

# **BenSpeaks**

Ben Vost

**COLLABORATORS**

	<i>TITLE :</i> BenSpeaks		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY	Ben Vost	December 31, 2022	

**REVISION HISTORY**

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

---

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>BenSpeaks</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Welcome to AFCD22 . . . . .	1
1.2	Thought for the month . . . . .	2
1.3	Submissions advice . . . . .	3
1.4	Submissions advice . . . . .	3
1.5	How to make a Read me file . . . . .	4

---

# Chapter 1

## BenSpeaks

### 1.1 Welcome to AFCD22

AFCD22

January 98

A new year, and a new start for the Amiga then. We're not going to be referring to Gateway 2000 much more in the magazine since Amiga Inc., now finally seem to be up and running and, although they owe their existence to GW2K, they are a wholly separate company. Coming back from the Cologne show is always a pleasure for me since it means I can share what news I've gleaned there with readers in the UK and worldwide, but it was a pleasant surprise for me to see so many English-speaking attendees including the AmigaSOC lot (who we have to thank for the devcon at the World of Amiga show in Hammersmith in May 97) and more than the usual mix of UK dealers, software houses and users. While I am used to seeing people visiting the Cologne show from America (Hi to Hal Greenlee!), in the past attendance from UK people has been fairly low. Perhaps my constant reiteration of the fact that the Cologne show is the best Amiga show in the world is starting to sink in!

Petro hopes to have the showed renamed to World of Amiga for next year and judging by the numbers of people who were actually Amiga users at the show, I don't think that will be a problem. Even though some 35% of the stands there were either PC dedicated, or sold stuff that could be used on both platforms - SIMMs, hard drives, even tower cases (all at ridiculously low prices - less than £50 for a 32Mb SIMM - thanks to the Pound's strength and the Deutschmark's weakness), I would say that 85-90% of the people there were primarily Amiga owners.

Ben

HEY!!!! READ THE SUBMISSION ADVICE! THEN YOUR STUFF MIGHT GET ON ↔  
THE CD!!!

PS. OK, I thought you'd stopped sending us your modules, but still more than half of your submissions are not getting onto the AFCD. If you don't know why yours hasn't appeared then maybe you should check out the

submissions advice page

.

## 1.2 Thought for the month

New Amiga ideas

At these shows you end up chatting to all sorts of people. One of whom was James Ceraldi of AuroraWorks - makers of the high end game H-Bomb. We got to chatting about our ideas for a new Amiga and this was an idea he came up with (these are my words, paraphrasing what James said over the weekend):

"Everyone keeps saying that the Amiga's operating system would be ideal for a palmtop computer - much lower memory and hardware overhead than WindowsCE for a start. My idea would be to create an Amiga palmtop which had a pull-out LCD screen. Sure, it would be a bit flimsy, but it would allow it to be bigger than the normal. Next, the Amiga should have a built-in SCSI port (perhaps a proprietary type to allow it to fit on the back of this machine), a VGA port and two or three USB ports on the back. Also, it should be powered by one of the new PowerPC chips designed for palmtops - the ones that have heaps of processing power but not much by way of requiring voltage or space. Now, when you're out and about you take this palmtop with you and it has the power to run Lightwave for you, you could run all your existing Amiga apps on it in fact."

"But when you get back home and you want something with a higher resolution, you plug it into your SCSI stack, your monitor and you use the USBs for your keyboard and mouse - no need to have a separate machine. This is your Amiga, you don't need a box at home. This means several things: 1. You don't have to worry about upgrading your machine. When a newer, more powerful model comes out, you can simply part exchange or resell your old one and buy the new model. 2. Because of this, the palmtop will be treated more as a consumer durable than a complex computer which means lower costs for all that power. 3. Because your new Amiga will be a palmtop, you'll be able to carry it around with you wherever you go which means that it's less likely to get pinched if your house is burgled."

So food for thought there. My own personal take is that we should emulate Apple in one other respect and make an Amiga version of Apple's 5500 Mac. In case you aren't familiar with this model, imagine a (fairly heavy) portable TV with a 15" screen. It's a bit bulkier than normal because under the actual screen you'll notice a floppy port and a CD-ROM drive in the case of the TV. You plug your mouse, keyboard and aerial lead in the back of the machine and you have the ideal student machine. It's a TV, it's a CD player and it's a computer, all in one box, all in a small amount of space. The TV would actually be a multiscan monitor capable of working at 15kHz (for the TV picture) and at 31kHz+ for Amiga Workbench screens that are kind to the eyes. Not only that, but there should be room in the back of this machine to have at least one Zorro slot, so you could have a card like the VLab Motion, so that this machine could be used as the ideal, portable non-linear editing studio. Obviously this machine would be a bit more expensive than your A1200 because of the built-in monitor and CD-ROM drive, but it wouldn't be that much more money considering that this is also an extension of Gateway's Dimension PC line.

---

## 1.3 Submissions advice

## 1.4 Submissions advice

### HOW TO SEND US YOUR SUBMISSIONS

=====

IMPORTANT! We can't accept your music modules as submissions for the Amiga Format CD owing to copyright problems with sound samples from copyrighted sources. Please don't send any more...

We want you to send us your programs, animations, pictures, game tips and cheats, hacks, hardware projects, basically anything you can think of that you have done with your Amiga. It must be your own work - no passing off Chris Achilleos' greatest masterpieces as your own, and we need a variety of things from you in addition to your submission and we need them on your disk.

1. We need your name and address so that we know where to send your prize. You should also put your name and address on labels on your media.

2. We need two

read me

files accompanying your work; one for us and one to go on the CD itself (title them AF\_ReadMe and ReadMe). These can be as in-depth as you want them to be, but should contain instructions for us on getting your work running if it is a complicated procedure, including things like necessary libraries and so on. The readme that will go on the CD will be the introduction of your work to the whole Amiga Format reading world so check your spelling and grammar and show people just what is so good about your work.

3. If your work requires files such as libraries which you cannot send us owing to copyright reasons make sure we know about them so that we can either arrange to put them on the CD, or warn our readers about them (you will probably do this in your CD read me).

4. Be aware that we won't be as interested in programs that need to boot or that require to be in a certain place on the CD, unless, of course, that place happens to be in your directory on the CD. Your directory will almost certainly have the path: "AFCDxx:-ReaderStuff-/your\_name/" but then no-one will be able to run your program except from the CD, limiting its usefulness or appeal.

If we do put something on the CD that needs to autoboot, it will almost certainly only be as a DMS that readers will have to extract to disk before they can use it.

5. Lastly, your submission must include the following text within your AF\_ReadMe file, otherwise your submission will not go on the CD:

In respect of all material which forms my reader contribution to Future Publishing's Amiga Format I hereby warrant that:-

(1) the material is original and does not infringe any other material

---

or rights;

(2) the material does not contain any material which is defamatory, obscene or indecent and is exempt from classification under the Video Recordings Act 1984;

(3) that there are no legal claims against the material provided;

(4) that I have full power and authority to provide this material to Future Publishing.

(There is a version of this text as a file in the -Look\_here\_1st!- drawer on the CD.)

You can send us your work on pretty much any sort of media whether it be floppy disks (high or double density, but don't send us work on high density disks unless you yourself have a high density drive. High density disks used in a double density drive aren't as reliable as using double density disks), a floppy disk back up using AmiBack, Quarterback or any of the shareware backup tools (we provide ABackup on the CD), Zip disk, Jaz cartridge, SyQuest 44MB, 88MB or EZ Drive, DAT tape backup from any of the above-mentioned programs (the only thing we're not very keen on is the Video Backup System that Power Computing sell in the UK, we've had nothing but trouble with it), FTP upload to ftp2.futurenet.co.uk, (you'll only be able to put your file in the incoming directory, you won't be able to see it once you have finished uploading, but don't worry, it'll be there. Make sure that you name your file with AF\_ at the start so that we know it's for us) basically anything apart from a listing on paper. We don't want to have to type in your program too!

We will return any media more expensive than high density floppies via registered post, so you won't have to worry about losing seventy quid's worth of Jaz cartridge.

Send your submissions to:

CD submissions  
Amiga Format  
30 Monmouth Street,  
Bath, BA1 2BW

## 1.5 How to make a Read me file

If you are unsure about how to make a readme file it really is very simple. If you have a word processor of some description (Wordworth, Final Writer or the like) you can create one in that - you must just make sure that you save the text as ASCII text; there will be an option in the Save As... requester or program preferences.

If you don't have a word processor, but you have a text editor for a

---

programming language or for some other reason - we put Gold Ed on our CD every time the authors release a new version, you can use that, in fact, it would be ideal for the purpose.

If you don't have a third party text editor, you have two provided by Commodore with your Amiga. In the tools drawer you should find MEmacs, but just opening a shell window will get you to ed. To edit a new file in ed, type the following line at the shell prompt:

```
ed ram:AF_Readme
```

This will create a new text file in RAM: called, yes, you guessed it, AF\_Readme. It won't have an icon, but don't worry about that, we can always add one for you, just make sure you put it in with your submission.