

LhA-Control

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COLLABORATORS

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Chapter 1

LhA-Control

1.1 LhA-Control V2.6 for use with DOpus.

LhA-Control V2.6 for selective extraction of archives in DirectoryOpus.

By Allan `Duff` Odgaard (27-Feb-95).

Intro What's it all about?

Features What can it do?

Copyright Who's the owner?

Install How can I make it work?

Usage How can I use it?

Tips How to make it even better!

Bugs Shit happens!

History What's the story?

Author Who made it?

Future What can I expect?

1.2 About LhA-Control.

LhA-Control is an ARExx script for DirectoryOpus, which makes it possible to extract specific files in an Lh-Archive. You can also delete, execute, extract as, MultiView or truncate the file's path with LhA-Control.

You are very welcome to support my work, see [Author](#) for more information.

1.3 What can it do.

- Only one script.
 - No need to change anything in the script, unless you haven't pathed your LhA dir, haven't assigned T: or have moved your MultiView to a strange location like ~(SYS:Utilities/MultiView).
 - Very easy to install, no arguments, no flags to set.
 - Finds out if it's a real LhA file that has been selected.
-

- Only use click-m-click and double click for action.
- ReqTools to decide action.
- Can both extract with or without path, and even perform a rename on the file to extract, this also works if the file already exists.
- Can execute a file from the archive with both a command before the name and arguments after.
- Spaces in ANY file name, even in the Enter command/arguments string.
- Deletion of files is also possible.
- Almost no commands in the list reading/adding loop to gain speed.
- Message ports have been used to make it work like a server.
- You can edit a file in the script, and then it'll be updated.
- You can use wildcards any where (delete) without there effect, delete junk mail like #?.
- By using '/' in the 'Extract As...' name, it'll automaticly create the desired dirs.

1.4 Who can you sell it to.

The author takes no responsibility for any damage caused by the program...

If you use LhA-Control a lot, you should consider to register. It's very cheap and you support future coming versions - since they'll only be sent to registered users (personalized and crypted!).

1.5 How to install.

1. Copy the script to your Rexx: assignment (or similar).
2. Run DOpus, and enter the configuration screen.
3. Now choose either

Buttons - For activation via a button press.

Filetypes - For activation via double click.

Hotkeys - For activation via a key press.

Menus - For activation via menu selecting.

(depending on how you want to start the script).

:-(Why won't it work???

1.6 How to install, Button!.

1. Press the button you want the script on.
2. Enter a suiting name.
3. Press "New entry".
4. Switch cycle gadget to "ARexx".
5. Enter the name of the script.
6. Save your config and test it!

You can choose a shortcut key, if desired.

1.7 How to install, Filetype!.

1. Press the 'LhA Archive' filetype, or define it - if not already defined!
2. Choose Double-click as action.
3. Clear listview, if it isn't cleared.
4. Switch cycle gadget to "AmigaDOS".
5. Enter the name of the script, and after that enter "{o} {Qp}".
Eg. "AmigaDOS Rexx:LhA-Ctrl.DOpus {o} {Qp}"
6. Switch on the 'Run asynchronously' flag,
every other flag MUST be disabled!
7. Save your config and test it!

1.8 How to install, Hotkey!.

1. Press "New hotkey".
2. Enter a suiting name.
3. Choose your hotkey combination.
4. Press "New entry".
5. Switch cycle gadget to "ARexx".
6. Enter the name of the script.
7. Save your config and test it!

1.9 How to install, Menu!.

1. Press the menu-item you want the script on.
2. Enter a suiting name.
3. Press "New entry".
4. Switch cycle gadget to "ARexx".
5. Enter the name of the script.
6. Save your config and test it!

You can choose a shortcut key, if desired.

1.10 Why won't it work.

If it doesn't work you should check the following:

That you have the following commands installed at the right place:

(It can be changed in the top of the script)

LhA - No path is used, but can be set in the script

Sys:RexxC/Rx - This should come with workbench V2.04+

Sys:Utilities/MultiView - This is from workbench V3.0+ (I think!)

T: - This is just an assign to RAM:T/

Plus these commands (Placed in C:) - NOT to be changed in the script!!!

Assign, Copy, Delete, List, MakeDir, NewShell, Rename, Sort, Wait

(Also these, can be found on your WB disks)

- REXXMaster should be running in the background.

- REXXReqTools.library is needed! (comes with this script)

(Or get it from the original ReqTools package.)

Another thing is that you REXXCommands dir (Sys:REXXC/) should be pathed.

1.11 How to operate LhA-Control.

Simply select an Lh-Archive (the script checks if a file really is selected, and if it's really an LhA file).

Activate LhA-Control, you'll then see the contents of your LhA file in the window, select the number of files that you'll handle and then:

Either Click-m-click one of them and answer the following requester:

Extract file(s) with full path?

Yes - Means extract the files and create dirs if that's the case.

No - Means extract the files but skip dir creation if there is any.

Extract as... - Will bring up a string requester where you can enter the name that you would like to extract it as.

Cancel - Will skip the active file, and continue with the next selected file.

Or you can double click one of the files and answer the following requester:

Perform which kind of action?

MultiView - Will extract the file to T: and perform a MultiView on it.

Delete - Deletes the file from the archive (NO UNDELETE!).

Execute... - Brings up a requester with the filename, where you can enter pre or suffix, and then it'll execute what you wrote (in a shell environment).

Cancel - Will skip the active file, and continue with the next selected file.

To quit, just double click the first entry - you can also click-m-click it for...

1.12 Tips'n'tricks...

To avoid the output window from REXXMast (when it's placed in WBStartup), load REXXMast into a hex-editor (Hex, Zaphod, AZap etc.) and search for "CON:160/60/320/80/Starting REXX" (pos:468), then replace CON: with NIL:, and volla! no console output!!!

To run SwazInfo on your icon files, use the command called SwazFix (included in this package) when you execute an *.info file.

1.13 Shit happens.

Well, in the testing of my script I've found the following bugs:

1. If you select about 78+ files, and then double click or click-m-click, you can be almost certain that DOpus will crash (yes, a real guru!). This is not my fault, I only use one of the ARexx commands available (GetSelectedAll), but if this command returns a string over 256 bytes, strange things will happen (don't ask why!).
2. If you quit DOpus before LhA-Control, DOpus will go into busy loop, waiting for LhA-Control to release the custom handler.

You can solve the problem by executing the following line from CLI/Shell:

```
>Rx " Address 'MouseActions' q
```

This will quit LhA-Control, and then DOpus shouldn't have a problem by quitting. This is of course also possible after DOpus has entered the busy loop.

3. After double clicking a LhA file you have approximately 2 seconds to activate the other window, and this will give a strange result, a possible solution is to insert a line before the script is started, which should be »AmigaDos: Rx " Address 'DOPUS.1' Busy On« this will give a busy pointer so that selection of the other window becomes impossible.

That's what I can find - You've found something? Tell me!

1.14 The making of LhA-Control.

"I saw Norton Commander do a selective file unpacking from an LhA archive."

LhADecrunch V1.0:

I saw a RexxDemo for DOpus, which used the AddEntry command to supply DOpus with entries, then I decided to learn ARexx, so I could do a script which could list your LhA file to one of the windows, and then you could extract one of the files.

LhA-Control V2.0:

I almost re-wrote the script to give it a lot of new functions, and I also did a little bit of optimizing.

LhA-Control V2.1:

Since the V2.0 was only released to friends (Betatesters), I corrected some bugs, and then I put a releaseable package together, and uploaded it on DreamLine.

LhA-Control V2.1+:

I found some bugs, which I removed and made this little version.

LhA-Control V2.2:

I saw LhADir.DOpus - Which convinced me that there were no alternatives to my script!!!

I have optimized the list reading routine, it's almost 3 times faster than before, I've also created a msg-port, so when you execute a file, LhA-Control won't go into busy loop.

Alot of other things has also been changed to make it all work better.

LhA-Control V2.3:

Wildcards are handled correct (ignored), so you can now delete files containing ~*#?()[%] without further damage, this routine is used every where, but it seems like the * is a tuff bastard, so when ExtractAs, * can't be used (the file will simply be extracted, and NOT renamed.), and also @ before files won't be updated to the archive, but you can safely extract them.

When executing a file, the script will check if there have been made any changes to the file, if that's the case, it'll ask to update the file, very usefull when correcting File_Id.Diz, or readme's.

Added a check IO error when updating to an archive.

You can now use '/' in the Extract As, to create dirs on target.

You can now place the script on a double-click action, it takes arguments (LhA-File REXXPort), either suply both or none.

LhA-Control V2.4:

When double clicking an #?.info file, a new option will be added to the 'Perform action' requester, this is IconInfo, and it'll just use DOpus's iconinfo - change something in the icon, and it'll be noticed!

LhA-Control V2.5:

Not much, the pointer is set busy as soon as possible, look in the "Bugs" page for more info.

File_Id.Diz are displayed as toptext, under the list creation.

LhA-Control V2.6:

It now searches for LhA, MultiView, Rx, DizRespect and SwazFix (last one, only if SwazInfo is running!), the first time it's loaded, and prompts the user with a filerequester for thoose it didn't find. Then it writes the path of these commands to EnvArc:LhA-Control.Paths, for further use...

I hope this solves the problems people has had with it unable to run, due to a missing command...

Some ARexx compilers are available, but the lack of my interest and their poor performance, prevented me from buying one.

So if you have one and it's really good - don't hesitate to tell me!

1.15 Who made it.

LhA-Control was done by Allan `Duff' Odgaard, in an attempt to make LhA handling more easy.

Send bug reports, own productions, suggestions or gifts...

It should be sent to:

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I would like to thank my fab friend and beta-tester: Benjamin Flamand

I also owe Detron a huge greet for his great work on Asm-Too V1.0

- Pick the best, drop the rest!

1.16 What can you expect.

I would like to add a rename function to the "Perform action", but since LhA doesn't support that, I'll have to extract, delete and then add under a new name - very complex and risky - I could also make a little utility to do that, but that'll mean that it's no longer one script (but who cares?).

Make some kind of config part, so you don't need to change output window size etc. in the script.

This will also give you some filerequesters in the start, if it couldn't find MultiView, LhA etc. and then store it to EnvArc: for next use.

/* Optimize it.... */ :-(boring...

I'm looking forward to hear your opinion, coz' I will only continue working on it, if I can see the benefit, so please give me some respond.