

ar138

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Chapter 1

ar138

1.1 Amiga Report Online Magazine #1.38 -- December 17, 1993

Open Magazine

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International Online Magazine

"Your Weekly Source for Amiga Information."

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December 17, 1993                                                    No. 1.38
////////////////////////////////////
/
/                               Winners Don't Use Drugs                               /
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1.2 Where to find Amiga Report

/// WHERE TO FIND AMIGA REPORT

Distribution Sites!

Click on the button of the BBS nearest you for information on that system.

////////////////////////////////////
/ FidoNet Systems /
////////////////////////////////////

FREQ the filename "AR.LHA" for the most current issue of Amiga Report!

OMAHA AMIGANET	.....Omaha, Nebraska
NOVA	.....Cleveland, Tennessee
CLOUD'S CORNER	.....Bremerton, Washington
BIOSMATICA	.....Portugal
AMIGA JUNCTION 9	.....United Kingdom
BITSTREAM BBS	.....Nelson, New Zealand
REALM OF TWILIGHT	.....Ontario, Canada
METNET TRIANGLE	.....Kingston Upon Hull, England
AMIGA-NIGHT-SYSTEM	.....Helsinki, Finland
RAMSES THE AMIGA FLYING	.....France
GATEWAY BBS	.....Biloxi, Mississippi
TALK CITY	.....Waukegan, Illinois
AMIGA BBS	.....Estado de Mexico, Mexico

////////////////////////////////////
/ Non-FidoNet Systems /
////////////////////////////////////

IN THE MEANTIME	.....Yakima, Washington
FREELAND MAINFRAME	.....Olympia, Washington
LAHO	.....Seinajoki, Finland
FALLING	.....Norway
COMMAND LINE	.....Toronto, Canada
RENDEZVOUS	.....New Zealand
LEGUANS BYTE CHANNEL	.....Germany
STINGRAY DATABASE	.....Muelheim/Ruhr, Germany
T.B.P. VIDEO SLATE	.....Rockaway, New Jersey
AMIGA CENTRAL	.....Nashville, Tennessee
CONTINENTAL DRIFT	.....Sydney, Australia
GURU MEDITATION	.....Spain

1.3 From the Editor's Desk

/// From the Editor's Desk

"Saying it like it is!"

If all goes well, we'll have an in-depth look at the new CD32 in next week's issue. Someone in our user group is a registered CD32 developer, and has received his unit. It will be shown at next week's meeting, and I hope to get some time with it.

Also, my good friend down in Florida is the proud owner of an Atari Jaguar. The game that comes with it (I think it's called Cyberdrome?) is really neat he says. I heard a lot of the sounds over the phone, and the digital effects and speech sound really cool.

Word has it that Pagestream 3.0 has been delayed again. The latest reports indicate a release sometime in the first quarter of 1994. I wish the folks at Soft-Logik well, as this is an important piece of software for the Amiga. We have so little truly professional software (aside from video and animation), that something like this is very welcome.

The worst news is that AR will no longer be reprinting stories from NewsBytes. We had received permission from a NewsBytes representative on GENie back in April or May to reprint NB stuff at no charge. Now that appears to have disappeared, and they require a \$50 per month publishing 'license' to use their work. Since we are a non-profit magazine, we cannot afford this. I'm still paying \$30-40 a month out of my own pocket to run this, so it's just not going to happen. I've tried to make it apparent to the NB editor that we are non-profit, but they insist that that would take away from their 'paying' customers. For the record, subscribers to GENie pay nothing extra to use NewsBytes. Portal users pay \$4 per month. I don't know what their charges are on Bix or CI\$, but I doubt it's anymore than GENie or Portal. I hardly see how this could add up to \$50 a month, given that we just don't run that much of their stuff. Oh well, no great loss I guess.

Rob @ AR

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1.4 Delphi

/// Delphi: It's Getting Better All The Time!

Amiga Report International Online Magazine is available every week in the Amiga SIG on DELPHI. Amiga Report readers are invited to join DELPHI and become a part of the friendly community of Amiga enthusiasts there.

SIGNING UP WITH DELPHI

=====

Using a personal computer and modem, members worldwide access
DELPHI services via a local phone call

JOIN -- DELPHI

Via modem, dial up DELPHI at 1-800-695-4002
then...

When connected, press RETURN once or twice
and....

At Username: type JOINDELPHI and press RETURN,
At Password: type AMIGAREPORT and press RETURN.

DELPHI's best plan is the 20/20 plan. It gives you 20 hours each month for the low price of only \$19.95! Additional hours are only \$1.50 each!

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SPECIAL FEATURES

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(Internet option is \$3/month extra)
- SIGs for all types of computers -- Amiga, IBM, Macintosh, Atari, etc.
- Large file databases!
- SIGs for hobbies, video games, graphics, and more!
- Business and world news, stock reports, etc.
- Grolier's Electronic Encyclopedia!

DELPHI - It's getting better all the time!

1.5 AR Staff

/// The Amiga Report Staff

Dedicated to serving you!

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=====

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1.6 CPU Status Report

/// CPU Status Report

Late Breaking Industry-Wide News

**** Atari's Loses \$17.6 Million in Third Quarter ****

Atari Corp. reported Thursday a third- quarter loss of \$17.6 million, compared to earnings of \$1.9 million, or 3 cents a share, in the year-ago quarter.

Revenues for the video-game company, which recently released its leading-edge Jaguar game system, were off sharply to \$4.4 million, compared with \$34.5 million in the 1992 quarter.

Atari said the loss was substantially larger than expected, primarily due to write-offs of \$7.5 million of inventory of personal computers and older video game products. It also incurred restructuring costs of \$6.4 million from the wind-down of Australian operations and the decline in value of company-owned real estate in Europe.

Sam Tramiel, president, said the company is in the process of completing its transition from older technology consisting principally of 16-bit personal computers and 8-bit video game systems to the 64-bit Jaguar, which began shipping last month.

"While we are highly encouraged by the early sales of Jaguar, we do not expect to achieve profitability until at least such time as shipments of Jaguar are made in substantial volume," Tramiel said.

The executive also said the company was working to resolve start-up production and supply problems which led to delays in production and shipment of Jaguar. He estimated the company will ship approximately 20,000 Jaguar systems during the fourth quarter and 500,000 during 1994.

Atari originally planned to ship 50,000 Jaguars to stores in the New York and San Francisco areas before Christmas, then stage a national rollout in January.

**** Microsoft Called Nation's Most Innovative Firm ****

A Fortune magazine survey of nearly 1,000 senior executives in the 60 metro areas has named Microsoft Corp. as the most innovative company operating in the United States. Microsoft received 39% of the votes to lead the list of the 10 honored companies.

**** Toshiba to Boost DRAM Output ****

Spurred by a relatively strong demand for use in high-end personal computers, Toshiba Corp.'s expects to increase it's monthly output of 16MB DRAM chips will be boosted to 2 million by the end of 1994. Currently the monthly production is just above 500,000.

It is expected that the firm's output of 4MB DRAMs, currently around 8 million per month, will stay at that level.

**** Hitachi-TI Chip to be Shipped ****

A 64-megabit DRAM chip developed jointly by Hitachi Ltd. and Texas Instruments Inc. will start sample shipments this month. Plans are to launch mass production of the new chip either in 1995 or 1996 depending on domestic demand.

**** TI Develops New Microcomputer Chip ****

Texas Instruments Inc. (TI) announced this week its scientists have developed a new microcomputer chip that is capable of operating at room temperature.

Reports say that the quantum-effect chip, which once would only work under extremely cold temperatures of minus 320 degrees Fahrenheit, is said to operate over three times faster and hold three times more functions than conventional chips.

The new chip will only need a third of the transistors to provide the same computing power as the current state-of-the-art semiconductor.

**** Hitachi & Matsushita Develop Advanced Memory Devices ****

Hitachi claims that it has developed a significant single electronic memory unit which can store 1,000 times more data than that of current semiconductor memory chips. Matsushita Electronics has also developed a highly integrated optical circuit device, which reportedly has considerable potential in multimedia devices.

Some electronics firms, including Hitachi, have already developed a single electronic memory. However, these existing single electronic memory devices should be used under temperatures at minus 273 degrees. Unless the memory units are cooled down, the data is lost due to excessive heat.

Hitachi has overcome this problem by putting the electronic device into a silicon container. As a result, this single electronic memory unit can function in room-temperature. It is reported that the data will

not be lost even when the switch is turned off.

Meanwhile, Matsushita Electric has developed an optical electronic integrated circuit (OEIC), which has 64 units of semiconductor lasers and a driver transistor. It is a two-tier structured IC, and the transistor is placed on the semiconductor laser.

With this structure, each laser unit is controlled directly. As a result, the processing speed is increased almost 10-fold. The size of the IC unit is just one third of a current IC.

**** CD-Rom Interactive Training to Ship in January ****

Wilson Learning Corporation has announced it will begin shipping the first of several CD-ROM-based interactive training programs for Macintosh and PCs in late January.

The company says the interpersonal, sales, and management skills development training programs are being developed in conjunction with Sony Electronic Publishing Company. A total of 10 titles will be produced in the joint project with Sony, while Wilson will also develop further titles independently.

The first programs, scheduled to ship January 24th, are "Connect for Success: Connect With Others and Influence Them;" Sell to Needs: Sell the Way People Like to Buy;" Relate with Ease: Build and Keep Interpersonal Relationships;" and "Decide For Sure: Add Certainty to Your Decision Making."

The first four titles to be released will be available through retail outlets such as Computer City and Software, Etc at the suggested retail price of \$69.95.

**** Prodigy, NYNEX Announce Electronic Yellow Pages ****

NYNEX said it will offer its 1.7 million business listings on the Prodigy service next year and sell ads alongside those listings. The companies said it is the first true electronic yellow pages offering, including advertising, on an on-line service.

**** Software Sales up 30%, Revenues Only up 16% ****

North American shipments of application software are up 30% over last year, but, says the Software Publishers Association, "aggressive pricing held revenue growth to a more moderate 16%."

The SPA also says that leading the growth in the third quarter were drawing/paint and desktop publishing programs.

Breaking down the figures, the SPA says:

-:- Windows applications still pace the industry, hitting \$808 million in the third quarter, a 70% increase from the same period last year. For

the year to date, Windows application sales totaled \$2.26 billion, a 74% increase.

-:- DOS applications sales continued to decline, recording \$471 million for the quarter, and \$1.46 billion for the first three quarters. DOS sales were 26% lower for the third quarter and 22% lower for the first three quarters compared with '92 sales.

-:- Apple Macintosh software sales were \$276 million for the third quarter and \$713 million for the first three quarters, up 11% for the quarter and 7.4% for the three quarters.

-:- Word processors and spreadsheets remained the largest categories, with revenues of \$219 million and \$182 million in the quarter, respectively.

-:- Sales growth in the database category slowed from the previous two quarters, as the product introduction blitzes of the first two quarters ended. Database sales in the quarter were up 25%, to \$108 million.

-:- Drawing/painting and desktop publishing software were the fastest-growing categories in the third quarter. Drawing and painting sales were up 110% to \$124 million, while sales of desktop publishing products were up 106% to \$67 million for the quarter.

** Apple Given Reprieve by Texas Commissioners **

The county commissioners in Georgetown, Texas, this week reversed themselves and voted 3-2 to approve a modified financial incentive package for Apple Computer. Last week, the board voted 3-2 against the package because of Apple's policy of giving health benefits the partners of gay employees.

The financial package grants Apple some reimbursements on taxes in exchange for free right-of-way on future county improvements. The tax savings will help pay for a planned \$80 million customer service center that eventually is to employ 1,700 people.

** N.J. Busts Alleged Credit Scam **

Fifteen salespeople at a New Jersey car dealership have been accused of using the credit records of more than 450 people to steal hundreds of millions of dollars. The 15 salespeople were arrested arraigned this week on federal fraud and theft charges.

Secret Service agent Peter A. Cavicchia is quoted as saying the salespeople are alleged to have tapped into credit reports through their computers, used the information to change the victims' addresses, and then ordered credit cards and ran up charges. They also allegedly used the credit information to obtain bank loans and cash advances.

The dealership, Autoland in Springfield, N.J., alerted authorities when they discovered unauthorized use of computer terminals.

**** BSA Catches Firm Using Pirated Software ****

An audit by the Business Software Alliance found that Comptronix Corp. Inc. was using unlicensed versions of software produced by Aldus Corp., Autodesk Inc., Microsoft Corp., and WordPerfect Corp. The company has agreed to pay \$232,500 in penalties.

**** Novell Introduces Multimedia ****

NetWare Video 1.0, software to deliver multimedia audio and video signals over PC networks, has been introduced by Novell Inc.

Company officials are quoted as saying the software will enable its NetWare customers to view and interact with multimedia information in Microsoft Windows and will give multiple users access to audio and video data simultaneously from a central server linked to networked computers.

The product, which costs \$1,100 for a five-user format and \$2,975 for a 25-user format, is the first to result from Novell's July acquisition of Fluent Inc.

Novell says it expects to have technology next year that will allow live video information to be sent over the network, with video conferencing to follow.

**** Lotus Seeks Customer Feedback ****

Lotus Development Corp. announced today that it has established a toll-free telephone line and a forum on CompuServe to receive suggestions from customers regarding ways to enhance its products.

The software publisher states that its toll-free line and the CompuServe forum will complement other means the company has for gathering customer ideas for review by product teams.

Customers in the U.S. and Canada can call a toll-free number (1-800-5MY-IDEA) to leave a phone mail message. The suggestions will be entered daily into a Notes database and will be automatically routed to members of the appropriate Lotus product team for review and consideration.

**** Claris Claims 'Filemaker Pro' Easier to use than 'Access' ****

Claris is pleased to report its Filemaker Pro for Windows 2.1 outscored Microsoft's Access 1.1 for Windows in usability tests conducted by Usability Sciences Corporation of Irving, Texas. While Claris commissioned the tests, it says this is the second test in which its product outdid Access, the other being a set of tests for ease-of-use conducted by Software Digest/NSTL.

The main claim Claris is making for Filemaker Pro for Windows is ease of use. In the Usability Sciences study novice database users were able to complete an identical set of tasks 20% faster with the Claris product than with Microsoft Access. The tasks were: creating a database, enter-

ing records into the database, querying the database, creating a form, adding two new records into the form, adding a scroll bar to the record field, and stamping a system date onto the form.

While it took both groups of participants well over an hour to complete the tasks, participants using Access took nearly 17 minutes longer. Study participants were intermediate PC users with little or no database application experience.

Claris the software subsidiary of Apple Computer, has cut the price of Filemaker Pro 2.1 for Windows to \$129, and is offering upgrades for \$20, and competitive upgrades from other database software products for \$99. A Macintosh version of the product is available for \$399.

Microsoft Access 1.1 is retail priced at \$495, however Microsoft has frequently offered the product for \$99 since its introduction over a year ago.

**** Book Aids DOS Users With Wit, Cartoons ****

The latest book intended to make using MS-DOS easier to use and understand is a book titled DOS for Dummies written by Dan Gookin, part of the MS-DOS 6.2 Upgrade for Dummies package that also includes the MS-DOS 6.2 software.

Gookin's book DOS for Dummies is supposed to be easy to read and a gold mine for the millions of PC users who are secretly - and in many cases openly - intimidated by PC software. "The book covers 100 percent of the tasks users will be performing with their computers" according to Gookin. He describes the style of the book as engaging, informative and humorous.

In addition to instructions on how to turn on the computer -- some people actually have a problem finding the power switch -- Gookin includes topics such as "Ten Common Beginner Mistakes," "Ten Things You Should Never Do," and "After You Panic, Do This."

So if your favorite computer user is willing to admit he or she is a dummy, this book might be just the thing for the Christmas stocking. MS-DOS 6.2 Upgrade for Dummies has a suggested retail price of \$77.95.

**** Newton News ****

Apple Computer says it is launching the Newton Industry Association at the first International Newton Development Conference being held this week in Apple's home town of Cupertino, California.

Apple says the Newton Industry Association is aimed at promoting growth and inter-operability of the Newton platform and associated devices. Standards is another focus for the association in the areas of wireless communications, telephone support, and office automation.

One of the areas receiving attention right now is infrared communications between personal digital assistants (PDAs). Infrared standards do not currently exist, meaning that even though the Newton Messagepad

and the Zoomer PDAs from Tandy and Casio both have infrared sensors, the devices use conflicting standards. The upshot is Apple's PDA won't talk to a Zoomer and vice versa.

Apple representatives were unavailable to comment as to what the company or the Newton Industry Association are planning to do concerning standards.

Apple listed beginning participants in the Newton Industry Association as licensees, original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), component suppliers, and marketing partners. Companies represented included: Alcatel, ARM, Bellsouth Mobilecomm, British Telecom/Cellnet, Cirrus Logic, Deutsche Telecom, GEC Plessey, LSI Logic, Matsushita, Motorola, Paragraph, Scriptel, Sharp, Siemens/ROLM, Telia, Toshiba, Traveling Software, and US West.

While the Newton has been well-received by enthusiastic users who have snatched up 50,000 units since the product was launched in August, reports from mainstream media have expressed disappointment and sharp criticism for the PDA. It appears, however, that things may be turning for Apple as four industry publications have awarded the unit top honors. PC Laptop Computers Magazine called the Newton the "Most Promising Portable," PC Magazine awarded the Newton MessagePad first place in its "Design Category," Byte gave it the 1993 Byte Award of Excellence, and Reseller magazine called it the "Best-To-Sell Products of the Year."

In new announcements concerning the Messagepad, Apple said Newtonmail is expected to be available in a final commercial release throughout the United States in January 1994. Newtonmail allows Newton users to exchange text messages easily with each other and anyone who can be reached through online services available on the Internet and is currently available in a limited commercial release in the United States. Newtonmail requires the Newton Fax Modem Card, a credit-card sized Personal Computer Memory Card International Association (PCMCIA) modem, for communication via online services as well as the ability to send faxes.

** Interactive CD-ROM Vietnam From CBS, Apple, NY Times **

Joining forces with the formidable reporting resources and archives of the New York Times and the CBS television network, Apple Computer will publish and market "The Vietnam War" late in 1994. Chief reporters on the interactive CD-ROM will be veteran reporter Dan Rather, anchor and managing editor of the CBS Evening News, and R.W. Apple Jr., Washington bureau chief for the New York Times.

Other Vietnam War-oriented CD-ROM publications have been available for years from Quanta Press and Wayzata Technologies but these have been more in the nature of archives of data related to the War. While they are highly useful to historians and as reference materials, they lack the immediacy of war reportage which the publisher apparently expects this new disc to bring to the educational environment.

The multimedia disc will include more than 700 news articles from The Times and film and video from CBS News' archives. Maps, and even audio recordings will also be included on the CD-ROM, along with the names of

US military personnel either killed or missing in action.

**** Fast Real-Time Video Codec Board For Mac AVs ****

New Video, makers of the Eyeq series of video compression boards for the Macintosh, have announced, what the company claims is, the first compression and processing board for the Macintosh Audio/Visual (AV) line of computers.

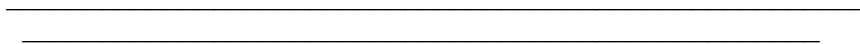
The company claims its new Eyeq AV board will allow real-time, 30 frames-per-second (fps) full-screen video recording and full-screen playback at the same real-time frame rate.

New Video representatives said the Eyeq board has the advantage of incorporating the Intel i750 chip for video compression and playback. It is also claimed to be thousands of dollars less, at the retail price of \$1,895, than other video compression hardware add-on products.

The board is specifically designed for use in the Quadra 840AV or 660AV and will interface directly with the AV's Digital Audio Video (DAV) connector. It will allow for up to 16-bit graphics over video, 16-bit stereo audio with a sampling rate of up to 48 kilohertz (KHz), supports displays up to 16-inches in size at 832 by 634 picture element (pixel) resolution, and supports the most common video standards including NTSC (National Television Standards Committee), PAL, and SECAM using the Macintosh AV's built-in Composite and S-Video out.

The board is also fully compatible with Apple's multimedia software extension Quicktime and most popular multimedia authoring tools, offers resizable windows, software playback, and supports algorithms that require an average of only nine megabytes (MB)-per-minute of hard disk storage, company officials said. The board can also produce files with data transfer rates that are low enough to play back from a compact disc read-only memory (CD-ROM) drive over a local area network (LAN) in real time with full-motion and full-screen size.

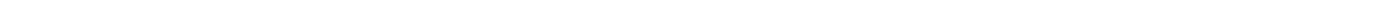
The Eyeq AV requires a Macintosh Quadra 660AV or 840AV, any Apple display up to 16-inches or any 832 by 634 pixel multisync display, a hard disk drive with a recommended storage capacity of 200MB, 8MB of random access memory (RAM) is also recommended, and the System 7.1 operating system.



1.7 AMUC announces new CDROM

THE AMIGA USERS OF CALGARY (AMUC) ANNOUNCES A NEW AMIGA
CDROM PRICED AT ONLY \$20 CDN (APPROX \$15US)

(Calgary, Alberta, Canada --- December 6, 1992) The AMiga Users of Calgary Society (AMUC) has just cut a CDROM consisting of the best of what was on it's BBS. This CD-ROM is over 610 megabytes in size.



Production is complete and it is ready to ship.

So what's on the disk? Since this contains some of the best on the AMUC Express (AMIGA ONLY) BBS you can expect to find a huge number of IFF and JPEG pictures, animations sounds, mods, 3D objects, clipart, fonts (bitmap and structured), text files, programs and demos from all over the world. The files are primarily stored as LZH, LHA or DMS files.

There is also a separate directory tree which contains minaturized images of nearly all the pictures on the Walnut Creek GIFS_Galore CDRom, useful as a quick means of searching for a particular picture.

There are FILES.BBS and 00_INDEX.TXT files in all the directories, as well as long descriptions of most files stored in a separate description file tree.

The directory names are a maximum of 8 characters with 3 character extensions, so it is usable on PC based systems. The disk is an ISO9660 format disk.

Pricing:

The disk costs CDN\$20.00 (Canadian dollars, which is about US\$15.00 at current exchange rates) plus CDN\$3.00 for shipping and handling. We accept VISA and MasterCard so the currency exchange is automatic.

COD shipping:

The disk can be shipped COD to Canadian addresses for an extra CDN\$3.00, in the USA this appears to be US\$5.00. Terms: cash or certified check only.

Ordering:

You can call us toll free throughout North America with:

1-800-561-4877

or outside North America call

(403) 242-2507 (Calgary, Alberta, Canada)

or you can send a postal money order payable to AMUC:

AMUC
P.O. BOX 34230
#19, 1200 -- 37 St. S.W.
Calgary, Alta
T3C 3W2

Shipping:

Orders will be shipped on a first come, first served basis.

The CD-ROMs have been pressed and are ready to go.

1.8 Repro Studio Universal

» Repro Studio Universal «

PRODUCT

Repro Studio Universal

U.S.A. DISTRIBUTION :

Spectronics International U.S.A.

Attn: Eddy Coopmans

34 East Main Street #23

Champaign. IL 61820

USA

Phone : +1 (217) 352 0061

Fax : +1 (217) 352 0063

BBS : +1 (217) 352 7627

DESCRIPTION

Repro Studio Universal combines four programs in one : image manipulation, structured drawing, bitmap tracing and a text and layout module to combine all the previous functions. Repro Studio Universal supports AGA and imports and exports any file format up to 24-bit in IFF, TIF and PCX. Additionally, exporting files as EPS is also possible. Another features allows the user to save files as separate R,G,B, separate C,M,Y, or separate C,M,Y,K. The program support all preference printers and Postscript printing in color or B&W. Repro Studio Universal is also available for Windows.

-1- Features Image manipulation module :

- * Impressive range of drawing & effect tools (Marker, Finger, Water, Stamp, Airbrush, Smear,....)
- * 3 densitometers
- * LUT-diagram
- * Black&White filter
- * Gradient blends
- * Editable FILL tool
- * Combine images
- * Histograms
- * Special image manipulation F/X
- *

-2- Features Structured Drawing module :

- * Real time bezier curves
 - * Group/Ungroup
 - * Procentual fill function
 - * Add/delete vectorpoints
 - * Various rectangles
 - * Line/Polygon drawing
 - * Circle/Ellipse drawing (Bezier-based)
-

- * Split/Join vector lines

-3- Features Vector Tracing Module :

- * Change Bitmap to Vector drawing
- * Definable parameters for trace

-4- Features Text and layout module :

- * Text editor in separate window or over existing text or drawing
- * Several scanner drivers
- * Text manipulation effects (trails, spiral, arc,....)
- * Postscript fonts
- * Cropmarks / Registration marks
- * Scale window, rotate window, mirror window, invert window, .
- * Library for bitmap/vector drawings
- * 1% to 1600% zoom
- * Rulers/Guides

REQUIREMENTS

Workbench/Kickstart V2.04 or higher, 2MB RAM, accelerator

AVAILABILITY

Shipping January 15th, 1994

PRICE

US\$ 299.00 (Amiga)

US\$ 199.00 (Windows)

INFORMATION

Spectronics International USA, Inc.

34 East Main Street #23

Champaign, IL 61820

Tel. : (217) 352 0061

Fax : (217) 352 0063

E-mail : Spectron@prairienet.org

1.9 DrChip v1.02

» DrChip available for FTP «

REVISED

TITLE

DrChip C Utilities

VERSION

1.02

COMPANY

None

AUTHOR

Charles E. Campbell, Jr. PhD
email: cec@gryphon.gsfc.nasa.gov

DESCRIPTION

The DrChip C utilities include four programs: a C beautifier, a function lister, a hdrtags/ctags generator, and a C program prototype <-> K&R-style converter.

CCB

Dr. Chip's C Beautifier program. Places source code in Dr. Chip's preferred indentation style. ccb's indentation methods can be customized via options, even to the cb style (of U*IX fame). This program is useful for standardizing the indentation style of C programs, and helps make code more readable. Furthermore, since ccb does its indentation based rigidly upon the number of open curly braces, it can be used to help the programmer find where a curly brace is missing.

FLIST

flist generates lists of functions from either C or C++ files. The lists may selected to be:

- comment block style
- extern style function declarations
- prototypes
- restricted to globally accessible functions
- restricted to locally accessible functions (ie. static)
- tags style

Flist's tags mode is compatable with hdrtag (see below), and can merge hdrtags with tags. See HDRTAG for more on tags.

HDRTAG

Hdrtags will process header files so one can "tag" to structure or class names, typedef'ed labels, #define labels, global variables, and enumerated types. Entire hierarchies of header files can be tagged (ie. "include:" and all its subdirectories's header files)! Use flist for merging hdrtags and tags files. Handles both C and C++ header (and source) files. What's a tag? Smart editors (such as Vim and Manx's Z) support a "tags" file which associates words (such as function names) with a file and line to jump to. The user can then issue "goto label" commands, avoiding the "what header file did that come from?" problem!

TOPROTO

The toproto program converts C source code to and from old K&R style to the new ANSI prototype-using style. Concurrently, it converts to and from the old <varargs.h> style to <stdarg.h> style.

NEW FEATURES

Several bugs were fixed, and better C++ handling was installed into flist and hdrtag.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Compiled with Aztec C on an A3000 with the following options: CCOPTS=-qf -wp -c2 -f8. Thus, a floating point coprocessor may be required, although the code doesn't do much, if any, floating point. The DrChip tools will work with any C compiler, although hdrtags' usefulness is limited to those editors which support tags (such as ViM, available on AmiNet, and Z, Manx's vi editor look-alike).

HOST NAME

wuarchive.wustl.edu (128.252.135.4)

DIRECTORY

/pub/aminet/dev/c

FILE NAMES

DrChip1_02.lzh
DrChip1_02.readme

PRICE

Special Low Price Offer: 0 (choose your currency!)

DISTRIBUTABILITY

Freeware

1.10 QuickNet QN2000 release

» QuickNet QN2000 release «

TITLE

QuickNet(TM) - Fast Peer-to-Peer Networking System for the Amiga

COMPANY

Resource Management Force Pty Ltd
70-74 May Street
St Peters NSW 2044
AUSTRALIA

Tel: +61 2 550 4244
Fax: +61 2 550 4284

EMAIL: cbmaus!rmf!danielk@rmf.adsp.sub.org

AUTHORS

Neil Dugan
Daniel Koch
Norman Pakes

DESCRIPTION

QuickNet is a proprietry AmigaDOS-based networking system, using both hardware and software, that has been heavily optimised for speed. In brief, it has the following major features:

- * IEEE 802.3 standard compatible.
 - * Thick Ethernet, Thin Ethernet (Co-axial) and Twisted Pair compatible.
 - * Versions include Zorro II (released), Zorro III, A500 expansion bus, A1200 trapdoor, CD32 trapdoor.
 - * High speed 32 bit transfers with ZorroIII, A1200, and CD32 versions.
 - * Peer-to-peer sharing of hard/floppy disks ram drives, CD-ROM drives, tape drives, and other filing devices.
 - * Printer sharing and spooling.
 - * Fully Autobooting! Can be used with completely diskless computers. Supports individual Preferences and user-startup files.
 - * Fully WB 1.3/2.x/3.x compatible.
 - * Supports record locking.
 - * Supports ARexx message passing, for inter-computer communication, synchronised multimedia productions, comprehensive multi-computer applications and much more!!
 - * VERY FAST transfers and directories.
 - * Can remotely mount any standard AmigaDOS file device, including volumes mounted via other networks. This allows you to bridge
-

between QuickNet and Envoy volumes, or Novell/AppleTalk/etc, giving completely transparent access to volumes over a variety of platforms.

- * Comprehensive, easy to use software and manual.
- * Robust design (can break the network cable, add a workstation, reconnect, and continue, with minimal disruption to the net).
- * Automount on login of selected devices.
- * Machine independance - you can sit down at any machine, login with your user name and password, and get your own preferences, user-startup, default printer and mounted devices.
- * "Plug-n-Play" installation - plug a card into a machine, connect it to an existing QuickNet network, and instantly get full access to the network. Installer script for new nets.
- * SANA-II device driver available Jan '94 (switch selectable between SANA-II and QuickNet).

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

WorkBench 1.3 or greater (WorkBench 2.04 upwards recommended).

PRICE

Recommended Retail Price for the QN2000 (Zorro II) versions:

Thin Ethernet (Co-axial) cable	: US\$299
Twisted Pair cable	: call

This includes full hardware and software. Prices may vary slightly from country to country. This price does not include any applicable taxes. Please contact us direct for Australian prices.

Also, contact us for availability and pricing on other versions as they are released.

DISTRIBUTABILITY

QuickNet is a commercial product.
QuickNet(TM) is a trademark of Robert McFarlane Pty Ltd.

1.11 Recall v2.1

» Recall V2.1 available! «

TITLE

Recall

VERSION

2.1

AUTHOR

Ketil Hunn

E-Mail: ketil@brosme.dhmolde.no
hunn@dhmolde.no

DESCRIPTION

A program to keep track of birthdays, anniversaries and other important events. It is an easy-to-use, intuition-based utility for the absent-minded!

FEATURES

- keeps track of the remaining days to important events
- keeps track of the days since important events happened
- automatically start programs depending on the date and time
- be reminded every # day (e.g. every 14th day)
- be reminded # days before or after the event
- be reminded once a day, every time you reboot, before or after a certain date, before or after a certain hour or minute
- be reminded about events until you acknowledge them
- be reminded with requesters, alerts or practically anything that can be displayed on an Amiga-monitor
- display unlimited lines of text in the same requester/alert (only limited by the screen's resolution and memory)
- group different events in the same requester or alert
- keep a simple database of the birthdays of family and friends
- let your Amiga keep track of how old people are by insterting the date of birth in the middle of the string where you want to display the age (E.g. the text "Adam is {080570} years today" will be displayed as "Adam is 23 years today".)
- make advanced events which are displayed for example after 21:00 every 3rd day the first 7 days of every 2nd month the next 4 years
- combine all of the attributes mentioned above in the same event
- enter these events in an easy-to-use environment and without the need of programming-knowledge, just by entering the desired text and pressing a few buttons

NEW FEATURES

These are the changes since V2.0:

- All binaries and the installation-script are localized. English, german and norwegian catalogs are included.
 - Recall speeded up 30%!!!
 - All binaries have reduced in size! Rewritten to use tiny ROM-routines!
 - Postponing events! If you put off an event, it will keep nagging you until you acknowledge it!
 - Updating event's attributes is now speeded up in Preferences.
-

- Safer IFF-saving.
- Settings menu-item: Confirm executables?
- Recall requesters now state the current date in their titles. Uses the selected dateformat.
- Recall uses less memory than before!
- Rearranged the GUI a little: The date and time are separated from the text-group, the getfile-gadget now uses the button-background set in MUIprefs.
- The day-of-the-month gadgets are now of BOOL type (like Time Preferences).
- The calendar can now be controlled from the keyboard.
- Various bug fixes.

REQUIREMENTS

OS 2.04 or higher. The binaries will take advantage of Kickstart 3.0 and 68020+ processors if found.

OS 2.1 or higher for localization.

MUI V1.4 or higher.

Harddisk is recommended for unpacking the complete distribution.

HOST NAMES

nic.funet.fi (Finland)

Aminet. Several sites are available, for instance:

ftp.luth.se 130.240.18.2 (Scandinavia)

ftp.uni-kl.de 131.246.9.95 (Germany)

wuarchive.wustl.edu 128.252.135.4 (USA)

DIRECTORY

nic.funet.fi: /pub/amiga/utilities

aminet: /pub/aminet/os20/util

FILE NAME

RecallV21.lha LHA-Archive

DISTRIBUTABILITY

The Recall package is freely distributable, as long as the archive is not modified.

1.12 AmiTCP_tnserv v1.0

» AmiTCP_tnserv -- announcement «

TITLE

tnserv

VERSION

1.0

COMPANY

none

AUTHOR

Steve Holland
22 Forty Acres Drive
Wayland, MA 01778
USA

email: sdh4@cornell.edu

DESCRIPTION

Tnserv is a telnet daemon for AmiTCP version 2. It allows remote connections to your computer and allows remote shells, multi-user BBSes, remote text editing, and much more.

FEATURES

- Provides telnet daemon support for AmiTCP version 2
- Supports arbitrary number of simultaneous connections to a single login.
- Supports both pseudo-CON: and pseudo-serial.device connections, allowing virtually any existing program which works either in a Shell/CLI or over the serial port to be accessible over the network.
- Compatible with MultiUser
- Converts network end of line sequencess to Amiga type end of line sequences.
- Supports telnet LINEMODE option which allows line editing to be done on the client, therefore providing increased performance, and decreased network bandwidth usage.
- Provides password protection

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Tnserv requires AmiTCP version 2 installed and running, and AmigaDOS 2.0 or better. It will generally use less than 100k of memory, although it may use much more if there are many remote connections.

HOST NAME

Any Aminet site, including wuarchive.wustl.edu

DIRECTORY

comm/net

FILE NAMES

AmiTCP_tnserv.lha

PRICE

FreeWare

DISTRIBUTABILITY

FreeWare

1.13 ToolType v37.208

» ToolType - Announcement «

TITLE

ToolType

VERSION

37.208

COMPANY

None working for

AUTHOR

Michael J Barsoom
5524 Pine Street
Omaha NE 68106
USA
email: mbars@bluejay.creighton.edu

DESCRIPTION

ToolType is an utility mainly for users who hate editing icon tooltypes using workbench. ToolType will allow you to edit all of an icon's tooltypes at once rather than using the single line editor that workbench gives you. ToolType extracts the tooltypes from the icon and lets you use your favorite text editor to edit them; it then will save all the changes back when you are done editing. ToolType has an added feature of sorting the tooltypes alphabetically if you want it to. It can be started from WB, CLI, or set up as an appicon. It can be setup to use what ever text editor you wish.

NEW FEATURES

- Temp file will now be unlocked when ToolType is run more than once.
- Fixed memory problem when using the appicon, Tooltype will now free the memory occupied by the tooltypes when you are done editing. Solves problem of ToolType adding extra tooltypes at the end when subsequent icon had fewer ones than the previous.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Only OS 2.x and up
- A text editor

HOST NAME

Any Aminet site such as: wuarchive.wustl.edu (128.252.135.4)

DIRECTORY

os20/wb

FILE NAMES

ToolType37_208.lha ; program and docs

PRICE

GiftWare, i.e..ike ;)

DISTRIBUTABILITY

GiftWare

1.14 Amiga Report Online

/// Amiga Report Online News

Eavesdropping on the world!

» FidoNew News «

*** Area: AMIGA
*** From: Tim Lloyd (6:730/9.64)
*** To : All
*** Subj: Just thought you'd be interested

Date: 11 Dec 93 14:45:06

Just thought this might be of interest.... :)

Sb: #HP & Commodore Deal
Fm: Steve Pietrowicz/SYSOP 76701,250
To: ALL

I was just able to get a copy of this article, from EE Times August 6th issue. It's an article about set-top-boxes ... those gizmos that go on top of your TV to connect to cable (and who knows what else in the future). Anyway, I thought people here would find this interesting:

"Commodore International, which earilier this year launched the 32-bit, graphics-intensive Amiga CD32 game machine, has signed a major deal to supply HP with its high-performance graphics chip set, EE Times has learned. HP will adopt the Amiga CD32 architecture and employ the Amiga graphics chip set in its first-generation set-top model.

"Jeffery Porter, director of product development of Commodore's technology group, acknowleged that one of the terminal prototypes demonstrated at HP's booth used Commodore's Amiga [chip] set. HP officials declined to comment on the prototype's architecture."

"Total Solution

"Commodore's strength lies in its ability to provide, today, a total solution for set-top vendors, including a development platform for set-top applications, a system architecture and a graphics chip set that can generate 35-ns pixel resolution, Porter explained. What's more important, he said, is price. "Our CD32 game machine costs only \$400, including CD-ROM drive. Without CD-ROM, our system can fit pretty nicely into a set-top price range.

"Commodore's custom Amiga chip set, originally designed for the company's 32-bit real-time multitasking OS computer, is composed of a pair of graphics engines and an audio subsystem, assisted by hardware accelerators. Using Motorola's 14-MHz 68EC020, the machine produces what the company claims are arcade-quality videogames".

Sb: #124550-#HP & Commodore Deal
Fm: Roy Pahnke 74316,254
To: Steve Pietrowicz/SYSOP 76701,250 (X)

Steve -

One question, please. What is a "first-generation set-top model"? I'm a little confused as to what a 'Set-Top' is.

Sb: #124637-HP & Commodore Deal
Fm: Dale Larson 76702,654
To: Roy Pahnke 74316,254

A "set-top box" is what everyone with cable is going to have in the next couple of years, replacing the current cable converters. Basically, it's the computer you'll use to help you access the new services -- displaying information about what's playing on your 500 channels, ordering from home-shopping channels, playing along with game shows, ordering movies-on-demand, etc.

-- Dale L. Larson, Intangible Assets Manufacturing -- INTERNET:dale@iam.com

*** Area: AMIGA
*** From: John Hoog (1:374/3.0)
*** To : All
*** Subj: CD32 - Wow!

Date: 12 Dec 93 23:44:00

I walked into Intelligent Machines here in Orlando and they had a CD32 from the Toronto WOCA show on display. What a game machines, that floppy copy of Jurassic Park jumped back onto the shelf! I played ZOOL2, basically the same game as my A1200 version with enhanced sound (full 16 bit audio for the background sound) what a difference. This machine will sell VERY well here in the states, just as it is flying off the shelves in Europe. CU Amiga had a article on Microcosm, wow talk about a game! Pick up the mag and check it out for yourselves. They had 5 NTSC disks, all A1200 ports but still impressive in comparison to the originals.

All you naysayers who wanted to see them on the shelves will shortly after the CES show in January. Yes its after christmas, but there is still next christmas....

My A1200 only gets productivity s/w from now on. Games will be either CD32 or CD32 ala the expansion port of the A1200.

```
*** Area: AMIGA                               Date:  2 Dec 93   6:57:00
*** From: Joe Hobson (1:362/508.5)
*** To   : All
*** Subj: SIMM Prices!
```

Saw this in the paper and thought I'd share it with you. No excuse for high SIMM prices anymore! Good news. (Reprinted without permission.)

"Computer chip worries dissipate"

NEW YORK- The Semiconductor Industry Association declared Tuesday there was no longer a need to worry about disruption in the supply of computer memory chips.

Prices for the chips rose sharply last summer <tell me about it!> after an explosion and fire destroyed a Sumitomo Chemical Corp. factory in Japan responsible for half the world production of a key ingredient in chips, 'epoxy resin'.

A module of three chips that represent 1 megabyte of memory cost dealers about \$33 before the fire. It rose to around \$95 in late July and August as speculation grew that production of memory chips would be slowed.

Prices fell to the \$40-\$50 range this fall as those fears abated and reached the \$30 range as Sumitomo resumed production of epoxy resin.

1.15 Amiga Report Mailing List

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/// Amiga Report Mailing List
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No Official Amiga Report Distribution Site in your local calling area? Are you tired of waiting for your local BBS or online service to get Amiga Report each week? If so, have we got a deal for you!

If you have an internet mailing address, you can receive Amiga Report in UUENCODED form each week as soon as the issue is released. To be put on the list, send Email to Amiga-Report-Request@imtired.itm.com. Your account must be able to handle mail of any size to ensure an intact copy. For example, many systems have a 100K limit on incoming messages.

Please do not send general Email to Amiga-Report-Request, only requests for subscription additions or deletions (or if you are not receiving an intact copy). All other correspondence concerning the mailing list should be directed to Robert Niles at rniles@imtired.itm.com. Also, please do not send subscription list requests or changes to the editor.

Many thanks to PORTAL Communications for setting this service up for us!

P.S.: Please be sure to include your Email address in the text of your request message, it makes adding it to the list much easier. Thanks!

** IMPORTANT NOTICE: PLEASE be certain your host can accept mail over
 ** 100K! We have had a lot of bouncebacks recently from systems with a
 ** 100K size limit for incoming mail. If we get a bounceback with your
 ** address in it, it will be removed from the list. Thanks!

~~~~~

## 1.16 European Outlook

/// European Outlook

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By Jesper Juul  
 (norjj@stud.hum.aau.dk).

Welcome! This is an irregular column with the intent of summing up what's happening in the European Amiga World. My personal emphasis is on Germany and Scandinavia, so people everywhere else are welcome to add or disagree. My intention here is also that Amiga users everywhere should be more aware of what Amiga users everywhere else are doing. Some of the things said are slightly old news and backgrounds which I feel are overlooked but still interesting. Add to that a few slightly personal opinions. Mail me with comments, flames, or other news worth noting.

The CD32 is currently 3500 DKR in Denmark (US\$ 520), though in Germany it is being advertised as cheap as DM579 (US\$ 340). The first German advertisements of MPEG modules can also be seen, though they're probably a little early.

National television (OK, Denmark only has two channels) "DR" did a news story on the CD32 a few months ago, talking about motion pictures on computers. MPEG (Bon Jovi) was shown, and the CD32 was quite favorably compared to a 45000 DKR (US\$ 6700) IBM which did 3 fps flickering lowres "video". Very nice.

Also on Danish National television, a long-time star of a very popular Friday night program called "Eleva2eren" is an Amiga 3000 and

again called "Hugo". This is a not-too-complicated little platform game, where viewers get a chance to win prized by controlling "Hugo" via their phone. Children apparently love it, and there's "Hugo" icecream, candy, and toys for them. The game has also been sold to several other European countries, including Italy and Turkey.

Talking to my local dealer, it seems that MPEG won't reach Northern Europe before the beginning of January. Too bad. Expected price is 1995 DKR (US\$ 300). The same dealer also carries no less than 11 CD32 games: James Pond 2, D/Generation, Trolls, John Barnes' European Football, Whale's voyage, Morph, Zool, Sensible Soccer, Mean Arenas, Nigel Mansell's Grand Prix, and Arabian Nights. They are waiting for a new shipment of Pinball Phantasies.

In Germany, MacroSystem is advertising the new VLAB digital video board with PAL/NTSC/SECAM in & out, built-in genlock. A picture of the board features a little chip saying "C-Cube" on top. As you may remember, this is the same company that does the CD32 decompressor chips. The video board sells for DM1998, add to that a 16-bit sound board called "Toccata", and you end up at DM2600 (US\$ 1520).

Emplant is finally getting a bad review, in the German "Amiga Magasin" scoring only 7.4 out of 12, mostly being blamed for being too expensive compared to a new Mac. Obviously a lot of people may disagree, but I think it's nice to see someone being a bit critical to Utilities Unlimited.

Xpert is advertising the new Merlin2 graphics board. The new one includes a special "screen-in-screen" feature where you can mix screens of varying depth on the workbench. Video out is also included. A 1MB board is DM 648 (US\$ 380), 16MB for DM 1698 (US\$ 995). In the new (AMAX vs. Emplant) style of making fun of competitors, Retina, Piccolo, and Picasso II users get unbelievably bad swap offers. Trade in your Picasso II board for the huge sum of DM 200 (US\$ 115)! Hmmm.

#### Addresses

-----

Xpert Computer Services  
Dofestrasse 14  
D-54597 Strickscheld  
Germany  
Phone: 02302 80391, Fax: 02302 80884.

MacroSystem  
Friedrich-Ebert-Strasse 85  
D-58454 Witten  
Germany  
Phone: 06556 814, Fax: 06556 1273

## 1.17 Compton MultiMedia



/// Compton MultiMedia Patent 5,241,671 -- THE CLAIMS

-----  
Brought to you by Matt Heffron  
(heffron@falstaff.css.beckman.com)

Here are the 41 CLAIMS of the of the Compton multimedia patent:

5,241,671 "Multimedia search system using a plurality of entry  
path means which indicate interrelatedness of  
information"

At least all of the arguments about it can be "semi-informed"  
The patent filing date is Oct 26, 1989. So if anyone is looking  
for prior art, that's the date to beat.

(This came from scanning/OCR-ing/cleanup of a hardcopy of the patent.  
It is quite likely that there are typos. beware.  
Formatting is approximately the same as the patent.)

I've cross-posted this to A LOT OF GROUPS... PLEASE be selective  
with followups. I included comp.client-server and comp.databases  
because they seemed to be the most likely to have good database access  
knowledge. I included comp.groupware because it looks like much of  
their systems could be covered by some of the claims. comp.sys.xerox is  
there because some of the claims look a lot like what I remember seeing  
in NoteCards long ago; if so, it would constitute prior-art. I hope the  
other groups are more obviously relevant.

Also, when following up, edit quotes from the claims to the minimal amount  
that you are commenting on specifically. Please don't just followup with  
the whole thing and a flame about patent office stupidity or some such.

The first paragraph looks like the  
"Statement of Intent to Milk This for Everything We Can" !

Matt Heffron heffron@falstaff.css.beckman.com  
Beckman Instruments, Inc. voice: (714) 961-3128  
2500 N. Harbor Blvd. MS X-10, Fullerton, CA 92634-3100  
I don't speak for Beckman Instruments unless they say so.

-----cut here-----

While a particular embodiment of the present invention has been  
disclosed, it is to be understood that various different  
modifications are possible and are contemplated as being within  
the true spirit and scope of the claims. There is no intention,  
therefore, of limiting this invention to the exact abstract or  
disclosure presented herein. More particularly, it is  
contemplated that this invention can be used with any  
information that can be stored in a database. While the  
present invention has largely been described with reference  
to an encyclopedia, other databases of published graphical or  
textual information could be included.

---

We claim:

1. A computer search system for retrieving information, comprising:
    - means for storing interrelated textual information and graphical information;
    - means for interrelating said textual and graphical information;
    - a plurality of entry path means for searching said stored interrelated textual and graphical information, said entry path means comprising:
      - textual search entry path means for searching said textual information and for retrieving interrelated graphical information to said searched text;
      - graphics entry path means for searching said graphical information and for retrieving interrelated textual information to said searched graphical information;
    - selecting means for providing a menu of said plurality of entry path means for selection;
    - processing means for executing inquiries provided by a user in order to search said textual and graphical information through said selected entry path means;
    - indicating means for indicating a pathway that accesses information related in one of said entry path means to information accessible in another one of said entry path means;
    - accessing means for providing access to said related information in said another entry path means; and
    - output means for receiving search results from said processing means and said related information from said accessing means and for providing said search results and received information to such user.
  2. The search system according to claim 1, wherein said textual information comprise words, phrases, numbers and letters stored in said at least one database.
  3. The search system according to claim 1, wherein said graphical information include maps, charts, pictures, and moving images.
  4. The search system according to claim 1 wherein one of said graphical and textual information comprises audio information.
  5. The search system according to claim 1, wherein said graphical and textual information are stored on a CD-ROM disc.
  6. The search system according to claim 1, further comprising a micro-computer for executing operations of said search system, and for storing said graphical and textual information.
  7. The search system according to claim 1, wherein said graphical entry path means comprises interactively narrowing a search of graphical images to a point indicated by
-

said indicating means which provide; a path to said related textual information that is accessible through said accessing means.

8. The search system according to claim 7, wherein said indicating means in said textual entry path means indicates a path to related graphical information that is accessible by said accessing means.

9. The search system according to claim 1, wherein said textual entry path means and said graphical entry path means include assisting means for assisting a user in searching said graphical and textual information.

10. The search system according to claim 1, wherein said textual search entry path means comprises idea entry path means having a searching means for searching said plurality of types of information for terms and phrases that closely resemble a search inquiry.

11. The search system according to claim 10, wherein said idea entry path means eliminates stop words by comparing terms in said search inquiry to terms stored in a stop term list and eliminating any search inquiry terms that match words stored in said stop term list.

12. The search system according to claim 10, wherein said idea entry path means operates on phrases consisting substantially of two or more entered terms.

13. The search system according to claim 10, wherein said idea entry path means includes spelling means for checking the spelling of said search inquiry and provides alternate versions of misspelled words to a user.

14. The search system according to claim 10, wherein said idea entry path means includes new list function means which compares said search inquiry with a thesaurus contained in one of said plurality of databases to provide alternate non-ambiguous terms for said search inquiry.

15. The search system according to claim 14, wherein if more than one alternate non-ambiguous term is retrieved by said list function means, then said new list function means orders said alternatives in order of relevance to said ambiguous terms.

16. The search system according to claim 10, wherein said search system includes a plurality of databases which include stems which are referenced through a stem index where each stem is identified with all related stems in said stem index and are related to units of said textual and graphical information, said stem terms being concatenated in order to map each stem to other stems and to units to textual information which express a similar idea.

---

17. The search system according to claim 16, wherein said concatenation comprises linking said stems together based on grammatical linkages and based on thesaurus linkages.

18. The search system according to claim 10, wherein said textual search path entry means further comprises ranking means for ordering said textual information in order of relevance to said search inquiry inputs.

19. The search system according to claim 18, wherein said ranking means bases said ordering on an exhaustively coefficient for said inputted search inquiry terms or phrases and an exclusivity coefficient for said inputted search inquiry terms or phrases.

20. The search system according to claim 19, wherein all of said textual information ranked above a predetermined exhaustivity and exclusivity threshold is separately designated.

21. The search system according to claim 10, wherein said textual information comprises articles from an encyclopedia.

22. The search system according to claim 1, wherein a portion of said graphical and textual information comprises an encyclopedia

23. The search system according to claim 1, wherein a portion of said graphical and textual information comprises a dictionary.

24. The search system according to claim 1, wherein a portion of said graphical and textual information comprises a thesaurus.

25. The search system according to claim 1, wherein a portion of said textual and graphical information comprises audio information.

26. The search system according to claim 1, wherein a portion of said graphical information comprises photographs, maps, charts, graphs, drawings and animations.

27. The search system according to claim 1, wherein said textual entry path means comprises title finder entry path means for locating titles, wherein said titles are searched by said title finder entry path means by moving through an alphabetical list of titles related to said textual information;

28. The search system according to claim 1, wherein said textual search entry path means comprises a topic tree entry path means for dividing said textual information into topics and subtopics in order to assist in browsing through said textual information.

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29. The search system according to claim 1, wherein said graphics search entry path means comprises picture explorer entry path means for locating at least one picture and for employing said accessing means to retrieve said textual information related to said at least one picture.

30. The system search according to claim 29, wherein said picture explorer entry path means further comprises picture tour search path means for presenting pictures in random order.

31. The search system according to claim 29, wherein said picture explorer entry path means includes picture finder entry path means which searches picture captions based upon said search inquiry inputs.

32. The search system according to claim 1, wherein one of said textual entry path means comprises history timeline entry path means for displaying events arranged on a time line in order that a user may select information about one of said events by activating said event on a display.

33. The search system according to claim 32, wherein said information about an event includes audio information.

34. The search system according to claim 1, wherein one of said entry path means comprises an atlas entry path means for enabling a search of a plurality of maps of an atlas through said processing means which enables the placement of a marker on a location on said atlas which such that said atlas entry path means draws a corresponding map round said specified place.

35. The search system according to claim 34, wherein said atlas entry path means provides substantially multiple levels of increasing detail for any part of said atlas.

36. The search system according to claim 34, wherein said indicating means provides an indication of textual information related to a place labelled on said atlas which can be accessed through said accessing means.

37. The search system according to claim 1, wherein said entry path means further comprises a feature articles entry path means which takes a user directly to at least one article in said computer search system.

38. The search system according to claim 1, wherein one of said entry path means comprises a researcher's assistant entry path which contains subject matter categories divided into topics and said topics are further divided into research assignments and wherein said research assignments are ordered by level of difficulty.

39. A computer search system for retrieving information, comprising:  
means for storing interrelated textual information and

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graphical information;  
means for interrelating said textual and graphical information;  
a plurality of entry path means for searching said stored interrelated textual and graphical information, said entry path means comprising:  
textual search entry path means for searching said textual information and for retrieving interrelated graphical information to said searched text;  
graphics entry path means for searching said graphical information and for retrieving interrelated textual information to said searched graphical information;  
title finder entry path means for assisting a user in uncovering titles stored in said stored textual information;  
selecting means for providing a menu of said plurality of entry path means for selection;  
processing means for executing inquiries provided by a user in order to search said textual and graphical information through said selected entry path means;  
indicating means for indicating a pathway that accesses information related in one of said entry path means to information accessible in another one of said entry path means,  
accessing means for providing access to said related information in said another entry path means; and  
output means for receiving search results from said processing means and said related information from said accessing means and for providing said search results and received information to such user.

40. A computer search system for retrieving information, comprising:

means for storing interrelated textual information and graphical information;  
means for interrelating said textual and graphical information;  
a plurality of entry path means for searching said stored interrelated textual and graphical information, said entry path means comprising textual search entry path means for searching said textual information and for retrieving interrelated graphical information to said searched text;  
graphics entry path means for searching said graphical information and for retrieving interrelated textual information to said searched graphical information;  
atlas entry path means for enabling a user to search maps of an atlas that are specified by such user in order that said atlas entry path means retrieves a map related to such user's inquiry;  
selecting means for providing a menu of said plurality of entry path means for selection;  
processing means for executing inquiries provided by a user in order to search said textual and graphical information through said selected entry path means;  
indicating means for indicating a pathway that accesses information related in one of said entry path

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means to information accessible in another one of said entry path means;  
accessing means for providing access to said related information in said another entry path means; and  
output means for receiving search results from said processing means and said related information from said accessing means and for providing said search results and received information to such user.

41. A computer search system for retrieving information, comprising:

means for storing interrelated textual information and graphical information;  
means for interrelating said textual and graphical information;  
a plurality of entry path means for searching said stored interrelated textual and graphical information, said entry path means comprising:  
idea search entry path means for searching said textual information;  
title finder entry path means for assisting a user in uncovering titles stored in said stored textual information;  
topic tree entry path means for associating said textual information with topics and subtopics in order to assist such user in searching said textual information;  
picture explorer entry path means for enabling the user to find at least one picture from said stored graphical information and to retrieve interrelated textual information related to said at least one picture,  
timeline entry path means enabling the user to search a timeline in order that such user may select said textual information about one of a plurality of events represented by said timeline by activating said one event;  
atlas entry path means for enabling the user to search maps of an atlas that are specified by such user in order that said atlas entry path means draws a corresponding map around a specified location;  
feature articles entry path means which takes such user directly to at least one article in said search system; and  
researcher's assistant entry path means which has subject matter categories divided into topics which are further divided into research assignments ordered by level of difficulty;  
selecting means, for providing a menu of said plurality of entry path means for selection;  
processing means for executing inquiries provided by such user in order to search said textual and graphical information through said selected entry path means;  
indicating means for indicating a pathway that accesses information related in one of said entry path means to information accessible in another one of said entry path means;

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accessing means for providing a access to said related information in said another entry path means; and output means for receiving search results from said processing means aid said related information from said accessing means and for providing said search results and received information to a user.

## 1.18 QmodemPro for Windows

```
/// QMODEMPRO for WINDOWS STR InfoFile
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```

```
QmodemPro for Windows v1.0
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Mustang Software unveiled the new Windows version of its popular QmodemPro communications program during COMDEX/Fall '93. Called QmodemPro for Windows v1.0, it is the first communications program to offer support for both data and Fax communication in one integrated package.

File transfers are supported using Zmodem, CompuServe B+, Kermit, Ymodem, Ymodem/G, Xmodem/1K, Xmodem/1KG, Xmodem/CRC, Xmodem, or ASCII. A built-in GIF viewer allows you to view GIF graphics files as they are being downloaded. You can zoom any GIF or BMP file, and even mark and copy portions of the picture to the Windows clipboard. Users can easily upload files using drag-and-drop from the Windows File Manager to QmodemPro's upload window.

QmodemPro for Windows offers a wide selection of terminal emulations including: ADDS VP60, ADM 3A, ANSI, Avatar, DG 100, DG 200, DG 210, Hazeltine 1500, Heath 19, IBM 3101, TTY, TVI 910, TVI 912, TVI 920, TVI 925, TVI 950, TVI 955, Vidtex, VT 52, VT 100, VT 102, VT 220, VT 320, Wyse 30, Wyse 50, Wyse 60, Wyse 75, Wyse 85, Wyse 100, and Wyse 185. BBS callers will appreciate the addition of Doorway and RIPscrip to this impressive list of supported emulations. QmodemPro for Windows is the first Windows product to offer support for RIPscrip, which is quickly becoming the de facto graphics standard for bulletin board systems worldwide, including Mustang Software's Wildcat! product.

Besides offering full data communication, MSI has also integrated both send and receive Fax support directly into QmodemPro for Windows. Using any Class 1 or Class 2 Fax modem, QmodemPro for Windows can send text files as well as PCX and BMP graphics files. Cover pages can also be attached to these documents. Automatic Fax receive is also supported and a complete Fax viewer includes thumbnail sketches, zooming, copying, and printing.

The phonebook allows you to view the dialing directory in a traditional tabular form, or you can use the icon view mode to create a true icon window of your online services, making it a simple double click



to dial, connect, and be online. Each dialing directory entry can hold up to five phone numbers, the default device, emulation, transfer protocol, user ID, password, login script, RIP icon directory, and macro file. A note file can be attached to any dialing entry allowing you to add your own notes and comments about the dialing entry.

QmodemPro for Windows even allows you to review the scrollbar buffer while you're capturing information online. You can customize the terminal window using a variety of fonts. The screen behind the terminal window can be customized with your favorite pattern or wallpaper file giving you full control of your desktop.

Sporting a completely new Script Language Interface for QmodemPro (SLIQ), QmodemPro gives you unparalleled power, speed, and flexibility. Based on the popular BASIC language structure, it adds extensions for the Windows communication environment and includes a Quicklearn feature for creating scripts without having to learn the language. It even includes a compiler for compiling the scripts so they run faster and are more secure. A powerful script debugger and full editor are also included.

QmodemPro for Windows allows you to take advantage of the Windows multitasking environment. Download files or capture data in the background, while working in a word processor or spreadsheet. QmodemPro for Windows makes full use of the 16550 UART, Digiboard multi serial port card, or any other intelligent serial interface with appropriate Windows drivers. Also supported are Interrupt 14 compatible LAN modems and other devices.

The newest member of the QmodemPro family now supports sound cards, allowing you to assign standard Windows WAV files to certain events in your communications session. For example, you can have a WAV file played when you connect to a BBS or when your download is completed. There are many events you can assign sounds to: connect, dialing, file transfer success and failure, and many others.

QmodemPro for Windows has a suggested retail price of \$139.00. This product will be available within the next few weeks in the over 300 Software Etc. stores throughout the United States. Software Etc. has also put QmodemPro for Windows on their "Reservation System" so your local store can reserve your copy. To find the Software Etc. store in your area dial (800) 328-4646.

Qmodem, QmodemPro, and Wildcat! BBS registered owners can upgrade to QmodemPro for Windows for a limited time for only \$50.00 plus shipping. Have your registration number handy and dial Mustang Software at (800) 999-9619 or (805) 873-2500 to place your order. Please expect a 4 to 6 week back order for delivery, order today to be one of the first to receive this program.

Resellers in the United States can order QmodemPro for Windows directly from INGRAM MICRO. The part number is 185415. YOu can reach INGRAM MICRO by dialing (800) 456-8000.

Customers in the U.K. can reserve their copy by contacting Telesystems LTD in London. Telesystems can be reached at +44 494 866365, FAX +44 494 866050, or BBS +44 494 891903.

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Customers in Scandinavia will be pleased to know that Swedish, Danish, and Norwegian versions will be available soon after the U.S. version. Please contact PC Security in Norway for additional information. PC Security can be reached at +67 53 11 53, FAX +67 53 63 25, or BBS +67 58 33 58.

Customers in Australia should contact Banksia Technology Pty. Ltd in Lane Cove, NSW. Banksia can be reached at 61 2 418-6033, Fax +61 2 428-5460 or BBS +61 2 418-7693.

For additional information regarding QmodemPro for Windows, QmodemPro for DOS, or the Wildcat! Bulletin Board System, please contact:

Jim Harrer, President/CEO  
Mustang Software, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2264  
Bakersfield, CA 93303  
Sales (800) 999-9619  
Office (805) 873-2500  
BBS (805) 873-2400

MSI can also be reached via e-mail at sales@mustang.com, CompuServe (GO PCVENA, section 9), America Online (Keyword = Mustang), and GENie (MUSTANG RT).

## 1.19 Usenet Review - Two Meg Agnus Project

/// Usenet Review: Two Meg Agnus Project

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By Hamish Tweedie  
(htweedie@madhat.actrix.gen.nz)

### PRODUCT NAME

The Two Meg Agnus Project. Version 5.0d3 22-Sep-1993.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION

A user-installed kit which allows Amiga 500 and 2000 computers to have 2 megabytes of Chip RAM by using an updated Agnus chip. It is user-installed, and optionally may be ordered preassembled.

Information is available on all Aminet ftp sites in the file /pub/aminet/hard/hack/2megagnus50d3.lha.

### AUTHOR/COMPANY INFORMATION

Name: Structured Applications and Designs Inc.  
Address: P.O. Box 60414

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San Diego, CA 92166  
USA

E-mail: ttmaphelp@struad.cts.com

#### LIST PRICE

The board may be purchased in a number configurations. (Note all prices are given in US dollars.)

|                                                                              |         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Board fully ASSEMBLED, with RAM:                                             | \$88.95 |
| Board fully ASSEMBLED, with NO RAM:                                          | \$64.95 |
| Board NON-ASSEMBLED, with PARTS and with RAM:                                | \$79.95 |
| Board NON-ASSEMBLED, with PARTS but with NO RAM:                             | \$54.95 |
| Board NON-ASSEMBLED, with NO PARTS and NO RAM, (Bare printed circuit board): | \$50.95 |

In addition, you may purchase the following options:

|                                           |              |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 2 meg Agnus chip, part number #318069-03: | \$35.00      |
| PLCC Agnus extractor tool:                | \$ 4.95      |
| Piece(s) of insulator:                    | \$ 0.95 each |
| 68000 socket extender:                    | \$ 4.95      |

As you can see, a fully assembled board can be purchased for \$128.90 -- main board (\$88.95), Agnus chip (\$35.00), and Agnus extractor tool (\$4.95) -- which is markedly cheaper than the prices I have seen advertised in AmigaWorld Magazine (approximately \$196.50 (US)). Furthermore, you get to support Amiga PD developers :-). I purchased the NON-ASSEMBLED version with parts and RAM option for \$79.95, plus the Agnus chip and the extractor tool, costing \$119.90 in total (plus postage).

#### SPECIAL HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

##### HARDWARE

This project will work on all Amiga 500's, and all late model Amiga 2000/2500's. This means that any Amiga 2000 which has the older Amiga 1000 DIP-style Agnus will not work (i.e., those Amiga 2000's produced in Germany).

It will not work on an Amiga 600, 1000, 1200, 3000, 4000 or CDTV.

If you have an Amiga 500, you'll require an extra 512K RAM in the belly slot to expand memory. If you intend to install the project in an Amiga 2000, then you should already have 1MB installed on the motherboard; and even if you currently have only 512K set as Chip RAM, instructions are included for the conversion.

The following hardware is required for the conversion:

1: If the kit is already assembled, then you require only the \$4.95 PLCC chip extractor tool (definite requirement)

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plus the 2MB Agnus chip.

2: If you purchased a non-assembled kit, the following is required to complete the installation:

- Any parts listed under "LIST PRICE", above, that were not supplied with the kit.
- PLCC chip extractor tool.
- soldering iron.
- solder.
- flat blade screw driver (useful).
- X-Acto or similar knife.
- magnifying glass (optional, but very useful).
- multimeter (optional).
- tin snips.

I presume it works with all faster CPU's. Mine is currently very happy running with a GVP 22Mhz 68030 Combo accelerator board. Note that if you have a board which covers the Agnus socket you may have problems, and should consult the documentation in the archive, or the authors.

#### SOFTWARE

None.

#### COPY PROTECTION

None.

#### MACHINE USED FOR TESTING

- Amiga 2000.
- Initially, 1MB Chip RAM and 7MB Fast RAM.
- Tested on Kickstart 37.175 (2.04) and Workbench 38.12. Also booted up in Kickstart/Workbench 1.3 and everything appears OK (not fully tested).
- Running GVP 22Mhz 68030 Combo board. Works fine with hard drives attached to the SCSI bus. Set up has 2MB 16bit Fast RAM (A2058 board) and 5MB 32bit RAM (Combo board). GoldenGate II board also running with two extra PC serial lines. CBM deinterlacer. All appear compatible.
- All software that I ran appears compatible.

#### INSTALLATION

[MODERATOR'S NOTE: If you are not comfortable opening up your Amiga, then you should have the work done by an authorized Amiga service center. Careless work may damage the computer. - Dan]

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The old Agnus has to be removed (and for this, the PLCC chip extractor is an absolute requirement). The new board is then inserted into the motherboard socket left vacant by the Agnus chip, and a wire lead is attached to a pin on the 68000 (I used the 68000 attachment, even while running an 030) or the Gary chip. That's it!

The installation was dead easy, and the only worry was static discharge from myself (I didn't use a static mat or strap... slap on wrist! :-))

## REVIEW

The project assembly was much easier than I had suspected. The board is well laid out with everything clearly marked, and thus is of good quality. All boards come with the PLCC plug soldered to the board, due to the difficulty of this operation.

The assembly in its basic form consists of the following (note that this only applies to the kitset boards):

- 1) Solder PLCC socket to the PCB. Not difficult, but it requires a little care and accuracy.
- 2) Solder in the three SIP resistor packs. Very easy.
- 3) Solder in the nine capacitors into the board. Very easy.
- 4) Solder the clip lead to the board (already assembled on kitset boards). Very easy.
- 5) Solder the eight RAM chips to the PCB. This was a little harder as I was worried about static and overheating the chips, and so it required a bit of precision and a speedy hand on the soldering iron.
- 6) Solder the 24-pin PAL chip to the PCB. Same skill level as above.
- 7) Install the 2 Meg Agnus chip into the socket on the board. Pretty simple.
- 8) Install, as mentioned above in previous section.

This process took me about an evening to complete (say 7:00pm to 1:00am... yes I was enjoying myself that much :-)). But the work could easily be split up over multiple periods, as recommended in the documentation, to ensure that a high standard of work is achieved. Mine turned out pretty fair. The soldering wasn't production line quality, but is reasonably respectable. I found it easier to solder the pins on chips, sockets, etc., after they had been bent a few degrees (note I was \*very\* careful doing this!).

Note that none of the above applies to the complete, fully assembled project, which arrives the same as the commercial products (with the exception of the higher price tag).

Overall, I obtained a great deal of enjoyment. This was the second

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board I have soldered (the first being the Multi-Kickstart, also produced by Structured Applications and Designs), and found it much easier to complete than the previous one. Basically, if you can plug a soldering iron in, and handle it with a small degree of proficiency combined with a desire to produce work of a decent standard, you shouldn't have much hassle assembling the project. The instructions are a breeze to work through and provide a step-by-step assembly and instruction method which is easily understood, even by somebody as electronically inept as I am!

Overall if you're not going to upgrade to a new Amiga, yet require or would like 2MB of Chip RAM, then this is the cheapest path to achieving your goal. Don't be scared by the skill required to assemble the project or the time taken to assemble it, as both are negligible.

How useful is the extra 1MB of Chip RAM? Well now I can multitask a lot better, running numerous windows and doing a number of tasks that previously I could not do (e.g., read my news with Grn, while downloading with JRComm, while viewing IFF's). It has turned me into a bit of a slob though, as I tend to leave more windows open. :-) It also aids those of us that *\*have\** to use MagicWB.

#### DOCUMENTATION

This consists of the assembly, installation and compatibility files that accompany the Public Domain archive on Aminet. These ASCII files are also accompanied by a number of IFF pictures which aid the assembly and provide complete schematics for the project (i.e., PCB layouts, etc).

The documents are superb, and provide a step by step description of both the assembly and installation process which are easy to follow. There are even IFF pictures of parts which may be hard to identify for the beginner (e.g., capacitors, chips, etc).

Also included in the documents is an order form and description of how the project works and the theory behind it.

#### LIKES AND DISLIKES

I believe that the project is brilliant! It provides a cheap way to upgrade your Chip RAM while introducing the beginner to a project which provides a great deal of satisfaction and builds confidence (is this a good thing with static sensitive electronics ;-)).

I have no complaints about the quality of materials involved, the documentation, nor the implementation of the whole project.

#### COMPARISON TO OTHER SIMILAR PRODUCTS

The project is a Public Domain implementation of similar commercial products available, such as the DKB MegaChip product. I haven't used or heard any complaints about the commercial products.

#### BUGS

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None known.

#### VENDOR SUPPORT

I had to contact the authors, Neil Coito and Michael Cianflone, several times via email concerning a delivery date. Both times they were helpful and courteous. The problem was that new circuit boards were being produced and delays had occurred. The product arrived (after a delay in Customs) at approximately the time specified by the authors.

Both authors offer themselves in the documentation as available for consultation if any problems are encountered. Once the board arrived I had no problems nor need to consult.

I am not affiliated with the company in any way except as a customer.

#### WARRANTY

There appears to be no warranty. It is mentioned in the documents, that if a part is defective, then contact Structured Applications for help, and I presume replacement parts are free of cost. All the boards are sent out fully tested, apparently.

#### CONCLUSIONS

I consider the project brilliant, and hope that further projects of this type appear for/from the Amiga community. It is well executed in terms of both documentation and hardware. It achieves its aims, and appears to be at least on a par with commercial products.

If forced to give a rating, at this stage I would give it 4 out of 5. The remaining star depends upon the long term reliability of the product, which at this stage I have few doubts about. If it stays as reliable as it currently is, then I would happily recommend 5 out of 5!

#### COPYRIGHT NOTICE

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## 1.20 Portal

/// Portal: A Great Place For Amiga Users

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## Portal Communications' Amiga Zone

The AFFORDABLE alternative for online Amiga information

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The Portal Online System is the home of acclaimed Amiga Zone, which was formerly on the People/Link System. Plink went out of business in May, 1991 and The Amiga Zone's staff moved to Portal the next day. The Zone has just celebrated its second anniversary on Portal. The Amiga press raves about The Amiga Zone, when compared to its competition.

If you live in the San Jose, CA area, then you can dial Portal directly. If you live elsewhere, you can reach Portal through any SprintNet (formerly Telenet) indial anywhere in the USA. If you have an account on another Internet-connected system, you can connect to Portal using the UNIX Telnet programs, from anywhere in the industrialized world. Delphi and BIX users can now Telnet into Portal for a flat \$19.95 a month, with \*unlimited\* use.

Some of Portal/Amiga Zone's amazing features include:

- Over 1.5 GIGabytes of Amiga-specific files
  - The \*entire\* Fred Fish collection of freely distributable software, online.
  - Fast, Batch Zmodem file transfer protocol. Download up to 100 files at once, of any size, with one command.
  - Twenty Amiga vendor areas with participants like AmigaWorld, ASDG, Soft-Logik, Black Belt, Apex Publishing, Stylus, Prolific, NES.
  - 35 "regular" Amiga libraries with thousands of files. Hot new stuff arrives daily.
  - No upload/download "ratios" EVER. Download as much as you want, as often as you want, and never feel pressured doing it.
  - Live, interactive nightly chats with Amiga folks whose names you will recognize. Special conferences. Random chance prize contests. Famous Amiga folks aren't the exception on Portal, they're the norm.
  - Vast Message bases where you can ask questions about \*anything\* Amiga related and get quick replies from the experts.
  - Amiga Internet mailing lists for Imagine, DCTV, LightWave, HyperAmi, Director and Landscapes are fed right into the Zone message bases. Read months worth of postings. They don't scroll off, ever! No need to clutter your mailbox with them.
  - FREE unlimited Internet Email. Your Portal account gets you a mailbox that's connected to the world. Send letters of any length to computer users in the entire industrialized world. No limits. No extra charges. No kidding!
  - Portal has the Usenet. Thousands of "newsgroups" in which you can read and post articles about virtually any subject you can possibly imagine.
-



- Other Portal SIGs (Special Interest Groups) online for Mac, IBM, Sun, NeXT, UNIX, Science Fiction, Writers, amateur radio, and a graphics SIG with thousands of GIF files to name just a few. ALL Portal SIGs are accessible to ALL Portal customers with NO surcharges ever.
- The entire UPI/Clarinet/Newsbytes news hierarchy (\$4/month extra) An entire general interest newspaper and computer news magazine.
- Portal features an exciting package of Internet features: IRC, FTP, TELNET, MUDDS, LIBS. Free to all Portal customers with your account. Internet Services is a menu driven version of the same kinds of utilities you can also use from your Portal UNIX shell account.
- All the files you can FTP. All the chatting you can stand on the IRC. And on IRC (Internet Relay Chat) you can talk live, in real time with Amiga users in the U.K., Europe, Australia, the Far East, 24 hours a day.
- Our exclusive PortalX by Steve Tibbett, the graphical "front end" for Portal which will let you automatically click'n'download your waiting email, messages, Usenet groups and binary files! Reply to mail and messages offline using your favorite editor and your replies are sent automatically the next time you log into Portal. (PortalX requires Workbench 2.04 or higher)
- And Portal does NOT stick it to high speed modem users. Whether you log in at 1200 or 2400 or 9600 or 14.4K you pay the same low price.

How does all that sound? Probably too good to be true. Well, it IS true.

Portal Signup or for more information:

408-973-9111 (voice) 9a.m.-5p.m. Mon-Fri, Pacific Time  
 408-725-0561 (modem 3/12/2400) 24 hours every day  
 408-973-8091 (modem 9600/14400) 24 hours every day

or enter "C PORTAL" from any Sprintnet dial-in in the USA,  
 or telnet to "portal.com" from anywhere.

#### PORTAL'S CURRENT RATES:

All prices shown are in U.S. Dollars

|                                    |                |                | Fee         | Total<br>Cost         | Total<br>Cost          | Total<br>Cost           | Total<br>Cost           |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                                    | Startup<br>Fee | Monthly<br>Fee | Per<br>Hour | 1 hr.<br>Per<br>month | 5 hrs.<br>per<br>month | 10 hrs.<br>per<br>month | 30 hrs.<br>per<br>month |
|                                    | \$             | \$             | \$          | \$                    | \$                     | \$                      | \$                      |
| Portal                             | 19.95          | 19.95          |             |                       |                        |                         |                         |
| 2400/9600/14.4Kbps, *direct 24 hrs |                |                | 0.00        | 19.95                 | 19.95                  | 19.95                   | 19.95                   |
| 2400/9600bps nonprime Sprint       |                |                | 2.50        | 22.95                 | 32.45                  | 44.95                   | 94.95                   |
| 2400/9600bps prime Sprint +%       |                |                | 5.50-10     | 29.95                 | 69.95                  | 119.95                  | varies                  |
| 2400/9600bps non prime # PCPursuit |                |                | 1.00        | 20.95                 | 24.95                  | 29.95                   | 49.95                   |

\* plus cost of phone call if out of Portal's local dialing area

Direct rates also apply to connections made to Portal using the UNIX "telnet" program from an account you may already have on an Internet-connected system.

% 9600 bps Sprintnet in over 300 cities areas

+ \$10 rate prevails at smaller US Cities

# PCPursuit is a service of US Sprint. Portal is a PCPursuit "Direct Access Facility" thus connection to Portal with a PCP account is simply a matter of entering C PORTAL,PCP-ID,PCP-PASSWORD at the SprintNet login prompt instead of C PORTAL.

Note:

Portal Direct 9600/14400 bps service is availble for both USR HST modems, and any V32/V32.bis modems. There are dozens of direct-dial high speed lines into Portal. No busy signals!

SprintNet 9600bps service is V.32 modem protocol only.  
Again, Portal does NOT surcharge high speed modem users!

Portal subscribers who already have an account on an Internet-capable system elsewhere, can use that system's "telnet" program to connect to Portal for \$0.00 an hour. That's right ZERO. From anywhere in the world. If you're in this category, be sure to ask the Portal reps, when you signup, how to login to Portal from your existing Internet account.

Call and join today. Tell the friendly Portal Customer Service representative, "The Amiga Zone and Amiga Report sent me!"

[Editor's Note: Be sure to tell them that you are an Amiga user, so they can notify the AmigaZone sysops to send their Welcome Letter and other information!]

That number again: 408-973-9111.

Portal Communications accepts MasterCard, Visa, or you can pre-pay any amount by personal check or money order. The Portal Online System is a trademark of Portal Communications.

## 1.21 Usenet Review - Piball Fantasies

/// Usenet Review: Pinball Fantasies

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By Steven Van Egmo  
(svanegmo@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca)

PRODUCT NAME

Pinball Fantasies

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## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Sophisticated pinball game simulator with 4 tables included. Pinball Fantasies is the successor to Pinball Dreams, by the same company.

## COMPANY INFORMATION

Name: 21st Century Entertainment  
Address: P.O. Box 415  
Webster, NY 14580  
USA

## PRICES (U.S. dollars)

\$39.95 list price.  
\$24.95 street price.

The above is for the 3-floppy version.  
A hard-drive-installable version is \$10 extra.

## SPECIAL HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

## HARDWARE

The documentation does not provide any information on this, recommending instead that all peripherals be disconnected. On a completely stripped 512K A500, the game intro would load, but no tables would. On the same 500 with 1 meg of Chip RAM, the game worked fine.

The hard drive version reportedly requires "about 4 megabytes of [hard disk] space".

The game will work with one floppy drive, but you need two to avoid disk swapping.

The game works very well with a 68000. With a 68030, the performance was identical, though the pause between the end of disk access and the start of a game was transformed into a BRIEF pause.

## SOFTWARE

None observed. The documentation provides no information.

## COPY PROTECTION

Disk-based. High scores are recorded to the table disks, which must therefore be write-enabled. This may cause some problems (see BUGS, below).

## TEST MACHINE

Amiga 500, kludged to 1-meg Chip RAM.  
GVP A500-HD+ with 2 MB of Fast RAM installed; Quantum 52 Mb Drive.  
CSA Derringer 68030/68881 @ 25 MHz with 4 MB of 32-bit RAM..  
WorkBench 1.3 and 2.04.

## REVIEW

After becoming addicted to Pinball Dreams, I couldn't wait until Pinball Fantasies was released. 21st Century Entertainment deserves considerable praise for releasing a freely-distributable playable demo. It certainly convinced me to buy the game.

The game consists of one boot disk and two table disks, each containing two pinball games. Included games are Speed Devils, Billion Dollar Game Show, Stones 'n' Bones, and Partyland. Unlike Pinball Dreams, Pinball Fantasies allows one to purchase extra table disks and expand the game indefinitely, though none are currently available. This may even open up the possibility of a table editor...

The intro to the game is really slick. It's not abortable, but it's not annoyingly long either. The music at first sounds vaguely creepy, but eventually settles into a neatly sophisticated beat.

The games themselves are extremely well-executed, and demonstrate a higher level of sophistication than Pinball Dreams. There are now 3 flippers on some tables. The score panel, rather than simulating an LED display, is now a dot matrix display that provides some really interesting effects. The tables are larger, and a ball that goes down the left gutter can be saved by a "kickback" that lurks there on some tables.

The simulation of the pinball action is excellent and feels as accurate as ever. No quirks at all appear in the ball behaviour, even after long periods of play (this occasionally happened in Pinball Dreams). Unlike other pinball simulators I've encountered, Pinball Fantasies has implemented the concept of ball spin.

The design of the pinball tables is excellent. Pinball purists will complain that no simple, uncomplicated tables are present, as Ignition is in Pinball Dreams. Every table has a raised ball track; the one in Stones 'n' Bones is more like a platform, where the ball can take different paths. Every table is well-done, and I like them all. Stones 'n' Bones is my personal favourite.

The graphics throughout the game are first-rate. The dot matrix display is fun to watch, and the detail on the board backgrounds is improved over that of Pinball Dreams. The graphics are, in some cases, too loud and lend the board a cluttered look. Billion Dollar Game Show is the greatest sufferer from this -- when the ball is moving quickly, it's difficult to tell where walls are as opposed to background graphics. You get used to it, though.

The music is really good. It's difficult to compare it to the first version's music; my opinion of it improved the more I played the game. It still outclasses every other game I've seen for its sophistication.

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## DOCUMENTATION

The package comes with a brief, unillustrated manual with about a page and a half dedicated to each table. The detail is impeccable, the text is logical, and nothing is left out. It's wise to have the pinball table in front of you when looking at the manual, since some of the references to objects are ambiguous. Illustrations really would have helped.

## LIKES AND DISLIKES

I like the graphics. I like the sound. I like the table designs. I like the ability to purchase new table disks. I really like the dot matrix display, although one person who played the game said the size was oppressive on the NTSC screen.

I don't like the disk-swapping necessary for a one-drive setup. On bootup, it claims to make use of extra RAM, but I didn't notice any difference in behaviour. Also, it would be nice if the disks indicated which games were on them. Some people won't be happy about the \$10 additional cost for a hard drive version, but I don't mind.

## COMPARISON TO SIMILAR PRODUCTS

This is a nice step up from Pinball Dreams. The graphics are improved, and the tables can do more. The music and sound effects are just as good, and will make anyone unfamiliar with the Amiga drool.

## BUGS

The disks, to AmigaDOS, aren't non-DOS. If you leave them in when you reboot, AmigaDOS tries to validate them, and gives up after 20 seconds with an error requester. I suspect this is what caused the high score system to become defective on my disks -- all high scores were unchangeable and unreadable.

I requested, under warranty, a replacement set. They fixed the problem, but only temporarily. One of the 2 game disks seems to have gone bad again and refuses to save high scores. Very annoying.

I recommend you make sure to remove your disks from the drive when you reset, or write-enable them only when the high scores need to be re-written.

## VENDOR SUPPORT

When my disks went bad, I contacted 21st Century Entertainment by mail for a replacement set, which arrived about 10 days later. I was surprised they didn't ask for the return of my old set, which I have since formatted. I was pleased with the support.

The warranty covers disk defects and lasts 90 days. Make sure you write down the number that's printed on your warranty card before you mail it.

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## CONCLUSIONS

This game is an excellent pinball simulator and a whole lot of fun. It's a first-rate Amiga game all around. I'm glad I got it.

## COPYRIGHT NOTICE

This review is freely distributable. Permission is granted to translate it into any language, so long as I am credited as the original author. I can be reached at:

Stephen Van Egmond  
360 Front Road  
LaSalle, Ontario, Canada, N9J 1Z5

E-mail: [svanegmo@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:svanegmo@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca)

## 1.22 The Night Before Christmas

/// The Night Before Christmas - Modern Times

-----  
Author Unknown

It was the night before Christmas, and one thing was clear  
That old yuletide spirit no longer was here.  
Unemployment keeps rising, the crime rate is tripling;  
'Boomers elected, and our taxes are crippling;

I poured some Jack Daniel's as I watched the TV,  
Where Donny sang "O Holy Night" to Marie  
The kids were in bed, getting sleep like they should,  
Or else they left home, which was almost as good.

My wife, with her ball-point, was making a fuss;  
About folks we sent cards to, who'd sent none to us.  
"Those ingrates", she thundered, and pounded her fist,  
"Next year you can bet they'll be crossed off our list!"

When out in our yard came a deafening blare,  
'Twas our burglar alarm, and I hollered, "Who's there?"  
I turned on the searchlight, which lit up the night,  
And armed with my handgun beheld a strange sight,

Some Red-Suited Clown, with a white beard immense,  
Was caught in my eight-foot electrified fence;  
He called out, "I'm Santa! I bring you no malice!"  
Said I, "If you're Santa, I'm Telly Savalles."

But, lo, as his presence grew clearer to me,  
I saw in the glare that it might just be he!

---

I called off my Rottweiler, clawing his sleigh,  
And frisking him twice said, "I think he's okay."

I led him inside, where he slumped in a chair,  
And he told me the following tale of despair,  
"On Christmas eves past I was jolly and chuckling,  
But now 'neath the pressures I fear I am buckling."

"You'll note I've arrived with no reindeer this year,  
And without them my sleigh is much harder to steer;  
Although I would like to continue to use them,  
The wildlife officials believe I abuse them."

"To add to my problem, Ralph Nader dropped by;  
And told me my sleigh was unsafe in the sky.  
I now must wear seatbelts, despite my objections,  
And bring the sleigh in twice a year for inspections."

"Last April my workers came forth with demands,  
And I soon had a general strike on my hands;  
I couldn't afford to pay unionized elves,  
So the missus and I did the work by ourselves."

"And then, later on, came additional trouble;  
An avalanche left my fine workshop in rubble,  
But my Stallstate Insurance was worthless, because,  
They had shrewdly slipped in a 'No avalanche' clause."

"Then, after that, came an I.R.S. audit;  
The government claimed I was out to defraud it.  
They finally nailed me for 65 grand;  
Which I paid through the sale of my house and my land."

"And yet I persist, though it gives me a scare,  
Flying blind through the blanket of smog in the air;  
Not to mention the street gangs, who fill me with dread,  
Taking shots at my sleigh as I pass overhead."

"My torn-up red suit, and these bruises and swellings,  
I got fighting muggers in subsidized dwellings.  
And if you should ask why I'm glowing tonight,  
It's from flying too close to a nuclear site."

Then he arose from his chair and heaved a great sigh,  
Though I couldn't help notice a small tear in his eye;  
"I've tried", he declared, "To reverse each defeat,  
But I fear that today I've become obsolete."

He slumped out the door, and returned to his sleigh  
And with these final words he went his own way;  
"No longer can I do the job that's required,  
"I'm going to call Clinton and try to get hired."

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## 1.23 BIX

/// BIX - Byte Information Exchange                      Lots of information!  
-----

BIX is the premier online service for computing professionals and enthusiasts. While other online services cater to computer novices, BIX is the place for knowledgeable people to go for answers to tough questions. You're likely to find many others in similar situations who can offer advice, give technical assistance, or point you in the right direction.

BIX is divided into areas called conferences, each devoted to a particular area of interest. They range from algorithms to windows, from writers to amiga. Conferences are categorized into groups, usually referred to as exchanges, so that you can browse through whatever groups interest you and see a list of the conferences it contains.

These are some of the exchanges on BIX:

amiga.exchange - the place for Amiga developers and enthusiasts  
byte - the full text of each issue of BYTE magazine; source code too  
e.and.l - Entertainment and Leisure; music, pets, games, more  
ibm.exchange - everything from OS/2 to PC clones  
mac.exchange - Mac news, support, software, advice  
professionals - consultants, engineers, financiers gather here  
programmers - some of the best brains in the business!  
wix - the Information Exchange for Windows; Windows Magazine online  
writers.ex - the professional and amateur writer's exchange

\*\*\* FULL INTERNET ACCESS! \*\*\*

BIX also features access to the Internet - you can use FTP to transfer files from sites all over the world, telnet to log on to other online services, schools, and research sites, and send Internet mail to millions of people at services like DELPHI, CompuServe, America Online, MCI Mail, and other sites and services. Services like "WHOIS" and "Finger" are also available, with more features on the way (like USENET newsgroups; our newsreader is currently being tested and should be available very soon!) There are no usage fees or special charges for Internet access - it's all part of your BIX subscription.

=====  
Rates and Connect Information:  
=====

BIX membership costs \$13 per month, plus connect time. There are several different ways to connect:

|            |                            |                   |
|------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| SprintNet* | \$3/hour evenings/weekends | \$9/hour weekdays |
|------------|----------------------------|-------------------|



Tymnet:\*\*                      \$3/hour evenings/weekends      \$9/hour weekdays  
(SprintNet and Tymnet rates shown are for 48 contiguous US states only.)

Tymnet Canada:                \$4/hr eves/wkends                      \$9/hour weekdays  
Tymnet Hawaii:                \$10/hr eves/wkends                      \$20/hour weekdays  
Telnet (via Internet):        \$1/hour, round the clock  
Direct dial (Boston):        \$2/hour, round the clock (up to 9600 bps)

\* SprintNet daytime hours are from 6am to 7pm, M-F, ET.  
\*\* Tymnet daytime hours are from 7am to 6pm, M-F, ET.

To find your local SprintNet number, call SprintNet at (800) 877-5045, ext. 5. Internationally, call (404) 859-7700.

To find a local Tymnet number, call Tymnet at (800) 937-2862. Internationally, call (703) 442-0145.

=====

There is no surcharge for 9600 bps access via either telecom carrier.

There is no surcharge for up to 10mb of Internet mail per month (sent and received). There will be a charge of \$1 per 100,000 bytes thereafter.

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#### 20/20 PLAN OPTION (for USA-48 users only):

Volume users can choose the 20/20 Advantage Plan, which is \$20 per month and includes the first 20 hours of access by any combination of methods from the contiguous United States. Additional use is \$1.80 per hour (additional use for telnet access is \$1 an hour). The 20/20 Plan's cost is in addition to the \$13 monthly fee.

#### INTERNATIONAL USERS:

If you wish to connect internationally through Tymnet or SprintNet, please contact your local PTT. BIX accepts prepaid international calls, direct dial, or telnet connections. In order to make a "collect" (not prepaid) call to BIX, your account must be verified before the charges are accepted. When you complete the registration, we'll mail you a BIX Membership Agreement by regular US Mail. When you receive it, sign it and return it to us by mail. When we receive it here, we'll authorize your account to make reverse charged calls.

If you want to access BIX right away, contact your local PTT to set up a prepaid account. You'll pay your local carrier for your calls to BIX in advance, so there's no waiting period or verification needed. Or, connect at BIX via telnet to x25.bix.com.

SprintNet international calls from most locations are \$24 an hour. Tymnet international charges vary, but are generally between \$20-\$30 an hour.

=====  
Billing Information:  
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You can charge your monthly BIX membership fees to your Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or American Express card.

You may have your company invoiced for one or more BIX memberships with a BIX Corporate Account. To do so, send by US Mail or fax a Purchase Order including a Purchase Order number, invoice address, contact person, a phone number where we can reach the contact person, and the company's fax number. Please direct it to the attention of Connie Lopes, who handles corporate accounts. Our fax number is 617-491-6642. Your corporate account will generally be set up within 24 hours.

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To Sign Up For BIX:  
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Dial by modem 1-800-695-4882 or 617-491-5410 \*  
(use 8 data bits, no parity, full duplex)

Press a few carriage returns until you see the Login:(enter "bix")  
prompt, then type bix

At the Name? prompt, type bix.amrpt

- \* Users already on the internet can telnet to x25.bix.com instead.  
At the USERNAME: prompt enter bix, then bix.net at the Name? prompt.  
Once your account is registered, you can connect the same way, except  
at the Name? prompt you'll enter your BIXname and then your password.

Using the above procedure will allow users in the 48 contiguous United States to take advantage of our special "5 for \$5" offer. This offer lets you use up to 5 hours of evening/weekend time on BIX during the current calendar month (whatever month you sign up in), for \$5. Additional time is \$1.80 per hour (\$1 per hour for telnet). At the end of the calendar month, you will be placed into our standard rate plan, at \$13 monthly plus connect charges. You may also join the 20/20 Plan at this time.

If you have other questions, please contact BIX Member Services at (800) 695-4775; send a fax to BIX at (617) 491-6642; or send Internet mail to [info@bix.com](mailto:info@bix.com).

BIX Member Services hours are 12pm - 11pm, Monday through Friday, ET.

## 1.24 Dealer Directory

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/// Dealer Directory

Serving our readers!

Almathera Systems Ltd  
Challenge House  
618 Mitcham Rd  
Croydon, Surrey  
CR9 3AU England  
VOICE: (UK) 081 683 6418  
Internet: (Sales) almathera@cix.compulink.co.uk  
(Technical) jralph@cix.compulink.co.uk

Amigability Computers  
P.O. Box 572  
Plantsville, CT 06479  
VOICE: 203-276-8175  
Internet: amiga@phantm.UUCP  
BIX: jbasile  
(Send E-mail to subscribe to our mailing list)

Apogee Technologies  
1851 University Parkway  
Sarasota, FL 34243  
VOICE: 813-355-6121  
Portal: Apogee  
Internet: Apogee@cup.portal.com

Armadillo Brothers  
753 East 3300 South  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
VOICE: 801-484-2791  
Internet: B.GRAY@genie.geis.com

Brian Fowler Computers Ltd  
11 North St  
Exeter  
Devon  
EX4 3QS  
United Kingdom  
Voice: (0392) 499 755  
Fax: (0392) 423 480  
Internet: brian\_fowler@cix.compulink.co.uk

CLICK! Microcomputer Applications B.V.B.A.  
Boomsesteenweg 468  
B-2610 Wilrijk - Antwerpen  
Belgium - Europe  
VOICE: 03 / 828.18.15  
FAX: 03 / 828.67.36

---

USENET: vanhoutv@click.augfl.be  
FIDO: 2:292/603.9  
AmigaNet: 39:120/102.9

Computers International, Inc.  
5415 Hixson Pike  
Chattanooga, TN 37343  
VOICE: 615-843-0630

DataKompaniet ANS  
Pb 3187 Munkvoll  
N-7002 Trondheim  
Norway - Europe  
VOICE/FAX: 72 555 149  
Internet: torrunes@idt.unit.no

Digital Arts  
122 West 6th Street  
Bloomington, IN 47404  
VOICE: (812)330-0124  
FAX: (812)330-0126  
BIX: msears

Finetastic Computers  
721 Washington Street  
Norwood, MA 02062  
VOICE: 617-762-4166  
BBS: 617-769-3172  
Fido: 1:101/322  
Portal: FinetasticComputers  
Internet: FinetasticComputers@cup.portal.com

HT Electronics  
275 North Mathilda Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086  
VOICE: 408-737-0900  
FAX: 408-245-3109  
Portal: HT Electronics  
Internet: HT Electronics@cup.portal.com

Industrial Video, Inc.  
1601 North Ridge Rd.  
Lorain, OH 44055  
VOICE: 800-362-6150  
216-233-4000  
Internet: af741@cleveland.freenet.edu  
Contact: John Gray

MicroSearch  
9000 US 59 South, Suite 330

---

Houston, Texas  
VOICE: 713-988-2818  
FAX: 713-995-4994

Mr. Hardware Computers  
P.O. Box 148  
59 Storey Ave.  
Central Islip, NY 11722  
VOICE: 516-234-8110  
FAX: 516-234-8110  
A.M.U.G. BBS: 516-234-6046

MusicMart: Media Sound & Vision  
71 Wellington Road  
London, Ontario, Canada  
VOICE: 519-434-4162  
FAX: 519-663-8074  
BBS: 519-457-2986  
FIDO: 1:221/125  
AmigaNet: 40:550/1  
MaxNet: 90:204/1  
iNET: koops@gaul.csd.uwo.ca

PSI Animations  
17924 SW Pilkington Road  
Lake Oswego, OR 97035  
VOICE: 503-624-8185  
Internet: PSIANIM@agora.rain.com

Software Plus Chicago  
3100 W Peterson Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois  
VOICE: 312-338-6100

Wonder Computers Inc.  
1315 Richmond Rd.  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K2B 8J7  
Voice: 613-596-2542  
Fax: 613-596-9349  
BBS: 613-829-0909

(Dealers: To have your name added, please send Email!)

## 1.25 The Great Amiga Report Questionnaire

/// The Great Amiga Report Questionnaire

-----  
by Robert Niles (and Amiga Report)  
rniles@imtired.itm.com

---

Well to help end this "Amiga Report" year, AR would like to conduct a survey. This will help us find out a little bit more about our readers and the Amiga community in general.

If you could just take a moment, please fill out the questionnaire and send it to

Intenet: rniles@imtired.itm.com  
FidoNet: Robert Niles 1:3407/103

US Mail:

ITM Distribution  
P.O. Box 8041  
Yakima, Wa 98908

Thanks to all of you who have already sent in the questionnaire!!  
Keep them coming!!! We will continue to accept replies until  
Wednesday the 29th of December 1993.

All replies will be kept confidential.

----- The Questionnaire -----

1. How old are you?
  2. What AMIGA computer(s) do you own?
  3. What other computers do you own?
  4. What external peripherals do you have?
  5. What internal peripherals do you have? (modems, RAM, video, etc)
  6. What do you do for a living? (job, student, nothing, etc.)
  7. Do you use your Amiga in a business?
  8. What do you primarily use your Amiga for? (games, educational, bbs, etc.)
  9. What would you really like to see made for the Amiga? Either, hardware, software, etc.
  10. Name one of your most liked pieces of Hardware that you have with your Amiga.
  11. Name one of your most liked pieces of Software that you have with your Amiga.
  12. Would you buy the Amiga CD32?
  13. How often do you read Amiga Report?
  14. What would you like to see in Amiga Report?
-

15. Do you prefer the AmigaGuide style, or should we go back to simple ASCII text?
16. Comments?

Thanks for completing the survey. We'll gather all responses and post them in the last issue of this year's Amiga Report.

**1.26 AR Confidential**

/// AR Confidential

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We heard it through the grapevine!

POWER PC - SNEAK PEEK!

Mac Report PowerPC Sneak Peek!!  
=====

PDM

Code named PDM, the bottom of the line PowerPC Mac has a 60mhz PowerPC 601 chip. Priced at around \$2000, it has 8 megs of RAM and a 160 meg (or 230) hard drive and comes in a Quadra 610 type box. A built-in CD-ROM is an option.

Carl Sagan

Next in the line-up is the "Carl Sagan" (who thinks up these code names?). With a 66mhz 601, a 230 or 500 meg hard drive, 8 megs of RAM three NuBus slots and an optional CD-ROM drive in a Quadra 650 type case. Price? Around \$3000

## Cold Fusion

Top o' the line "Cold Fusion" is based on an 80mhz 601. Priced at around \$4000, it comes in a Quadra 800 type box with 8-16 megs of RAM, a 230 or 500 meg hard drive, and a CD-ROM drive.

Look here for more PowerPC info in the weeks ahead. If you've been reading this column for a while, you know that I'm really pumped up about CD-ROM, so here's some more CD-ROM PR.

## 1.27 Humor Department

/// The Humor Department  
-----

Jokes, Quotes, Insults, Shameless Plugs

Frank said it best...

Information is not knowledge

Knowledge is not truth

Truth is not wisdom

Wisdom is not beauty

Beauty is not love

Love is not music,

music is the best

FZ, Joe's Garage, 1979

## 1.28 In Closing

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 Amiga Report International Online Magazine  
 December 17, 1993 \* YOUR INDEPENDENT NEWS SOURCE \* No. 1.38  
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## 1.29 Amiga Report Main Menu

|                            |                                    |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Columns and Features       | News, Reviews, and More!           |
| About AMIGA REPORT         | Staff, Copyright information       |
| Dealer Directory           | Amiga Dealer Addresses and Numbers |
| Commercial Online Services | Sign-Up Information                |
| FTP Announcements          | New Files Available for FTP        |
| AR Distribution Sites      | Where to get AMIGA REPORT          |

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/// 12/17/93 Amiga Report 1.38    "Your Weekly Source for Amiga Information"
```

- The Editor's Desk
- CPU Status Report
- New Products
- FTP Announcements
- Dealer Directory
- AR Confidential
- The Humor Department
- Pinball Fantasies
- AR Online
- QModem Pro Sneak Peek
- Modern Christmas
- 2 meg Agnus Project

» New Column: European Outlook «  
» More on Compton's Multimedia Patent Claims «

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Amiga Report International Online Magazine

"Your Weekly Source for Amiga Information"

» FEATURING WEEKLY «

Accurate UP-TO-DATE News and Information

Current Events, Original Articles, Tips, Rumors, and Information

Hardware · Software · Corporate · R & D · Imports

////////////////////////////////////

/ DELPHI · PORTAL · FIDO · INTERNET · BIX /

////////////////////////////////////

### 1.30 Columns and Features

|                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| From the Editor's Desk     | Saying it like it is!               |
| CPU Status Report          | Computer Products Update            |
| AMUC Announces CDROM       | From the Amiga Users of Calgary     |
| Repro Studio Universal     | 4 Graphics programs in one!         |
| Online Weekly              | The lines are buzzing!              |
| European Outlook           | A look at the Amiga in Europe       |
| Compton MultiMedia         | Info about Compton's patent claims  |
| STR InfoFile               | QModemPro for Windows               |
| UseNet Review              | Two Meg Agnus Project               |
| UseNet Review              | Pinball Fantasies                   |
| The Night Before Christmas | ...in modern times                  |
| Amiga Report Questionnaire | Fill it out and send it back!       |
| AR Confidential            | We heard it through the grapevine   |
| The Humor Department       | Jokes, Quotes, and Shameless plugs! |

### 1.31 About Amiga Report

|              |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| For Starters | Where to get AMIGA REPORT     |
| AR Staff     | The Editors, and Contributors |
| In Closing   | Copyright Information         |

### 1.32 Commercial Online Services

|          |                                        |
|----------|----------------------------------------|
| Delphi   | Getting better all the time!           |
| Portal   | A great place for Amiga users...       |
| InterNet | Subscribe to the AR Mailing List       |
| BIX      | For Serious Programmers and Developers |

### 1.33 Files Available for FTP

|                    |                                             |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| DrChip v1.02       | C programmng utilities                      |
| QuickNet - QN2000  | Proprietary networking system for the Amiga |
| Recall v2.1        | Scheduler program                           |
| AmiTCP_tnserv v1.0 | Telnet daemon for AmiTCP                    |
| ToolType v37.208   | WB tooltypes editor                         |

### 1.34 NOVA

\* NOVA BBS \*  
 Official Amiga Report Distribution Site  
 \* Running Starnet BBS \*  
 Wayne Stonecipher, Sysop  
 FidoNet 1:362/508  
 An Amiga Software Distribution Site (ADS)  
 615-472-9748 USR DS 16.8 24hrs - 7 days  
 Cleveland, Tennessee

## 1.35 In The MeanTime

\* IN THE MEANTIME BBS \*  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site  
\* Running AXShell \*  
Robert Niles, Sysop  
rniles@imtired.itm.com  
509-966-3828 Supra V.32bis 24hrs - 7 days  
Yakima, Washington

\*\*\*\*\* Notice \*\*\*\*\*

After 13 September 1993, In The MeanTime will no longer be on FidoNet, thus we will no longer be accepting File REQuests (FREQs). We WILL be still accepting calls and will have the latest edition of Amiga Report online. Downloads to first time callers are still accepted. For the west coast call Cloud's Corner to FREQ the latest edition of Amiga Report.

Those who call for the latest edition of Amiga Report, and who do not wish to establish an account, log in as guest with the password of "guest". At the prompt type "ARMAG" (without the quotes).

## 1.36 Cloud's Corner

\* CLOUD'S CORNER BBS \*  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site  
MebbsNet/Starnet Support/Distribution Site West Coast USA  
\* Running MEBBSNet BBS \*  
Larry Cloud, Sysop  
FidoNet: 1:350/30  
MaxNet: 90:180/10  
Internet: larryc@hebron.connected.com  
206-377-4290 USR HST DS 24hrs - 7 days  
Bremerton, Washington

New users can call and get ANY copy of Amiga Report. These are considered "free" downloads, they do not count against any file ratio. The latest issue of Amiga Reports can be Freq'ed (FileREQusted) from here as "AR.LHA", as "AR" or as ARxxx.LHA where xxx is the issue number. Freq's are valid at ANY time.

For users interested in reading AR, but who do not have access to AmigaGuide, you can freq ARBUL and get the AR in bulletin form. This service is provided for persons who do not have AmigaGuide (such as IBM users). Please note that any pictures distributed with the "regular" Amiga Reports archive will NOT be sent with this freq. This file is not available for dial-in users, but you can read bulletin #5 with your capture buffer open and get the same file.

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## 1.37 Biosmatica

\* BIOSMATICA BBS \*  
 Official Amiga Report Distribution Site -- Portugal  
 \* Running Excelsior/Trapdoor/UUCP \*  
 Celso Martinho, Sysop  
 FidoNet 2:361/9  
 +351-34-382320 V.32bis 24hrs - 7 days

## 1.38 Amiga Junction 9

\* AMIGA JUNCTION 9 \*  
 Official Amiga Report Distribution Site -- United Kingdom  
 \* Running DLG Professional \*  
 Stephen Anderson, Sysop  
 Sysop Email: sysadmin@junct9.royle.org

Line 1 +44 (0)372 271000 14400 V.32bis/HST FidoNet 2:440/20  
 Line 2 +44 (0)372 278000 14400 V.32bis only FidoNet 2:440/21  
 Line 3 +44 (0)372 279000 2400 V.42bis/MNP

Internet: user\_name@junct9.royle.org

## 1.39 BitStream BBS

\* BITSTREAM BBS \*  
 The BBS of the Nelson (NZ) Amiga Users Group  
 Official Amiga Report Distribution Site  
 \* Running Xenolink 1.0 Z.3 \*  
 Glen Roberts, Sysop  
 FidoNet 3:771/850  
 +64 3 5485321 Supra V.32bis 24hrs - 7 days  
 Nelson, New Zealand

## 1.40 Realm of Twilight

\* REALM OF TWILIGHT BBS \*  
 Official Amiga Report Distribution Site -- Canada  
 \* Running Excelsior! BBS \*  
 Thorsten Schiller, Sysop  
 Usenet: realm.tdkcs.waterloo.on.ca  
 UUCP: ...!uunet.ca!tdkcs!realm  
 FIDO: 1:221/202  
 Fish: 33:33/8  
 24hrs - 7 days  
 519-748-9365 (2400 baud)  
 519-748-9026 (v.32bis)  
 Ontario, Canada

Hardware: Amiga 3000, 105 Meg Quantum, 213 Meg Maxtor, 5 megs RAM

## 1.41 Metnet Triangle

METNET TRIANGLE SYSTEM  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site  
UK Support for Mebbsnet  
\* Running Mebbsnet and Starnet 1.02a \*  
Jon Witty, Sysop  
FIDO: 2:252/129.0  
24 hrs - 7 days  
Line 1: 44-482-473871 16.8 DS HST  
Lines 2-7: 44-482-442251 2400 (6 lines)  
Line 8: 44-482-491744 2400  
Line 9: 44-482-449028 2400  
Voice helpline 44-482-491752 (anytime)  
  
Fully animated menus + normal menu sets.  
500 megs HD - Usual software/messages  
Most doors online - Many Sigs - AMIGA AND PC SUPPORT  
Very active userbase and busy conference  
Precious days and MUD online. AMUL support site.

## 1.42 Omaha Amiganet

\* OMAHA AMIGANET \*  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site  
\* Running DLG Professional \*  
Andy Wasserman, Sysop  
24 hrs - 7 days  
FidoNet: 1:285/11  
AmigaNet: 40:200/10  
Line 1: 402-333-5110 V.32bis  
Line 2: 402-691-0104 USR DS  
Omaha, Nebraska

## 1.43 Amiga-Night-System

\* AMIGA-NIGHT-SYSTEM \*  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site - Finland  
\* Running DLG Professional \*  
Janne Saarme, Sysop  
24 hrs - 7 days  
InterNet: luumu@fenix.pp.fi  
FidoNet: 2:220/550.0  
+358-0-675840 V.32bis  
Helsinki, Finland

## 1.44 Ramses Amiga Flying

```
* RAMSES THE AMIGA FLYING *
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site -- France
* Running DLG Professional *
    Eric Delord, Sysop
    Philippe Brand, Co-Sysop
    Stephane Legrand, Co-Sysop
Internet: user.name@ramses.gna.org
    Fidonet: 2:320/104
    +33-1-60037015 USR DS 16.8
    +33-1-60037713 V.32bis
    +33-1-60037716 1200-2400
```

Ramses The Amiga Flying BBS is an Amiga-dedicated BBS running DLG-Pro on a Amiga 3000, 16MB RAM, 2GB Disk space, 3 lines.

We keep a dayly Aminet site mirroring, NetBSD-Amiga complete mirror site from ftp.eunet.ch (main site), Amiga Report, GNU Amiga, Ramses is the SAN/ADS/Amiganet French coordinator.

## 1.45 Gateway BBS

```
* THE GATEWAY BBS *
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site
* Running Excelsior! BBS *
    Stace Cunningham, Sysop
    Dan Butler, CoSysop
    24 hrs - 7 days
InterNet: stace@tecnet1.jcte.jcs.mil
FidoNet: 1:3604/60.0
    601-374-2697 Hayes Optina 28.8 V.FC
    Biloxi, Mississippi
```

## 1.46 Talk City

```
* TALK CITY *
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site
708-372-0190 - 2400bps    708-372-0268 - V32 14.4K    708-372-0283 USR DS 14.4K
Fido Net 1:115/372,0    Phantom Net 11:2115/2.0    Clink Net 911:6080/4.0
UUCP tcity.com
```

Over 3 Gig of Files Online | More and More things everyday.

With Three IBM CD-ROMs online, 10 lines, support for all platforms, and a REALLY dedicated sysop (The Mayor).

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## 1.47 Amiga BBS

\* Amiga BBS \*  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site  
\* Running Excelsior! BBS \*  
Alejandro Kurczyn, Sysop  
FidoNet 4:975/7  
First Amiga BBS in Mexico  
(5) 887-3080 9600 V32,MNP  
Estado de Mexico, Mexico

## 1.48 Freeland Mainframe

\* FREELAND MAINFRAME \*  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site  
\* Running DLG Progeessional \*  
John Freeland, SysOp  
206-438-1670 Supra 2400zi  
206-438-2273 Telebit WorldBlazer (v.32bis)  
206-456-6013 Supra v.32bis  
24hrs - 7 days  
Internet - freemf.eskimo.com  
Olympia, Washington

## 1.49 LAHO

\* LAHO BBS \*  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site -- Finland  
\* Running MBBS \*  
Lenni Uitti, SysOp  
Tero Manninen, SysOp (PC-areas)  
Juha Makinen, SysOp (Amiga-areas)  
+358-64-414 1516, V.32bis/HST  
+358-64-414 0400, V.32bis/HST  
+358-64-414 6800, V.32/HST  
+358-64-423 1300, V.32 MNP  
Seinajoki, Finland

Our machine is a 386/33 with 20MB of memory, 1GB harddisk and a CD-ROM drive. The BBS software is a Norwegian origin MBBS running in a DesqView windows.

We have over 7000 files online (both for the Amiga and PC) + 650MB stuff on the Aminet CD-ROM disk.

Every user has an access to download filelist (LAHOFIL.ZIP), list of Finnish 24-hour BBS's (BBSLIST.ZIP or BBSLIST.LHA) and every issue of the Amiga Report Magazine (AR101.LHA-AR1???.LHA) even on their first call.

The system has been running since 1989 and is sponsored by the local telephone company, Vaasan Ladin Puhelin Oy.

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## 1.50 Falling BBS

```
      * FALLING BBS *  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site -- Norway  
      * Running ABBS *  
      Christopher Naas, Sysop  
+47 69 256117 V.32bis 24hrs - 7 days  
      EMail: naasc@cnaas.adsp.sub.org
```

## 1.51 Command Line BBS

```
      * COMMAND LINE BBS *  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site -- Canada  
      Canada's Amiga Graphics & Animation Source  
      * Running AmiExpress BBS *  
      Nick Poliwko, Sysop  
416-533-8321 V.32 24hrs - 7 days  
      Toronto, Canada
```

## 1.52 Rendezvous BBS

```
      * RENDEZVOUS BBS *  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site - New Zealand  
      New Zealand Excelsior! BBS Support Site  
      * Running Excelsior! Professional BBS *  
      David Dustin, Sysop  
      Internet: postmaster@eclipse.acme.gen.nz  
+64 6 3566375 Supra V.32bis 24hrs - 7 days  
      Palmerston North, New Zealand
```

## 1.53 Leguans Byte Channel

```
      * LEGUANS BYTE CHANNEL *  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site -- Germany  
      * Running EazyBBS V2.11 *  
      Andreas Geist, Sysop  
      Usenet: andreas@lbcmbx.in-berlin.de  
              24 hrs - 7 days  
      Line 1: 49-30-8110060 USR DS 16.8  
      Line 2: 49-30-8122442 USR DS 16.8  
  
      Login as User: "amiga", Passwd: "report"
```



## 1.54 Stingray Database BBS

\* STINGRAY DATABASE \*  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site -- Germany  
\* Running FastCall \*  
Bernd Mienert, Sysop  
EMail: sysop@sting-db.zer.sub.org.dbp.de  
+49 208 496807 HST-Dual 24hrs - 7 days  
Muelheim/Ruhr, Germany

## 1.55 T.B.P. Video Slate

\* T.B.P. VIDEO SLATE \*  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site  
An Amiga dedicated BBS for All  
\* Running Skyline 1.3.2 \*  
Mark E Davidson, Sysop  
24 hrs - 7 days  
201-586-3623 USR 14.4 HST  
Rockaway, New Jersey

Full Skypix menus + normal and ansi menu sets.  
Instant Access to all. Download on the first call.

Hardware: Amiga 500 Tower custom at 14 MHz, 350 Meg maxtor,  
125 Meg SCSI Maxtor, 125 Meg IDE Maxtor, Double Speed CD rom,  
9 meg RAM

## 1.56 Amiga Central

\* AMIGA CENTRAL! \*  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site  
CNet Amiga Support Site  
\* Running CNet Amiga BBS \*  
Carl Tashian, Sysop  
Internet mail: root@amicent.raider.net  
615-383-9679 1200-14.4Kbps V.32bis  
24 hours - 7 days  
Nashville, Tennessee

Hardware: Amiga 3000 Tower 68030+882@25MHz, 105 meg Quantum, 225 meg Seagate,  
Zoom 14.4k modem

## 1.57 Continental Drift

\* CONTINENTAL DRIFT BBS \*  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site  
\* Running MAXsBBS software (DLG Pro is being delivered!) \*  
Murry Chaffer & Andre Lackman, Sysops  
+612 9188375  
24 hours - 7 days  
Sydney, Australia

## 1.58 Guru Meditation:

\* GURU MEDITATION \*  
Official Amiga Report Distribution Site -- Spain  
\* Running Remote Access \*  
Javier Frias, SysOp  
+34-1-383-1317 V.32bis  
24 hours - 7days  
Spain

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