PM Setup Lite for Windows - v1.0

Program Manager Icon Setup Utility

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Introduction

PM Setup Lite was created because a lot of our customers (at Eschalon Development Inc.) wanted a simpler installer than the one we sell. They wanted something that would only create icons for files already on the users' system. PM Setup Lite is a very simple utility that does just that.

The purpose of this utility is to allow archived or CD-ROM based software to be distributed without a bulky setup program. Since you are already storing and extracting the files from an archive or a CD-ROM, why bother with a complete installer? All you need is to create the proper Program Manager icons. PM Setup Lite does just that.

Creating a PM Setup Lite INF file

PM Setup Lite is extremely easy to use. All the necessary information is stored in an INF file, named PMSETUP.INF. In order to create an .INF file, you must first create a standard text file using an editor such as NOTEPAD.EXE. You then compile the .TXT file using the included program, INFENCD.EXE. This is a DOS program and must be run from a DOS prompt.

Following is a description of the various sections and fields used in creating an INF file.

[Application]

The application section contains basic information about your application.

Field	Description
Title	The title that should appear in the caption of every dialog box.
Text	The text you want displayed in the confirmation dialog box. You may use a "\n" (without quotes) to insert a new line. For example:

```
Text=This will create some icons.\n\nContinue?
```

Field	Description
PM Group	The name of the Program Manager group to create. This field is optional and is only required if you want PM Setup to create a new Program Manager group. If you don't want a group created (i.e. you only need "starup" items), don't include this label or leave it blank.
Registration	The registration code you receive when you register PM Setup Lite. This code will disable the display of the advertising screens.

[PM Items] Or [Setup Items]

These sections describe the Program Manager items that you want PM Setup Lite to create. Each line consists of the name of the group to create, an equal sign, the file's path name and "PM Items" specifies icons to create in the group specified in the "Application" section. This section is only required if you specified a group to create.

"Startup Items" specifies icons to create in the Program Manager Startup group. This will work no matter what the user has renamed the group to, including any non-English Windows versions. This section is only required if you want a program to automatically run every time Windows is started.

You may not include spaces, brackets, parentheses, or equal signs in any of the fields, including the description. You may use 3 "meta-variables" to specify the following user directories:

%%   Inserts one % character
%d   Current application directory
%w   Windows directory
%y   Windows System directory
%r   First available CD-ROM drive

Note that the variables must all be in lowercase. PM Setup Lite will insert the appropriate directory in the program, icon file, and working directory specifications where ever it finds a meta-variable. For example:

```
Demo=%d\DEMO.EXE %w\PROGMAN.EXE 10 %d
```

If you wish to specify any parameters along with the file's path name, you must enclose the command line (program name and parameters) in quotation marks. For example:

```
Demo="WINHELP.EXE %d\MANUAL.HLP" %w\PROGMAN.EXE 10 %d
```

By specifying a different icon file Program Manager will use an icon in the specified file instead of the program file. The icon index is used to determine which icon (0..x) will be used from the icon file.

The file names should include the destination relative path. For example, to add PROGHELP.EXE located in a PROGRAM sub-directory, you would use "%d\PROGRAM\PROGHELP.EXE" as the file name. Examples:

```
[PM Items]
PM Setup Lite=%d\INSTALL.EXE %d\INSTALL.EXE 0 %d
Manual="WRITE.EXE %d\DOCS\INSTALL.WRI" WRITE.EXE 0 %d
Order form=%d\DOCS\ORDRFORM.TXT NOTEPAD.EXE 0 %d
```

Running PM Setup Lite

To run PM Setup Lite, your users should either use the File Manager to select the PMSETUPL.EXE file, or use the Program Manager FILE|RUN, Browse... command. Once they run PM Setup Lite the program will proceed to prompt them for approval and it will then create the icons.

Distributing PM Setup Lite

To distribute PM Setup Lite with your application, you must include the PMSETUPL.EXE file along with your custom INF file. You may rename the PMSETUPL.EXE file to anything you like, including SETUP.EXE. This might be easier for your users to understand. The INF file **must** be named PMSETUP.INF or it will not be found.

The shareware concept

Shareware is copyrighted software which is distributed by authors through bulletin boards, on-line services, disk vendors, and copies passed among friends. It is commercial software that you are allowed to try before you pay for it. This makes shareware the ultimate in money back guarantees.

Most money back guarantees work like this: you pay for the product and then have some period of time to

try it out and see whether or not you like it. If you don't like it or find that it doesn't do that you need, you return it and you get your money back. Some software companies won't even let you try their product, since to qualify for a refund the diskette envelope must have an unbroken seal.

With shareware you get to try it for a reasonable limited time (like 30 days), without spending a penny. You are able to use the software on your own system(s), in your own special work environment, with no sales people looking over your shoulder. If you decide not to continue using it, you throw it away and forget all about it. There is no paperwork, no phone calls, and no correspondence to waste your valuable time. You only pay for it if you continue to use it.

Shareware is a distribution method, not a type of software. Shareware is produced by accomplished programmers, just like retail software. There is good and bad shareware, just as there is good and bad retail software. The primary difference between shareware and retail software is that with shareware you know if it's good or bad before you pay for it.

You benefit because you get to use the software to determine whether it meets your needs, before you pay for it. Authors benefit because they are able to get their products into your hands without the expenses it takes to launch a traditional retail software product. There are many programs on the market today that would never have become available without the shareware marketing method.

The shareware system and the continued availability of quality shareware products depend on your willingness to register and pay for the shareware you use. It's the registration fees you pay which allow us to support and continue to develop our products. Please show your support for shareware by registering those programs you actually use and by passing them on to others. Shareware is kept alive by your support!

Registering PM Setup Lite

In order to distribute PM Setup Lite it with your products you must purchase a license. You may then use PM Setup Lite in as many packages as you want; there are no "per copy" royalty fees. The license fee is $25 US. When you register, you receive a new version without this screen along with distribution rights and 90 days of free technical support (through CIS e-mail only).

To register you must use CompuServe's "Software registration service". Type "GO SWREG" at any main prompt, and follow the instructions to register item #1765. Sorry, no other method may be used to register. **Please do not call or write for orders - you may only use CompuServe.**

You will receive confirmation and a registration number through CompuServe e-mail. Use the registration number you receive in the "Registration" field of the "Application" section to prevent the advertisement screens from being displayed.

Please note that is is **not** a Eschalon Development product. If you want more information on Eschalon's installer line, conduct us at the address/phone/cis number below.

Technical support

You may access technical support for PM Setup Lite only through CompuServe, User ID #76625,1320. Sorry, no other contact method will be supported for technical support. However, if you absolutely need to get through to me, you may do so at:

> Robert Salesas
> c/o Eschalon Development Inc.
> 24-2979 Panorama Drive
> Coquitlam, BC

V3E 2W8 Canada

Tel/Fax:	(604) 945-3198
BBS:		(604) 945-7602 (Opens end of January 1994)

Please don't write, call or fax with technical support questions, I won't be able to help you. Use the CompuServe address instead.