METRICON V. 2.0 USER'S MANUAL

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1- INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Shareware version of Metricon, the Unit Converter for the Windows operating system. Metricon features 332 units in 41 general and scientific categories, including currency and temperature. It comprises a calculator, updateable exchange rates, an easy drag-and-drop mode, a clipboard utility for easy exchange of data with other applications, and more. Taking a few minutes to read this manual will ensure you get the most out of Metricon.
Metricon unit conversions are based on ASTM Standard E380-86.
Metricon requires an IBM-compatible computer running the Microsoft Windows 3.1 operating system with the SHARE utility, 4 Meg RAM memory, a VGA screen and a mouse. If the SHARE utility is not installed on your system, install it by adding the following line to your AUTOEXEC.BAT file,

C:\DOS\SHARE.EXE /L:500 /F:5100

then rebooting the system.

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2- HOW TO CONVERT UNITS

To choose a subject: Click (press, then release) a subject in the subject list box on the left of the screen.
To choose a category: Click a category in the category list box, in the middle of the screen. The table of unit equivalents in the right part of the screen now contains conversion factors for the selected category.
To convert from a single unit to all others in a category: Click on the unit symbol in the units list box.

EXAMPLE: To convert meters to Angstroms, centimeters, feet, inches, ...etc.

1- Click "General" in the subject list box. General categories appear in the category list box.
2- Click "Length" in the category list box. Length units appear in the units list box.
3- Position the mouse over "m" and click the left mouse button. The conversion of units appears in the display area as

```
1E10          A
100           cm
3.2808        ft
39.3707       In
0.0010        km
1.057E-16     l-y
1             m
0.006         mi
...etc.
```

To convert physical quantities (i. e., a number plus a unit) using the unit table:

CLICK the number cell in the units list box, left of the symbol for the "origin" unit.
ENTER the number value for the "origin" quantity from the keyboard. Press the "Enter" key.
The corresponding quantities appear in the unit table.

EXAMPLE: To convert 100 degrees C to degrees Fahrenheit:

1- Click "General" in the subject list box. General categories appear in the category list box.
2- Click "Temperature" in the category list box. Length units appear in the units list box.
3- Click the number cell to the left of " C". Enter 100 from the keyboard. Press the Enter key.

The unit table changes as follows:

```
100.0000      C
212.0000      F
373.1500      K
671.6700      R
```

To copy conversions to the clipboard:

PRESS the left mouse button over the symbol of the "origin" unit in the units list box;
DRAG the mouse over to the symbol of the "destination" unit. **RELEASE** the mouse button.
The conversion of units appears in the display area above the units list box, in the format:

X "Origin unit" = Y "Destination unit"

The contents of the display area are placed in the Windows clipboard, ready for pasting into a spreadsheet or other Windows application.

EXAMPLE: To convert meters to feet:

1- Click "General" in the subject list box. General categories appear in the category list box.
2- Click "Length" in the category list box. Length units appear in the units list box.
3- Position the mouse over "m" and press the left mouse button. Drag the mouse over to "ft" and release the left mouse button. The conversion of units appears in the display area as

1 m = 3.2808 ft

In like fashion you may copy numbers to the clipboard by dragging them from the number column to the clipboard display area.

3- UPDATING CURRENCY CONVERSIONS:

Currency units are displayed with the date of the last update. To update currency conversion factors as exchange rates vary, click the pound sign icon or select "Update currency conversions"

from the options menu. Current conversion factors appear in the currency dialog box along with currency symbols. Enter the new conversion factors, then Press the OK button to update them in memory. The new exchange rates are displayed in the unit table.
To quit the currency dialog box without updating conversion factors, press the cancel button.

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4- CHANGING THE DISPLAY FORMAT.

You may choose between fixed or scientific display, and adjust the number of decimals displayed, from the option buttons and decimals box in the display format area.
The display format automatically changes to scientific in the following cases:
- The high absolute value of the number, with the specified number of decimals, would cause the display to overspill;
- The low absolute value of the number would cause a non-zero quantity to display as zero.

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5- STORING SETTINGS ON DISK.

Current settings are stored by clicking the disk icon or by choosing "Save settings now" from the options menu. The settings stored are:

- Date of last currency update
- Currency conversion factors
- Display format (fixed or scientic, # of decimals)
- Active subject
- Active category
- Status of "Save settings on exit" option
- Status of "Reset on exit" option

To save settings automatically on exit, check the "Save settings on exit" option in the options menu. To restore settings to their original value (General - Area - Fixed - 4 decimals - Settings not stored on exit - Reset on exit) click the reset option. To reset automatically each time you exit Metricon, check the "Reset on exit" option. You may check none or either of the "Save settings on exit" and "Reset on exit" options, but not both.

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6- MOUSE FUNCTIONS

The left mouse button generally performs an action, while the right button provides information. Pressing and holding the right mouse button over a control will display a description of the control in the status bar at the bottom of the screen. To see the full name of units, press and hold the right mouse button over a unit symbol.

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7- CALCULATOR

The calculator is accessed by clicking the calculator icon. You may perform algebraic calculations, then copy the results of calculations to the clipboard area or the numbers table by dragging and dropping the calculator readout. Copying the calculator readout to a cell in the numbers table triggers unit conversions based on that number.

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This manual was last updated on 3/5/94.