AutoSaveIt!

Version 2.0c - November 5, 1993
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INTRODUCTION

I have written AutoSaveIt! because, like many of us on a network, generate files locally on the hard disk, and want to daily back them up onto a server, which in turn this gets regularly backed up onto a tape.

In general, I do not like programs that need a lot of setup and typing (especially with directory paths), and that prompt dialog boxes for every entry. I have tried to make this program as simple and intuitive as possible to use and setup. Just point and click!

I have looked at various backup programs, or even event-driven utilities, but none of them is as easy to setup and change as AutoSaveIt! You still have a lot of typing to do to setup the file and directories paths. Having worked in a non-engineering environment, I can see that may be easy for MIS personnel, but not for the majority of users on the network, most of whom, have just grasped the use of e-mail, spreadsheet and word processing programs! This program will enable MIS managers to let everyone else on the network decide when and what to backup on the server(s).

AutoSaveIt! will copy directories and/or files from one place to another, at the time set with the alarm clock. Typically, I copy directories from my local hard disk to the server's hard disk.. AutoSaveIt! will also copy subdirectories, if so specified.

NOTE: *In order to run, this program needs VBRUN300.DLL in your Windows directory.*

INSTALLATION

To install the program, put the diskette in the "<u>A:</u>" drive, open the <u>Program Manager</u>, and select from the "<u>FILE</u>" menu, the "<u>RUN</u>" option. Type in the box, "<u>A:\SETUP</u>", click on "<u>OK</u>" and follow the instructions.

If your disk is on drive "<u>B:</u>", then substitute <u>B:</u> for <u>A:</u> in the instructions above.

AUTOSAVEIT! SETUP

I have made the directory setup as easy as possible by using mouse commands.

> *1.   Select the path clicking with the mouse on the drive, directory and, if necessary, file. You should see the full path on the top right hand corner of the window.*
> *2.   Click with the mouse on the box with the directory to be backed up from or to. This will transfer all the selected file/directrory information to the selected box*
> *3.   Repeat for all directories, as needed.*
> *4.   Set the time in HH:MM (24-hour) format.*
> *5.   When done with the selection, click on the "<u>SET</u>" command button. That's it!*

To perform the backup immediately, without waiting until the set time, it is possible to type "N" (for "Now") in the time selection box.

AutoSaveIt! checks the settings every minute and, at the set time, performs the backup. This will occur daily. It is also possible to set selective backup of all files created or modified after a particular date. To select this option, first of all, check the "Select with Date" option. You can then select the date as follows:

Specified Date: First of all, enter the date (in MM-DD-YYYY format: e.g. 04-10-1993) in the box in the "*Save Files From:*" section. Then select the "*Specified Date*" from the drop-down box in its left. From this time forward, all backups will be performed from this date.

Today: Select "*Today*" in the drop-down box in the "*Save Files From:*" section. All backups will be done from the current date.

Previous Day: Same as for "*Today*", but using the previous day date. In other words, all backups will be retroactive to the day before the backup is performed.

Previous Week: Same as for "*Previous Day*", but AutoSaveIt! in this case will backup all files changed or created during the week before the date when the backup is done.

Previous Month: Same as for "*Previous Week*", but using the previous month.

Last Backup: When this option is selected, AutoSaveIt! will search in the AUTOSAVE.LOG file for the last backup performed. and will save all files created or changed since that date.

NOTE: if the program does not find the AUTOSAVE.LOG file, it will perform a complete back up of all files. This is equivalent of a backup with out the "*Select with Date*" option checked.

When AutoSaveIt! is left running day after day, it will automatically find out, depending on the setting, the current day, or the previous day, week or month, or previous backup. Once you set the program, it will not need to get re-set. Just make sure it is loaded in Windows and forget about it.

NOTE: If you work regular hours during the day and plan to set the backup time after midnight, you should not select the "*Today*" option. This will only select all the files updated from the new day (i.e. from after midnight). You should select instead the "*Previous Day*" option.
In other words, say that on July 7, at 5.00pm before leaving work, you set the program to backup automatically during the night (e.g. at 2.30am) the files changed during the day. If you select the "*Today*" option, only the files changed after July 8 will be saved, of which there will be none. The "*Previous Day*" option will instead save the files changed on July 7.

AutoSaveIt! uses the DOS XCOPY command. When it tries to back up a directory that does not exist on the destination drive, the program will stop, prompting you for input. Should this happen, just open up the iconized DOS shell window , and type "D" (no ENTER keypress is necessary) when the following message appears in the DOS window:

> *Does XXX specify a file name*
> *or directory name on the target*
> *(F = file, D = directory)?*

You can also edit the individual directories for specific files with wildcards, such as *.WRI, *.DOC, *.SAM, etc.

The SETUP program will create a new folder in the Program Manager. Ideally, once you have setup the programs, you should also place the file in the STARTUP folder of the Program Manager, and run it minimized. You can do this by selecting the "Run Minimized" check box in the "File Properties" menu of the Program Manager. Alternatively, you can drag and drop the AutoSaveIt! icon from the AUTOSAVE folder to the STARTUP folder.

OPERATION
All AutoSaveit! operations are saved in the AUTOSAVE.INI file, which is automatically created and placed in your Windows directory. AutoSaveIt! also generates an AUTOSAVE.LOG file, with all the information about the backup.

AutoSaveIt! will also save subdirectories, if this option is selected, with the "XCOPY /S" command. Therefore empty subdirectories will <u>not</u> be saved.

AutoSaveIt! has now an option "<u>Check Archived</u>", to save files with the archive attribute set, and reset the attribute. This will prevent files from being archived twice, if they have not been modified. If the file is modified (e.g. with an editor), the archive flag is set, and AutoSaveIt! will then save it. When this option is selected, AutoSaveIt! will use the "XCOPY /M" command.

The selective backup from a certain date is done with the "XCOPY /D:date" option.

FILES LISTING
AutoSaveIt! needs the following files to operate:

-	AUTOSAVE.EXE	the runtime file
-	AUTOSAVE.WRI	this file
-	XCOPY.PIF	to run the XCOPY command
-	THREED.VBX	for 3-D controls
-	MSMASKED.VBX	for masked edit
-	VBRUN300.DLL	the VB 3.0 runtime

<u>NOTE:</u>
1. *XCOPY.PIF contains the location of XCOPY.EXE. Edit this file if you do not have XCOPY.EXE in the C:\DOS directory*
2. *AutoSaveIt! will create and update the AUTOSAVE.LOG file in the same directory AUTOSAVE.EXE is located in.*
3. *AUTOSAVE.WRI should also be in the same directory as AUTOSAVE.EXE*
4. *AutoSaveIt! will create AUTOSAVE.INI in your Windows directory.*

OTHER
If you have any questions or suggestiones, feel free to mail them to me at:

Compuserve: [71564,1470]
Internet: 71564.1470@compuserve.com

There is a 21-days evaluation period. If by that time, you find this program a useful tool, please send a $15 contribution. Special Corporate prices also apply: please inquire for them.

With registration you will get a copy of the program that does not pop-up the startup message. In addition, if you register, you will be able to get technical support and the latest revisions of the software. Corporate users may also ask for special features.

Hope all of you register.... Mail Check or cash or money order to:

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Cresta Systems, Inc.
2515 Scott Street
San Francisco, CA 94115-1149
Phone: 415/ 567-6659
FAX: 415/ 567-1362

Other wise you can also register directly on Compuserve by going to the "SWREG" area and using the Registration ID number 1370.

For International users, please contact directly if you are interested in registering the program.

Since I am planning to expand this program with more features, I would really appreciate your feedback and suggestions!

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HISTORY

11/9/93   *Added help in MS Help Format.*
               Revised and fixed some minor inconsistencies.
               Released as Version 2.0c.

9/1/93   *Revised the user interface and added 3-D controls.*
         Improved date and time entry checking.
         Added checking for the archive flag.
         Compiled in Visual Basic 3.0.
         Added "SETUP" installation (VB Setup Wizard).
               Released as Version 2.0.

4/12/93   *Added the possibility to select selective backup of files after a fixed date. It*
               includes the possibility of reading from the AUTOSAVE.LOG file the last backup
               and perform a backup of all files created or modified since.
               Cleaned up screen messages.
               Released as Version 1.2.

4/8/93   *Added "Now" as possible time input. The backup time is set to the current time,*
               and the backup started immediately.
               Added better error handling when selecting the directories.

4/5/95   *Released Version 1.0.*