

MLCpro

Felix Schwarz

COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> MLCpro		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY	Felix Schwarz	July 22, 2024	

REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

Contents

1	MLCpro	1
1.1	MultiLiveCam pro - THE LiveCam for the AMIGA	1
1.2	Introduction to the LiveCam	1
1.3	What do you need for running your LiveCam	1
1.4	Configuration	2
1.5	Setting up independant systems	6
1.6	Disclaimer - Read this!	6
1.7	Future plans for MultiLiveCam pro	7
1.8	The author - the great master of programming ;-)	7
1.9	Registration	8

Chapter 1

MLCpro

1.1 MultiLiveCam pro - THE LiveCam for the AMIGA

MultiLiveCam pro
© 1998 by Felix Schwarz

Introduction	What is it ?
Requirements	What do I need to run it ?
Configuration	How can I configure it ?
Independence	How can I create an independant, automatic system ?
Registration	How to get the full-working version of MLC pro.
Disclaimer~~	Read this!
Future~~~~~	What is planned ?
The~author~~	Who wrote this ?

1.2 Introduction to the LiveCam

Introduction

Well, a LiveCam is a HTML-page on the web containing a picture that is updated every xx seconds/minutes/hours. There are LiveCams everywhere all over our planet and you could add one. What you need for that can be read here. MultiLiveCam pro allows you to make an Amiga-based LiveCam with a lot of comfort. I haven't seen any other programs for that on AMIGA. I think, this might be the only LiveCam for the AMIGA and this program has some special features like virtual cams, genlocking text, timelapse animation creation and many more that do IMHO not exist on other platforms anyway. As you can use up to 7 VLabs (with special Zorro-Daughter-Board, 4 in a normal Amiga), you can use up to 21 (!!) cams on one computer.

- Felix

1.3 What do you need for running your LiveCam

Requirements

LiveCam needs the following hard- and software:

Hardware

- Any Amiga with Zorro-slots
- One or more of the following boards
 - VLab Y/C (the one with 3 inputs, good speed and high quality)
 - VLab Classic (the one with 2 inputs, good quality and bit slower speed)
 - VLab/par (not tested, but basically supported)
- some megs of RAM (at least 2 MB. 4 MB are recommended)
- PowerUP-board (not needed, but for ultimate speed!)

Software

- Amiga OS 3.x
- Miami (for the Internet connection)

1.4 Configuration

Configuration

MultiLiveCam pro (MLC pro) uses a configuration file to ensure maximal flexibility. It mostly can be configured like if you would work with variables - it's VERY easy to learn. Every cam is seperated by "NEXTCAM" and there are some cam-specific fields. If you begin a line with a "#" it will be handled as a comment.

Cam-specific fields:

INPUT

This field specifies which input of your VLab-board(s) should be used. The first VLab has input 1-3, the next 4-6 and so on.

Example: INPUT=1

XTOP, YTOP

These fields contain the top left corner x and y coordinates of the cam.

XTOP can range between a value of 0-716 (PAL and NTSC)

YTOP can range between a value of 0-618 (PAL) or 0-518 (NTSC)

Example:

XTOP=40

YTOP=60

Note that it is NOT recommended to use the available values up to its limits!

WIDTH, HEIGHT

Width and height of the part of the picture you want to grab from XTOP and YTOP on. ←

WIDTH can range between 4-720 (PAL and NTSC)

HEIGHT can range between 2-620 (PAL) or 0-520 (NTSC)

Note that it is NOT recommended to use the available values up to its limits!

Example:

WIDTH=640

HEIGHT=540

SCALETOWIDTH, SCALETOHEIGHT

As WIDTH and HEIGHT might not be the final width and height you want to use, you can ←

enter alternate values for them and MLC pro will scale them down internally to ↵
this

size. Note, that some details in the image could be lost.

Example:

```
SCALETOWIDTH=320  
SCALETOHEIGHT=240
```

DELAYSEC

The time between two updates of the cam's picture on the web.

Example:

```
DELAYSEC=50
```

GRABSPERPIC

As switching the inputs MIGHT cause some noise in the picture you can enter the number of pictures that are made before the final GRAB, here.

Example:

```
GRABSPERPIC=2
```

PICTURE

Enter the filename and the path of the picture, that the grabs are saved to, here. Normally the path is picdir/.

Example:

```
PICTURE=picdir/MLCam1.jpg
```

PICFORMAT

MLC pro supports GIF and JPEG as output format for your pictures. You can choose between them with this entry.

Example:

```
PICFORMAT=JPEG
```

JPEGQUALITY

If you use JPEG, enter the quality here.

Example:

```
JPEGQUALITY=60
```

STARTPICFILE

If you want to do time-lapse films with MLC pro, you can simply add a "*" at the ↵
position

an index should be added to. You also need a file for every cam you want to do ↵
time-lapse

films with. Note: This does NOT affect the name of the uploaded file!

Example:

```
PICTURE=picdir/MLCam1.jpg*  
STARTPICFILE=spf/MLC1.spf
```

.. will output MLCam1.jpg.0000000, MLCam1.jpg.0000001, MLCam1.jpg.0000002 ..

GENFONT, GENTEXT, GENXPOS, GENYPOS

These entries allow you to add a changing (!) text to your cam at a given ↵
position,

with a given font and a given "mask". The font is entered using GENFONT. The ↵
font

must be given to it in /<size>-format. GENTEXT allows you to create an ↵
auto-

updated text. The following variables are supported:

%secs, %sec2

Is replaced with the current seconds of the AMIGA clock (either unformatted or

formatted: either 2 or 02).

%mins, %min2

Is replaced with the current minutes of the AMIGA clock (either unformatted or formatted: either 2 or 02).

%hours, %hour2

Is replaced with the current hours of the AMIGA clock (either unformatted or formatted: either 2 or 02).

%date, %date2

Is replaced with the current date of the AMIGA clock (either American or ←
European

style: 01/01/1998 or 01.01.1998.

GENXPOS and GENYPOS finally have to contain the X- and Y-coordinates the text ←
should be
blitted/added to.

Example:

GENFONT=CGTriumvirate.font/20

GENTEXT=MultiLiveCam pro ©1998 by Felix Schwarz - %hour2:%min2:%sec2 - %dat2

GENXPOS=1

GENYPOS=1

Ok, now we have finished the part the cams are configured in. Now let's move on to the part with the global settings:

CONNECTSCRIPT

This command will be executed to connect to the Internet.

Example:

CONNECTSCRIPT=sys:rexxc/rx MiamiStart.rx

DISCONNECTSCRIPT

This command will be executed to disconnect from the Internet.

Example:

DISCONNECTSCRIPT=sys:rexxc/rx MiamiStop.rx

SUBMETHOD (EMAIL/FTPMOUNT)

MLC pro allows you two ways to submit the updated picture to the Internet:

- via EMail

The pictures will be packed using gzip and the zip-archive then will be encoded using the Base64-method. The encoded data is sent to the address given at the other fields.

- via FTP

You have to have FTPMount installed for this. Then the pictures all will be copied over to the directory given at the FTPMOUNTDIR-field.

MAILSERVER

If SUBMETHOD=EMAIL, then you have to enter the mailserver (SMTP-server) that should be used, here.

Example:

MAILSERVER=mail.foo.com

MAILADDRESS

If SUBMETHOD=EMAIL, then you have to enter the mailaddress of the receiptant of the pictures, here.

Example:

MAILADDRESS=mycampicshere@foo.com

YOUREMAIL

If SUBMETHOD=EMAIL, then you should enter your own emailaddress here.

MAILTOPIC

If SUBMETHOD=EMAIL, then you have to enter the subjectline of the mail sent to MAILADDRESS, here.

CONNECTTIMENEDEDEDINSECS

After the CONNECTSCRIPT was executed, MLC pro will wait the number of seconds entered here before doing any actions.

MAILPORT

If SUBMETHOD=EMAIL, then you have to enter the port of your mailserver here, normally this is 25.

FTPMOUNTDIR

If SUBMETHOD=FTPMOUNT, then all pictures will be copied to this directory

Example:

FTPMOUNTDIR=FTP:mycamftpserv/

VIDEOSYSTEM (PAL/NTSC)

As there are two VIDEOSYSTEM existing, you have to choose which one you are using.

Example:

VIDEOSYSTEM=PAL

GFXSYSTEM (CGX/AOS)

You can choose the view-routines, that should be used, here. CGX uses Cyber-GraphX or Picasso96 and AOS runs everywhere using AmigaOS 3.x-functions.

RESOLUTION (INTERLACE/NORMAL)

If you have some picture errors when digitizing a "moving picture", you should choose NORMAL for normal resolution or INTERLACE for maximum vertical resolution ←

Example:

RESOLUTION=NORMAL

JPEGSaver

Lets you choose a CPU-optimized version of the JPEG-saver. There are currently the following possibilities:

- Saver/cjpeg

This one runs on every machine

- Saver/cjpeg.040

This one is an optimized version for 68040/060

- Saver/cjpeg.elf

This is the PPC-PowerUP-Version. You have to have ElfLoadSeg-Patch installed.

1.5 Setting up independant systems

Independence

This part tells you, what software you need to set up an independant system. Simply follow the following steps:

1. Install AmigaOS 3.x (make sure you have Kickstart 3.x installed!)
2. Install Miami 3.0 + GTLayout-GUI
3. Configure Miami and also configure it for not closing the window when it has established a connection (VERY important!)
4. Install and configure MultiLiveCam pro
5. Type "C:ed S:user-startup" in a shell and add the following lines:

```
run <>NIL: Miami:Miami
wait 5
run <>NIL: FTPMountDir:MultiLiveCam
```
6. Reboot your system and it should work.

If you need any assistance, don't hesitate to contact the author.

1.6 Disclaimer - Read this!

Disclaimer

MultiLiveCam pro is commercial. MultiLiveCam pro is NOT a collection of freely distributable material though it contains freely distributable material. ↵

Nevertheless
no file from MultiLiveCam pro may be freely distributed without the written ↵
permission
of Felix Schwarz.

The files of MultiLiveCam pro (called MLC pro in the following text) are ↵
copyrighted ©1998

Felix Schwarz if this isn't stated another way in this document or in the files ↵
themselves.

No part of this product may be reproduced in any way without previous written ↵
permission

from Felix Schwarz what includes but is not limited to magnetic, biologic, ↵
optical, chemical,

mechanic and acustic reproduction and all other systems to copy, distribute, ↵
transfer, save

and work. You may also not make a "safety copy". Without written permission of ↵
Felix Schwarz,

no part may be translated in any speech or computer-speech, language or ↵
computerlanguage.

MLC pro is provided "as is", without warranty of any kind, either expressed or ↵
implied, statutory

or otherwise. By using the software and data files, you accept the entire risk ↵
as to its performance
and quality.

Neither Felix Schwarz nor any other party involved in the creation, production ↵
or delivery of the

software and data files shall be liable for any direct, indirect, special, ↵
consequential or incidental

damages, including without limitation damages for loss for loss of profits, loss of use or loss of anticipated costs, expenses or damages, and any data or information which may be lost or rendered inaccurate, even if Felix Schwarz is advised of the possibility of such damages.

The documents and artwork included in the MLC pro were prepared with great care. They may reflect personal opinions of the authors, which are not necessarily shared Felix Schwarz, who cannot assume any responsibility for their contents, nor for mistakes and misprints. Nothing in these documents should be regarded as legal counsel. If you require legal or other expert assistance, you should consult a professional advisor.

MLC pro may contain technology relating to strategic products controlled by export or import control laws of the producing and/or exporting or importing countries. The software or any portion thereof should not be exported (or reexported, or imported) without authorization from the appropriate authorities in accordance with such laws.

The author can not be made responsible for damages of any kind that was caused by using or not using MultiLiveCam pro or any other program. You may not spread this program in any way without permission of the author, Felix Schwarz. Damages include (but are not limited to) loss of data, loss of connections and loss of money.

All information is subject to change without notice.

1.7 Future plans for MultiLiveCam pro

Future

- program to create timelapse-animations from the saved pictures
- option to select any color for the text or make it inverse
- localization
- German documentation

1.8 The author - the great master of programming ;-)

The author

The author can be reached the following ways:

- Snail-mail
Felix Schwarz
Am Gründla 3
D-91074 Herzogenaurach
Germany
- Email
bs168@fen.baynet.de <-- prefer this one

bs168@gmx.net
innovative@in-tec.de

- Homepage
<http://innovative.in-tec.de/>
- Phone
+ (0) 049 - (0) 9132/3400

1.9 Registration

Registration

The unregistered demo-version has several disadvantages compared to the full version:

- no time-lapse support
- time limited to 6 updates
- DEMO-text on all images
- a requester needing your input at start
- no FPU-version of the fsgfx.library
- no PPC- and 040-version of the JPEG-saver

Please consider registering for only 99 DM/66 US\$ and support this product. To register, fill out the registration form and print it. Then send it to:

Felix Schwarz
Am Gründla 3
D-91074 Herzogenaurach
Germany

Thank you for your support.
