. I use the same kind of
database.

   LDB & CDB are new programs, which can be used to change the
databases.
```

1.25 Bonus

```
            Some script are included in the package. Their purpose is to give  ←
                you the ability to
make a lot of things from AmiSearch II.
```

All these scripts are configurable : at the very begining of them there are some
variables you can edit to adapt the script to your system.

1. AS2H

Usage : EXECUTE AS2H archive

This script has been created to be a slave of the
                internal command
                 Amiga Guide. AS2H examines the archive's
name in order to determine its type. An archive is unpacked, a picture is ←
   displayed, a Guide is
displayed and any other type is simply copied.

2. AS2Audio

Usage : EXECUTE AS2Audio archive

This script allows you to directly play with DeliTracker the modules you have ←
   selected in
AmiSearch II. The mod files are unpacked/copied and then DeliTracker is launched ←
   with a
program containing these modules (without the extra files like .readme/.diz/.txt).

3. DMS2Disk

Usage : EXECUTE DMS2Disk archive

This script is a very simple front end to DMS. At first you are asked for a target ←
    drive,
then to click when the disk is ready before the extraction begins.

1.26 Config file

Some users complained about the difficulty of configuring AmiSearch II. So I have
included my own config file as an example in the AmiSearch II package.

If it is your first AmiSearch II installation the file is already copied
and ready to be used. If you're upgrading from a previous version
the file is in the AmiSearchII directory and its name is "AmiSearch2.config".
If you want to use this config file instead of yours just backup your file
and copy the new one to ENVARC: and ENV:.

Warning : this file is here as an example, it is adapted to my system
(boosted A1200). It could not work on your system, so you might have
to adapt it.