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TASKMAN: A Windows Task Manager copyright © 1993 by Olaf Heß (*Hess* for those who don't speak German).

Taskman is a replacement for the Windows 3.1 Task Manager. It offers numerous advantages over the Microsoft product:

- It shows the icons of all the programs running.
- It allows you to see hidden programs.
- It allows you to hide / unhide windows.
- It allows you to give windows the attribute "always on top" and to remove this attribute.
- It allows to end programs that you cannot close otherwise and even DOS boxes.
- It allows you to exit Windows / restart Windows.
- Taskman works with *SysMenu*, another program written by me. *SysMenu* adds the ability to the Task Manager to start other programs via a command line. I will upload *SysMenu* to the same CompuServe forum as the Task Manager.

I believe the the program is more or less self explaining. That's why I'm not going to bore you with my rather poor English longer than necessary.

There are only a few points to be explicitly mentioned:

Installation:

First, change to your Windows directory and rename the original Task Manager TASKMAN.EXE to TASKMAN#.EXE or something like that. **Don't delete the original file and don't overwrite it with the new TASKMAN.EXE!**

Second, copy the file BWCC.DLL that's in the archive to your SYSTEM directory. If there's already a BWCC.DLL file compare the dates. Only overwrite the existing BWCC.DLL with the BWCC.DLL from the archive if the existing one is older than the one from the archive. Make shure that the BWCC.DLL in the SYSTEM directory is the only one on your hard drive.

Third, copy the file TASKMAN.EXE from the archive to your Windows directory.

Calling the program works similar to calling the normal Windows Task Manager.

Hardware and software requirements:

The program runs best with Windows 3.1. It will run with Windows 3.0, but I don't recommend that. You should have at least 8 MByte of RAM. One (and from my point of view the only) disadvantage of the program is that it takes up 100 KByte of memory when running and takes longer to load than the Windows Task Manager. To minimize the time needed for loading the program from disk into memory there's an option in the *Options* menu *Task list always in memory*. If you select this option the program will stay in memory all the time once it gets called. This speeds up loading but takes permanently 100 KByte of memory until you quit Windows. To make this setting permanent select the *Save settings* entry from the *Options* menu.

Difference between *Nuke (end task)* and *Kill task (nuke hard)*

Nuke ends a tasks the same way as the normal Windows Task Manager does: It simply asks the program if it would like to be closed down. If the program thinks that's fine it will shut itself down. If you haven't saved your work it should ask you to save your data, but that's up to the program.

Nuke doesn't do any harm to a program (see disclaimer if I'm wrong on this one).
Kill task doesn't ask anybody, it simply kicks a task out of memory (works on DOS boxes, too).
You won't have a chance to save your work or to do anything with the program that gets kicked out. **It's gone and all your unsaved data with it!** So please use this option with care!
The *Nuke* button in the Task Manager's window uses the gentle method. You can only *kill* a task if you select the entry from the menu and answer a question whether you really want to do this with a **YES**.

If you have any problems with the software or if you encounter bugs please contact me (CompuServe preferred).

ETC:

This program is neither FREE- nor SHAREWARE. I regard it as being CAREWARE. If you like it and want to use it that's fine. You don't have to pay anything to me and the program won't bother you with any nag screens or anything.

Just one thing: This program is CAREWARE, meaning that if you like it please donate some dollars or pound or mark or whatever currency to people in need. After all, if you have the financial resources to use CompuServe or a Shareware dealer to get this program you might also have some money left for people who really need it (did you really need this piece of software?).

Writing software takes a lot of time, effort, and money. Please respect this. Apart from that it's really fun!

TASKMAN.EXE was written using Borland Pascal 7.0, from my point of view the best tool for this job. If you would like the source code (fully commented in German) please send me a CompuServe mail to my CompuServe account 100 031, 35 36 or to my address given above (CompuServe preferred) and we can discuss the details (I basically want to cover my expenses for postage and packing).

This software is copyright © 1993 by Olaf Hess. The file BWCC.DLL is copyright © 1993 by Borland International. TASKMAN.EXE may be used and distributed freely, subject to the condition that no charge is made (a small fee for media and handling is permissible). Distribution with the intend of mass production requires the written permission of the copyright holder.

And now, to keep the lawyers (and me) happy:

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