

Oakley Publishing - 1996 STD CODE DECODER

Full program £20.00. See page 4 below for details.

INTRODUCTION

I can remember an occasion in 1986 when, in another attempt to locate a classified advertiser before ringing him, I tried to find an STD code in the BT alphabetic list (at that time published as a separate booklet). When, after about 30 minutes, I got a third of the way through, I decided I might have missed and already gone past his code, and I gave up. I rang him anyway, only to find he lived hundreds of miles away (in Warrington, I think) - an expensive wasted long-distance call.

This prompted me to compile a list of STD codes in numerical order from which the locations can quickly be found, and we have been publishing an "STD Code Decoder" in booklet format ever since. Customer demand led to introduction in 1992 of a computerised version for IBM compatible PCs which has the advantage of being able to search by STD code for placename, AND vice versa. The evaluation version of the Windows program included on this disk is the latest 1996 program, fully updated with all recent changes to STD codes arising out of BT's ongoing rationalisation of codes and telephone numbers. In addition, this latest version loads and runs more quickly and, for the first time, allow more precise location of the subscriber by optional entry of the full telephone number.

With the growing popularity of palmtop, notebook and laptop computers, and of mobile telephones (and the fact that the BT alphabetic list is nowadays only available within full telephone directories) the program is increasingly being used as a handy source of STD codes for making outgoing calls, as well as the original purpose of locating subscribers from their STD code. From the feedback we receive, it seems customers have found many other ingenious uses for this information!

The program is very simple to install and use as described below and, whilst it doesn't do anything very fancy, it is invaluable on those occasions when you need it, and I hope you will find it useful. Please write with any comments or suggestions.

This demonstration version is the full program and has complete datafiles, but you are limited to 10 accesses, after which you must obtain a full version of the program from us as detailed on Page 4 below.

Keith Denham,
Oakley Publishing

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INSTRUCTIONS

Because the program is so easy to use, these may be amongst the shortest instructions you'll ever read!

Once the program has loaded you are prompted for a "Search Argument" ie the STD code or Placename you want to search for:

Search by STD Code:

Type in an STD code without spaces. Optionally, you may also enter a telephone number which will give a much more precise location for the subscriber. Press ENTER, or click on the SEARCH button.

The program will display all entries matching the chosen STD code (and telephone number if entered), or indicate that no matches can be found.

Search by Placename:

Type in the Placename (or the first few characters).

Press ENTER, or click on the SEARCH button.

The program will display entries matching the search details entered, or indicate that no matches can be found. If you have keyed only very few characters of the name, the number of matching entries may exceed the display limits of 20, and you will be prompted to enter more of the placename to narrow the search.

To EXIT from the program:

Press ESC, or click on the Exit button.

That's all folks!

ERROR & INFORMATION MESSAGES

ONLY ALPHA OR NUMERIC SEARCH CRITERIA ARE VALID

Only alphabetic and numeric characters are accepted eg * / ') etc are all invalid

MIXED ALPHA & NUMERIC ENTRY INVALID

The search criteria must be all Alphabetic characters for a placename, or all numeric characters for an STD code.

VALID STD CODES ARE BETWEEN 4 AND 6 CHARACTERS LONG

IF USING TELEPHONE NUMBER, AT LEAST 3 FIGURES MUST BE ENTERED

OVER 20 MATCHES FOUND - TYPE MORE OF NAME TO NARROW SEARCH

The program can display up to 20 matching entries. If an alphabetic search results in a greater number of matches, this message is displayed to prompt you to enter more of the Placename in order to "narrow" the search and produce a smaller number of matching entries.

MORE THAN 20 MATCHES FOUND - MAJOR EXCHANGE DISPLAYED

An STD code search has identified more matching records than the program can display. Only the major exchange for the area is, therefore, displayed, but if you have the telephone number as well, entering this will usually result in a more precise location for the subscriber.

NO MATCHING RECORDS FOUND - PLEASE ENTER AGAIN

Surprisingly, this means that the program has been unable to find any entries on the database which match the search criteria!

NO SEARCH CRITERIA ENTERED

No search criteria have been entered for the program to try and match.

SEARCH CRITERIA UNCHANGED - AMEND & TRY AGAIN

An enhancement introduced last year is that the program doesn't repeat a search if you haven't changed the search criteria. This is not particularly important on a fast desktop 486, but can be significant both for speed and battery life on a slower laptop, etc.

HOW TO ORDER

This demonstration version of STD Code Decoder is a full version of the program, but is limited to ten accesses, to give you an opportunity to view the program and decide whether you would like to purchase a full copy, priced at £20.00.

If you wish to do so, you can place your order a number of ways, and this will usually be despatched by return post. In addition, we undertake to update the STD Code Decoder annually as the STD code data changes, and will write to offer you updated copies as these become available, and at a discount from the normal price.

Whichever method of ordering you choose, please make sure you provide **all** of the following details:

- Your Full Name and Address
- Make it clear that you have an evaluation version of "STD Code Decoder V3 for Windows", and wish to obtain a full copy of the program.
- If paying by Credit or Charge Card we accept Visa, Delta, Mastercard, Switch, and JCB. We need your credit card type, number and expiry date, and a daytime telephone number where we may contact you if necessary. For Switch cards, we also need the "issue number".
- If paying by Cheque or Postal Order, make these payable to "Oakley Publishing". Please do NOT send cash.

BY TELEPHONE - on 01508 538546 24 hours

If paying by credit card, we can take your instructions by telephone. If you call during office hours (Monday to Friday 9.00 - 5.00), we will normally answer your call personally, otherwise please leave a message containing the above details on our answer machine.

BY FAX - on 01508 538546 24 hours

If paying by credit card, you can FAX your instructions to us.

BY POST - to Oakley Publishing, PO Box 115, NORWICH, NR14 7HT

Please enclose a cheque or postal order(s) payable to "Oakley Publishing" to the value of £20.00, or state your credit/charge card details clearly in your letter.