

Software Cataloguer v1.0

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Well, now that that's over with, onward!

Included files:

softcat.exe	executable file
sample.sct	sample file
softcat.wri	this file

Windows 3.1 Compatibility

SOFTCAT has been extensively tested under Windows 3.1. Any problems using this program under 3.1 should be immediately reported to the author (see below).

Description

SOFTCAT is a utility designed to facilitate keeping track of your software library. SOFTCAT provides information on title, version number, manufacturer, serial number, purchase price, date purchased, and retailer. Search functions include manufacturer and title. One of the primary features (and the reason for its existence) of SOFTCAT is its ability to assist you while obtaining customer support for a particular software product. Instead of hunting through manuals or tracking down distribution lists for a serial number, you can merely pop up SOFTCAT, find the application, and display the data. SOFTCAT can also generate a text file of your software library, suitable for viewing or printing with any text editor.

Command Line Usage:

SOFTCAT [path[filename]]

If the file you wish to open resides in the same directory as SOFTCAT.EXE then no [path] is necessary. Files can be added to any Program Manager Group, enabling you to start SOFTCAT with the file preloaded (see your Windows documentation for directions on adding files to Groups). Note that the ability to open a file from the command line (or from a Group) requires you to associate SOFTCAT's files with the executable file from File Manager (refer to your Windows documentation).

Limitations:

SOFTCAT has a theoretical maximum of 16,380 software items. 50 characters are allowed for title, manufacturer, serial number, and retailer. Date purchased and price have a maximum of 8 characters. Version has a maximum of 6 characters.

Menu Commands:

File

New: removes the current file from memory, resets all counters, etc. to zero. Use this command to start a new collection.

Open: Open a file. If the current file has been changed, you will be prompted to save it.

Save: Save the current file. If no filename is listed, you will be prompted for a filename.

Save As: Save the current file under a different name.

Make Text: Creates an ASCII text file of your software library. You are prompted for the directory and filename of the generated file. A date/time stamp is placed at the end of the file to provide a reference of when the file was created.

Exit: Exit the program. If an open file has been changed, you will be prompted as to whether you want to save it (or cancel exiting).

Edit

Add (Ins): by either using the menu command or hitting the <Ins> key, allows a new software item to be added to the list. Fields in the dialog box that pops up may be cycled through by using the Tab key. In order for an item to be added to the list, there MUST be an entry in either title or version number fields. If you enter a date that already exists, no changes to the list will be made (use the Edit command to change a particular show's data). Once you hit <return>, the show will be added to the list.

Edit (F9): by either using the menu command or hitting the <F9> key, allows an existing show to be item. Note that an item must already have been selected for editing by single clicking on it in the program's main window.

Delete (Del): by either using the menu command or hitting the key, allows an existing item to be deleted. You have the option of cancelling a delete. Note that an item must already have been selected for deletion by single clicking on it in the program's main window.

Display (F5): by either using the menu command or hitting the <F5> key, allows a selected item to be viewed.

Search: all searches are CASE-INSENSITIVE

Title: Searches for the user-input title. A dialog pops up with all items meeting the criteria. Double clicking on one of the found items pops up a dialog with the selected item.

Manufacturer: Searches for the user-input title. A dialog pops up with all items meeting the criteria. Double clicking on one of the found items pops up a dialog with the selected item.

Notes on Searching: Partial string searching is supported for all search functions. The entire title or manufacturer name need not be entered, merely enough to distinguish it from other titles or manufacturers.

Help

About: Pops up a dialog with version number and author/shareware information.

Miscellaneous:

This version of SOFTCAT incorporates full keyboard compatibility. All data entry fields can be tabbed through. To select a show in the mainwindow with your keyboard, use the "hot key" <ctrl>-<space>. You can then use your arrow keys to scroll through the list, and view your selection by pressing F5.

To view an item that is listed in the mainwindow, merely double click on that entry. A dialog with the show will pop up.

The data files that SOFTCAT generates are readable only by SOFTCAT. Their extension is *.sct.

The entire program was written with Borland's® Turbo Pascal For Windows™ and Resource Workshop™.

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Revision History:

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