

FIDED

Laserdance / Brothers

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COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> FiDED		
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REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Chapter 1

FiDED

1.1 FiDED interactive hypertext documentation - Main-Menu

Welcome to the interactive hypertext-documentation to FiDED. Click one of the buttons below for more information on a topic.

MUI support for FiDED

MUI support?	Would you like FiDED MUIfied?
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Introductory Information

Introduction	About the program
An example	A quick introduction
Installing	Installing the program

Tech Talk

Tooltypes/Commandline	Tooltypes and Commandline options
Gadget reference	Detailed Information
Supported filetypes	Filetypes supported by FiDED
Known bugs	Erm ...
History	And the Earth was dark and void*...

Addendum

System requirements	The stuff you need to get it going
Copyrights/Disclaimer	Odds and ends
Credits and hellos	Some messages to the world outside
Contact	Laserdance Productions
The Future	Coming soon

1.2 MUI

I'm currently thinking about converting FiDED into an MUI application. But this will only happen if there's enough interest from you, yes, YOU . If you use FiDED regularly let me know by EMail or Snailmail.

See also : Contacting the author

1.3 Known bugs

There are no real bugs known to the author. You shouldn't come across severe problems, like sudden meditations, even if you try to. The program has been designed to be as reliable as possible.

If you notice any bugs, or have problems with the program please send a detailed bug report to the author.

See also : Contacting the author

1.4 Tooltypes and Commandline options

FiDED recognises 4 different tooltypes/commandline options. They are:

PUBSCREEN Name of a public-screen to use for the program's windows

CURRENTDIR Current directory of the program (this is actually a workaround. Does anybody know how to specify a 'homedirectory' for the regtools-directory-requester upon startup?)

SEPPATTERN You may specify a string with this option that will be used within the dirfile for separation.

USDATE If this option appears in the Tooltypes or on the commandline, American date output is enabled.

1.5 Easy start ...

Here's a quick-starters guide on using FiDED :

- Start program (You guessed that ?!)
 - If you want to examine a entire directory, then click the Filter gadget once. Filtering will be disabled. If you want to include only certain files specify a pattern in the Pattern gadget.
 - Use the 'Scan directory' gadget to read a directory.
 - Want to add more files ? Click the 'Scan ..' gadget once more
 - If you are done, choose if you want blank lines appearing between two files in the output file. If not click the 'Separation'-gadget
 - Choose your separation mode if you fancy some artistic stuff
 - Now click 'Create dirfile' and choose an output file
 - Wait until finished. Voila ... we're done
-

1.6 About FiDED

FiDED is a tool to create a so-called Dirfile from the File_ID.diz information contained within files uploaded to the Aminet, AmiExpress-BBS-Systems and other sources. There have been many tools like this before, but FiDED was written with two purposes in mind : a) provide a powerful and easy to use GUI and b) to serve as a module in for the program DePack! which deals with AmiExpress dirfiles (look for Demoverision of DePack! in AmiNet and related sources).

Here are the features which render FiDED unique among the other File_Id.diz extractors available :

- Easy to use GUI
- No need for programs like 'DMSExtract', 'ExeExtract', it's all comes in one program
- Outputfile structure compatible with filenames longer than 12 bytes
- Automagical sorting by name or date
- Filepatterns supported (so no #?.info will appear)
- Multiple directories can be read in one pass
- Separation between files may be customized
- It's sexy!

1.7 Installing FiDED

Simply copy the program, its icon and docs to a drawer you'd like. You need regtools.library V38+ to run the software!

See DePack!.guide to know more about using FiDED from within DePack!, the Deluxe-Depacking tools from Laserdance Productions.

1.8 Filetypes supported by FiDED

FiDED recognises the following filetypes and is able to extract file_id information from those types :

- DMS files (DiskMasher)
- LHA/LZH files
- LZX files
- ZIP files (a little clumsy at the moment, consider this as preliminary)
- Executeable files
- Plain Textfiles (i.e. more than 2/3 of bytes printable)

This should do for most of the Amiga-software released, more types will be added in the future. If you would like FiDED to handle a filetype thats not listed above send me an example file and I'll try to support it in future versions.

1.9 Requirements

FiDED needs some additional files to pop up, some of them are essential to start the program, some of them are optional :

Required things :

- 68020+ processor
 - Nobody uses these 68000-chips anymore, don't they?
- Operating System 2.04 or higher (starting with V37.175)
 - for the GadTools.library GUI and several other new features not available under V1.2 or V1.3
- diskfont.library (V37 or higher)
 - for the output routines.
You can find this library in the libs directory of the Workbench disk that came with your computer.
- icon.library (V37 or higher)
 - for Tooltype reading
- reqtools.library (V38 or higher)
 - for the various requesters.
You can find this library in many PD-packages. It's not included here for legal issues.

Recommended things :

- lha File extractor
 - Must be present in the command path, if you want to extract descriptions from .lzh/lha-files
- lzx File extractor
 - Must be present in the command path, if you want to extract descriptions from .lzx-files
- unzip File extractor
 - Must be present in the command path, if you want to extract descriptions from .zip-files
I use 'UnZip v5.1d3 BETA of 18 Feb 93'

1.10 FiDED Version history

V39.118 (15.03.1995) First public release to AmiNet

V39.142 (30.03.1995) · Txt files weren't properly scanned sometimes. Fixed
· Added support for LZX archives
· Description lenght now limited to 44 col's

- It was possible to extract FileIds while the About text was shown

V39.171 (24.07.1995) • Added sorting by date (finally :)

- Added support for ZIP archives
- Fixed some oddities in this docfile ;)

V39.249 (15.07.1997) • Textfiles were not close()d. Fixed.

- Support for Tooltypes and new Commandline arguments
- Workdirectory may be set upon startup
- New built-in line separators and support for custom separators
- Abort gadgets added
- Number of files without description will be displayed after finished extraction
- FiDED is now compiled for use with 68020+ processors. It might also work with 68000 processors, who knows?
- Improved the old dull logo a bit

V39.274 (31.07.1997) • Better Abort gadget handling

- DMS-files without description were printed without "No description available\n" string. Fixed
- Enforcer hit during startup from Shell w/o arguments removed (Illegal read)
- Enforcer hits during 'Scan' removed (Illegal read)
- New Tooltype/Shell-option USDATE turns on between American date output in dirfiles. (Thanx Andreas!)

1.11 The FiDED - gadgets

```
Scan directory  Read files into list
Create dirfile  Creates dirfile
Sort by        Select sort mode
Separation      Enable/Disable Separation
Filter          Enable/Disable Filter
Pattern         Filepattern
```

1.12 Choose sort mode

Determine the sort mode used by FiDED with this gadget. Determines in which order the files will be appearing in the output dirfile. Note bene: This knob only takes effect before your read any files into the list. The files in the output-dirfile will appear in the same order as in the listview gadget.

1.13 Copyrights & Everything

On pressing this button you are asked to specify a directory. The directory will be scanned and all files matching the Pattern specified in Pattern, if enabled, will appear in the List on the right side of the window. You may extract File_ID-information now, or scan another directory by pressing the button again.

There is no need to clear the filelist as you'll be asked for that before a new directory might be scanned.

1.14 Create Dirfile

A file requester will pop up, if you click this button and you may enter a filename in this requester, that will be used for the dirfile output. If you specify an existing file, you are asked whether you want to overwrite or append to the existing file. If the file could be successfully opened, the dirfile will be created. This may take quite a while. You are able to monitor progress in the 'Messages'-gadget.

1.15 Separation on/off

Choose separation mode for the output dirfile, i.e. the way space between files is filled. The options 'Custom' and 'Custom and Blanks' will appear only if a pattern was specified by a tooltype or commandline option.

1.16 Copyrights & Everything

If this gadget is in position 'Filter Files' then only files that match the pattern specified in the 'Pattern'-gadget will be added into the list of files to be processed.

1.17 Pattern

If the filter is enabled, only files that match the pattern specified here will be added to the dirfile.

1.18 Copyrights & Everything

FiDED and the sources of this program are copyright © 1995-7 by Laserdance Productions. The program is freely distributable as long as all of its files are included in their original form without additions, deletions or modifications of any kind, and only a nominal

fee is charged for their distribution. (You have no permission to include the demo-version on compilation disks with other programs on the same medium.

The software is provided »AS IS« without any warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied. The sources are © 1995-7 Laserdance Productions and may not be distributed. Unauthorized copying, reproduction, hiring, lending, prohibited. By using the 'FiDED' software of the program, you accept the entire risk as to the quality and performance of the program.

There should be no bugs left, as the software supplied herein has been extensively tested, but if it destroys your grandma's toaster or kills your cat (etc.) either due to programming bugs or improper usage, it's not my problem.

You are encouraged to copy the program freely as long as you include all the files that came with the distribution archive. To contact the author for comments, complaints etc. write to

Laserdance Productions .

Thank you in advance for your support.

- Reqtools.library Copyright © Nico Françios

- Graphical user interface designed with GadToolsBox Copyright © 1993 by Jaba Development.

The following files belong to the distribution archive of the 'FiDED'-package :

FiDED.info
FiDED/FiDED
FiDED/FiDED.guide
FiDED/FiDED.guide.info
FiDED/FiDED.info
FiDED/AlternateIcon.info

1.19 Greetings

The author would like the following persons for their help during the creation of FiDED

Carsten Bruehl
Markus Klinge
Markus Schmall
Joerg Wabbel
Andreas Weyert
Simon Stelling

Thank you Jason (lucifuge@extra.co.nz) and dixi@ddnet.se for your ideas.

Special regards to Jan-Tøre Eliassen for the program icon.

1.20 Oh Mr. Postman, bring me a letter ...

If you want to contact the author for any other reason please send some mail to the following address.

laserdance productions
c/o kai haseloh
gaensebrink 6
32479 hille
germany

email may be forwarded to

haseloh@stud.uni-hannover.de

Updates may be found at my finehome page located at:

<http://www.stud.uni-hannover.de/~laser>

! Thanx for your support !

1.21 ...

'Things are only impossible until they are not..."
Jean-Luc Picard
"When the Bough Breaks"

Watch out for newer versions of this software and other releases from Laserdance Productions including :

DePack! V38.204 :

Huge file maintenance system for AmiExpress sysops.
Includes full FiDED support.

ClearRAM V1.2 :

Clears RAM: disk while leaving T,Clips,Env,Disk.info intact

See AmiNet's RECENT file for new releases or take a look at my homepage at:

<http://www.stud.uni-hannover.de/~laser>
