

WinEKG

Version 2.0

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Synopsis

This is the second release of the Windows 3.x WinEKG utility which provides a real-time graphical display of 'CPU' utilization within a window and a numerical display of remaining free memory as the window caption. [For those familiar with OS/2 2.0, this utility is similar to the Pulse applet.] The window may be of any size or minimized to a dynamic icon. Color and Control options are available thru the Control Box (System) menu. Color options are self-evident. Control options allow for customization of sampling interval and size, and for control of the graphical presentation. Adjustment of these parameters affect system performance, i.e. - a fast sampling interval coupled with a large sample size requires more computation each sampling interval than a moderate sampling interval with a small sample size. When run as a dynamic icon, the sample size is predetermined and cannot be changed. Either a line graph or a bar graph may be selected for the utilization display. Experience indicates that a bar graph is the best display for the dynamic icon while a line graph is best for a window. The advantage of displaying utilization in a window is better resolution. The advantage of using a dynamic icon is minimal memory utilization and size. Current options along with window size and position are saved whenever the window is closed either by operator action or Windows exit. The Window State, i.e. - minimized or normal, is not saved, since typically, this state is determined by the setting of the 'Run Minimized' option of the Program Item Property in the Program Manager.

FSR Warning feature for 3.1 Users

For users of Windows 3.1, this utility will provide a warning when Free System Resources (FSR) fall below a selectable threshold. The warning consists of a four beeps while the Window is flashed twice and the Free Memory caption is replaced by 'FSR Low!'. The caption remains 'FSR Low!' until FSR exceeds the threshold again.

Version Differences

Version 2.0 of WinEKG corrects a few minor bugs reported by users of Version 1.0. Other enhancements include MUCH lower utilization of memory; reduced interference on the 'foreground' during each graphical update; and the addition of a Stay On Top feature. In addition, the 'Flicker Free' option present in Version 1.0 has been deleted in Version 2.0 as improved graphical update methods used in Version 2.0 allow 'Flicker Free' operation always without the performance penalties caused by its use in Version 1.0. The Stay On Top feature can be selected thru the Option menu and causes the display to be always visible. For users of Windows 3.1, this feature operates exactly like the Always On Top feature of the Clock applet. For users of Windows 3.0, a different method had to be used to provide the same capability. If this feature is selected under Windows 3.0, the program checks each sampling interval to determine if it is the topmost window on the desktop and if it is not, it makes itself visible as the topmost window. Same effect as in 3.1, just not as fast.

Options...

The WinEKG Options menu is available thru selection of the '**Options...**' item in the Control Box (System) menu of the utility. Available options are '**Close**', '**Colors...**', '**Controls...**', '**Stay On Top**' and '**About...**'.

Close

Selection of this item will cause the WinEKG utility to terminate after saving the current

configuration to the WinEKG.ini file.

Colors...

Selection of this item brings up a dialog box which allows the user to customize the background and foreground colors of the graphical display.

Controls...

Selection of this item brings up a dialog box which allows the user to customize parameters of the WinEKG utility. The 'Display Dynamic Icon' checkbox enables the utilization graph and free memory caption to be displayed while the application is minimized to an icon. Deselection of this parameter causes a static icon to be displayed. While a static icon is displayed, the computation associated with the graphical updates is suspended. This parameter is disabled and cannot be changed while the utility is minimized.

The 'Sample Interval' dropdown listbox allows the user to select the number of seconds which is to elapse between each update of the graphical display.

The 'Warn if FSR ---' dropdown listbox allows the user to select the threshold as a percentage of remaining Free System Resources at which a warning will be issued. This feature is disabled for users of Windows 3.0.

'Sample Size' option buttons allow the user to select the number of samples which are collected and displayed on the utilization graph. Sample Interval x Sample Size = time history of utilization. The horizontal axis of the window, in pixels, should be greater than or equal to the Sample Size for proper presentation. FYI, utilization is computed to 1 part in 100. Therefore, best utilization resolution is obtained if the vertical axis of the display window is at least 100 pixels. As the number of samples is fixed when the application is minimized, the Sample Size option is disabled until the window is restored.

'Graphic' option buttons allow the user to select a bar graph or line graph for the utilization display.

Stay On Top

Selection of this item causes the WinEKG window or icon to always be visible.

About...

Selection of this item brings up copyright information about this utility.

Requirements

This utility was written in Visual Basic and requires the presence of the Visual Basic VBRUN100.DLL in your Windows directory in order to run. This DLL is not provided with this utility, but is generally available thru most On-line services and BBS's. This utility has no restrictions on where it can be located on your hard drive(s), but the .EXE file and the .INI file *must* be located in the same directory. No other setup is required. Start the utility via the WinEKG.exe file as you would any other small Windows utility or applet. This utility runs under Microsoft Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1.

Right Of Use

This program is shareware, but there is no fee for its use. Please see the copyright notice which is accessible thru the Options menu "About..." selection. In lieu of payment, please send

questions, constructive criticisms, bug reports and suggestions for improvement to the author via the CompuServe address displayed below.

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