

CyberView.doc

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Chapter 1

CyberView.doc

1.1 The Tale of CyberView

CyberView V2.2

=====

An universal image viewer for the CyberGraphX WB Emulation

Purpose

Features

Installation

Using CyberView from CLI

Using CyberView from Workbench

Controlling CyberView's display

History

Future

Copyright

Acknowledgements

Author

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1.2 Purpose of CyberView

At the WoC 1994 in Cologne I had a nice talk with Frank Mariak one of the authors of CyberGraphX about their plans to write a hardware independent Workbench Emulation which should add 24bit support to Intuition.

Because Commodore probably will never provide a operating system with RTG I liked the idea of a new standard and decided to support it by writing an image viewer for CyberGraphX.

This program called "CyberView" is the result of this effort.

1.3 Features of CyberView

CyberView will run on any Amiga with OS 3.0 (or newer) and an installed CyberGraphX system. The amount of free memory which is required depends on the size of the images which shall be viewed. CyberView can be used from CLI and Workbench.

Supported file formats are:

- GIF
- IFF ILBM
(1-8 bitplanes, EHB, HAM, HAM8, 24bit)
- JFIF
(based in part on the work of the Independent JPEG Group)
- DataTypes
- PBM+
(formats P1-P6)
- IFF PBM
(only 8 bitplanes, no masking data)
- PCX
(monochrom, EGA 1-4 bitplanes, VGA, 24bit)

1.4 Using CyberView from CLI

SYNOPSIS

```
CyberView FILES/M,DELAY/N,CENTER/S,  
                WIDTH/K/N,DEPTH/K/N,HEIGHT/K/N,INFO/S
```

ARGUMENTS

FILES: filename(s) or AmigaDOS pattern(s) of the image(s)
which shall be viewed

DELAY: automatically end viewing the current picture after
the supplied number of seconds

CENTER: center picture on screen

WIDTH: width of the screen

HEIGHT: height of the screen

DEPTH: desired depth for true color pictures
(15, 16 or 24bit)

INFO: view informations about the builtin loaders

EXAMPLES

Open a file requester to select a picture:

CyberView

Load a single picture:

CyberView Awakening.JPG

Load all pictures ending with ".ILBM", go to the next picture after 10 seconds:

CyberView #?.ILBM DELAY 10

Load "One.GIF" and "Two.PBM" and show them on a 320x240 screen:

CyberView One.GIF Two.PBM WIDTH 320 HEIGHT 240

Load a picture centered into a 15bit screen:

CyberView Three.PPM DEPTH 15 CENTER

Show informations about the builtin loaders:

CyberView INFO

1.5 Using CyberView from Workbench

There are two ways of using CyberView from the Workbench:

1.) As Default Tool:

Specify CyberView as the default tool of an image icon.
Then double click on the image icon to view the picture.

2.) Multi Selection:

You can also use Workbench's multi selection feature to view pictures using CyberView. Click (single click) on an image icon, then press the shift key on your keyboard and continue to single click as many image icons as you wish.
When you're done double click on the CyberView program icon (while still holding the shift key).

1.6 Controlling CyberView's display

While CyberView is loading a picture you can use SPACE, RETURN or any mouse button to skip to the next picture. If you press ESC or CTRL-C CyberView will be terminated.

After the picture has been loaded you can use ESC or CTRL-C to end CyberView. If you press a mouse button or any other key the next picture will be loaded.

CyberView uses autoscroll screens for oversized pictures. So you can scroll the picture by moving the mouse around.

1.7 Some ideas for the future of CyberView

These features might be added to future versions of CyberView:

- add support for more file formats
- get arguments "WIDTH", "HEIGHT", "DEPTH" and "DELAY" from icon's tooltypes if CyberView is started from the Workbench

1.8 Developement of CyberView

CyberView 1.0:

- first public release
- loaders: ILBM 1.0, JFIF 1.0, DataTypes 1.0

GIF 1.0

- Because CompuServe is said not to ask for payment for freeware I decided to risk to release the GIF loader.

DataTypes 1.1:

- The image data is no longer copied but directly used if possible. This saves both memory and time.

CyberView 1.1:

- loaders: ILBM 1.0, JFIF 1.0, DataTypes 1.1, GIF 1.0
- added "DELAY/N" argument

PBM 1.0:

- new loader for PBM+ files

CyberView 1.2:

- loaders: ILBM 1.0, JFIF 1.0, DataTypes 1.1, GIF 1.0, PBM 1.0
- CyberView can now be aborted by pressing CTRL-C even if the progress window was not opened.
- some small improvements

GIF 2.0:

- adjusted to CyberView 2.0

JFIF 2.0:

- new loader based in part on the work of the Independent JPEG Group

IFF 1.0:

- replaces the old ILBM loader, supports IFF-ILBM and IFF-PBM

PBM 2.0:

- adjusted to CyberView 2.0

DataTypes 2.0:

- adjusted to CyberView 2.0

PCX 1.0:

- new loader for PCX files

CyberView 2.0:

- major rewrite:
Image data is now read line by line and transfered to the screen
-

immediately. This saves not only memory, you can also look at the picture while it is loaded.

- loaders: GIF 2.0, ILBM 1.0, JFIF 2.0, PBM 2.0, DataTypes 2.0, PCX 1.0
- improved buffered I/O (PBM loader now twice as fast)
- new command line arguments
- can be made resident
- opens a file requester if no filename is supplied

CyberView 2.1:

- opens a file requester if started from Workbench without arguments
- some small improvements

GIF 2.1:

- small speed improvement

IFF 1.1:

- 24bit ILBM pictures are now loaded more than 50% faster.

CyberView 2.2:

- fixed the black screen problem
- improved user break handling
- new command line arguments

1.9 Installation of CyberView

To install "CyberView" you only have to copy the binary and its icon to any directory you like.

Users of my directory utility Filer (version 3.20 or newer) can add these lines to their configuration file to use CyberView:

```
CLASS "#?", "FORM????ILBM", "CyberView %s CENTER"
CLASS "#?", "FORM????PBM ", "CyberView %s CENTER"
CLASS "#?", "???????JFIF", "CyberView %s CENTER"
CLASS "#?", "GIF8", "CyberView %s CENTER"
CLASS "#?", "P1", "CyberView %s CENTER"
CLASS "#?", "P2", "CyberView %s CENTER"
CLASS "#?", "P3", "CyberView %s CENTER"
CLASS "#?", "P4", "CyberView %s CENTER"
CLASS "#?", "P5", "CyberView %s CENTER"
CLASS "#?", "P6", "CyberView %s CENTER"
CLASS "#?.PCX", "", "CyberView %s CENTER"
```

1.10 Copyright and other legal topics

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CyberView must NOT be included or used in commercial programs unless by written permission from the author. Permission for Phase5 to distribute this program together with their graphics board CyberVision 64 is hereby given.

CyberView must NOT be used on any machine which is used for the research, development, construction, testing or production of weapons or other military applications. This also includes any machine which is used for training persons for *any* of the above mentioned purposes.

1.11 Hall of Fame

The following people helped me during the development of "CyberView":

Frank Mariak

He is one of the authors of CyberGraphX, made bug fixes for me, gave me hints, always supplied me the latest version and of course tested CyberView.

Christoph Feck

He gave me an example source for loading pictures with the "datatypes.library".

Jürgen Weinelt

He helped me writing my (unpublished) GIF datatype on which CyberView's GIF loader is based. He also supplied me some PCX pictures for testing my PCX loader.

Ralph Schmidt

He gave me the source for a fast planar chunky converter.

Michael Hohmann, Markus Stipp, Stefan Becker, Stefan Stuntz, Stefan Gybas
They helped me beta-testing CyberView.

1.12 How to reach the Author

The author can be reached as:

Matthias Scheler

Schützenstraße 18
D-33178 Borcheln
Germany

E-Mail:
tron@lyssa.owl.de
Matthias Scheler, 2:243/6301.223@fidonet