AZ_DICT

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AZ_DICT

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                              A-Z Dictionary of the AMIGA v1.3

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            - April 2000


            NUMERICAL

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History of the AMIGA

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2D Graphics
The Amiga uses 2D (flat) graphics using its chipset and its planar type
graphics produces very fast and smooth scrolling type games.

3D Graphics
3D graphics is now the norm with depth and with upto date graphics chips
can produce textured graphics for extra realism. The Amiga has until
recently only capable of 2D but the CyberVision 64/3D, PPC and
BlizzardVision graphics cards can now do fast 3D graphics.

3DFX
3D Effects. Makers of the very fast 3D graphics card like the Voodoo which
can be added to the Picasso IV graphics card.

68000
Various makes of Motorola processors used in the Amiga. The first OCS
chipset Amigas used the 16-bit 7MHz 68000 processor.

68010
Faster version of 68000 with minor changes.

68020
The A1200 came with a 32-bit 14MHz 68020.

68030
The A3000 came with a 32-bit 25MHz 68030.

68040
The A4000 used with the 32-bit 25MHz 68030 or 68040 and the A4000T now uses the 68040 or the top end 68060.

68060
The 68060 is the last of the Motorola 680x0 range and was replaced by the faster PowerPC RISC processor.

68851
MMU chip for use with the 68020 or 680EC30 processors.

68881/68882
The 68881 and 68882 are FPU (Floating Point Units) for precision maths.

8/16/32 Bit
This refers to the number of binary digits (0 or 1) the processor can refer to at once.

8SVX
IFF file containing 8-bit sound samples.

1.3 Letter A

A500
Name of popular Amiga that appeared after the A1000. Originally came with an 68000 7MHz processor, OCS chipset and 512K RAM and one floppy drive and Workbench 1.2 or 1.3. Later replaced with the A500+ which had 1MB RAM, ECS chipset and Workbench 2.04

A600
This replaced the popular A500, it also had 1MB RAM, ECS chipset and Workbench 2.05. Replaced the Zorro type expansion with the PCMCIA slot which had limited usefulness but had a IDE expansion slot for 2.5" Hard drives unlike the A500. Little room for expansion like the A500, not very popular.

A1000
The original Amiga, came with 256K RAM, Workbench 1.0 and floppy drive and a zorro type expansion. Had to boot off a Kickstart disk to boot it up. It was very expensive but certainly wowed the public when it appeared.

A1200
The second full 32-bit 68020 Amiga with AGA chipset, 2MB RAM and Workbench 3.0. Came with Zorro type expansion slot, PCMCIA and IDE interface. Faster and better than the A600, became the next most popular Amiga.

A1500
Big Box type Amiga, came with two floppy drives but no hard disk controller. Included 512K RAM, Workbench 1.3 or 2.0, Zorro II, Video and ISA slots.

A2000
Similar to A1500 but came with hard disk controller.

A3000
First big box Amiga to appear with ECS chipset and 68030 processor and
Workbench 2.0. Included SCSI and faster Zorro III slots, can become
cramped inside the desktop type case.

A3000T
First tower based Amiga, improves the amount of space over the A3000.
Similar features.

A4000
First AGA based Amiga to appear. There are 25MHz 68030 or 68040 versions.
No SCSI like the A3000 but comes with AGA chipset, 2MB RAM, Workbench 3.0
and Zorro III, Video and ISA slots.

A4000T
Tower based A4000 with more slots and choice of either 68040 or 68060
processors.

AA
Advanced Amiga chipset. Same as AGA.

AAA
Advanced Amiga Architecture. Proposed AGA chipset replacement with new
faster chipset, fully 32 bit and supports VRAM, chunky display modes,
higher resolutions, and so on. But never was made as Commodore had gone
bust :(

Accelerator
Replacement processor card for Amigas, can add faster processors and FPU
and memory via SIMM RAM chips.

Access
New developer of the BoXeR Amiga clone distributed by Blittersoft.

ADF
Amiga Disk Format. Image of an Amiga floppy disk. Used for emulators on
other machines.

AFS
Advanced Filing System. Replacement for FFS file system, version 2 is now
called PFS.

AGA
Advanced Graphics Architecture. Improved Amiga chipset with 256 colours,
256,000 colours in HAM mode. Faster, needs at least 68020 and Workbench 3
to use it. Consists of Alice, Lisa, Gayle and Paula chips.

Agnus
Name of the Agnus chip inside OCS and ECS chipsets in the Amiga. Can
access upto 2MB of Chip RAM, includes the Blitter for fast data transfers.

AGP
Advanced Graphics Port. Very fast expansion port for graphics card in PCs.
and new PowerMacs.

Alert
Serious message alert. Guru meditation or Software Failure messages uses

this message facility. Appears as red text in a red box.

Alice
Name of the Alice chip inside the AGA chipset. Replaces Agnus. Accesses
2MB chip RAM.

Amiga
Name of the Amiga range of computers. Amiga means 'Girl friend'.

Amiga Corp.
Amiga Corporation. Name of the original company run by Jay Miner
and the Amiga team.

AmigaDOS
Amiga Disk Operating System. Usually tends to refer to the CLI (Command
Line Interface) or Shell based part of AmigaOS.

AmigaGuide
Type of hyperlinked text documents such as this one!

Amiga Inc
Research and development arm of the Amiga company based in the US. Owned
by Gateway.

Amiga Intl.
Sales and marketing arm of the Amiga company based in Germany. Owned by
Gateway.

AmigaOS
The name of the Amiga's Operating System. Contains Kickstart (ROM based
OS), Workbench and AmigaDOS.

Amiga Tech.
Amiga Technologies. Subsidary of Escom that sold the Amigas during that
time.

Aminet
Largest archive of most of Amiga's freeware and shareware utilities,
patches, demos, games, documents, pictures and music modules.

AMOS
AMiga Operating System. Not an OS but a former popular BASIC programming
language. Developed by EuroPress. Includes Amos Classic, Easy Amos and
Amos Pro.

ANIM
Common animation file format used on the Amiga.

Apollo
Range of Accelerator cards from ACT from the A600 to the A4000.

Arc
An older compression method used the Amiga.

Arexx
Amiga version of IBM's rexx language for Inter-Program Communication and
scripting.

ARP
Amiga Replacement Project. Set of replacement libraries and commands for
Workbench 1.3.

ASCII
American Standard Code for Information Interchange. Code for displaying
letters, numbers and symbols on computers.

Assembler
Program to produce machine code from Assembly language programs.

Assembly
Assembly language. Programmers use a symbolic language to produce
one-to-one instructions as the machine code equivalent. Used for speed and
low-level functions.

ASL
Amiga Requester library for files, drawers, fonts etc. Supplied with
Workbench 2+.

ATAPI
AT Attachment Packet Interface. Standard used for IDE devices such as CD
ROM drives.

AutoConfig
Method with which expansion boards are added automatically to the
system to be used. Reads configuration information from the either
the ExpansionBase or ExpansionRom data structures.

AUX
Auxillary device.

1.4 Letter B

Backup
Refers to a copy of a disk or group(s) for files for safe keeping. Regular
backups help prevent loss of data due to unexpected circumstances.

Basic
Beginners All purpose Symbolic Instruction Code. Programming language
using easy to remember commands such as LET, INPUT, PRINT, IF, GOTO etc.

BBS
Bulletin Board System. A computer which hosts files and message areas for
people to log into and download via modem. Very popular before the
Internet became available.

BGUI
BOOPSI Graphical User Interface. An alternative graphical user interface
library for the Amiga.

Binary
Numbering system using two digits (0,1). Commonly used on computer
systems.

Bit
Binary digit. Represents 0 or 1. Lowest form of computer memory.

Blitter
High speed data transfer chip. Usually part of Agnus or Alice.

Blitz Basic
Popular BASIC compiler for the Amiga, developed by Acid Software.

Blizzard
Range of accelerator card from Phase 5 for the A1200 range of Amigas.

BlizzardVision
New graphics card for Blizzard PPC accelerator using Permedia2
2D/3D chipset.

BMP
Bitmap format for picture files.

Bob
Blitter Object, animated object controlled by the blitter similar
to sprites.

Boopsi
Basic Object Orientated Programming System for Intuition. Defines certain
Intuition entities such as Gadgets and Images as objects. Allows
customisation, expansion, inheritance and consistant interface. ClassACT
uses Boopsi.

Boot
Usually refers to starting up a computer from power on. a Reboot usually
means to restart the computer from scratch usually to clear memory or
after a crash.

BoXeR
First Amiga Clone by Access. Uses a new ATX motherboard with a 68040
or 68060 processor, an all-in-one new AGA+ chipset with unlimited
Chip RAM and supports Zorro 3 or PCI slots.

Budgie
Memory control chip in A1200.

Bug
A mistake or fault in a computer program or hardware design.

Bullet
A Library which allows access to Compugraphic (Outline) fonts.

Buster
Bus Arbitrator on Zorro based Amigas such as the A3000 and A4000.

Byte
Basic memory size. One byte has 8 bits, so, can contain the decimal
equivalent of 0 to 255 (or -128 to 127).

1.5   Letter C

C/C++
High-level programming language for application software. Originally
developed on Unix based systems to write operating systems and so on.

Cache
A small area of memory or disk space for very fast access to data. Modern
processors have small Cache RAM to store machine code instructions or data
for fast access rather than goto slower main memory.

CD
Compact Disc. Contains audio, video or 640MB of data. Requires CD ROM
drive.

CD32
A console based Amiga 1200 with built in CD Drive. Built many for home
users and game playing. It was one of the last new Amigas built by
Commodore.

CDROM
CD Read Only Memory. Read only device to read CD discs. CDR (CD Writable)
devices are used to read and write CDs on special blank gold discs.

CDTV
Commodore Dynamic TeleVision. A CD based Amiga based on the OCS chipset
with AmigaOS 1.3. First of its kind, was marketed not as a computer but as
a Multimedia machine. It was very expensive and flopped on the market.

Chunky Graphics
Uses one or more bytes to describe the colour of a single pixel on the
screen. Ideal for 3D graphics and very fast for lots of colours. Most
Amiga Graphics Cards use this method.

Chip
An electronic component in many computer systems. Contains thousands or
millions of miniature circuits designed to do a specific task. Usually
made of silicon.

Chip RAM
Memory accessible by Chip set and the Processor. Limited to addressable
space of Agnus or Alice (2MB max.). Tends to be slow as processor has to
wait for chipset to finish with it before it can access it.

CIA
Complex Interface Adapters. Amigas contain two of these chips. Usually
control timers, interrupts, keyboard, parallel port, serial portand floppy
drives.

CISC
Complex Instruction Set Chip. Type of processors with lots of
instructions, some of which can do multiple tasks. The Motorola 680x0
series are CISC processors.

CLI
Command Line Interface. Window to enter AmigaDOS commands.

Coercion
Method used in AmigaOS to determine which frequency to use when different
screen modes are used at the same time.

Commodore
Commodore Business Machines. They bought out HiTorro/Amiga Incorp. (Jay
Miner's team) and developed the Amiga into what it is now. They finally
when bust in 93/94 due to poor marketing and poor management.

Compiler
Converts a high-level language to machine code programs. BASIC and C/C++
compilers exist. May include other utilities such as Debug utilties,
profilers and optimisers.

Composite
TV signal which can be used in Video or PAL modes only, better than RF
type signals but poorer quality than RGB signals.

Computer
An electronic device that stores, recalls and processes information.

Console
A device which allows a Command Line Interface or Shell for entering
AmigaDOS commands onto a scrollable window. Commands include DIR, LIST,
TYPE etc. (CON:)

Copper
Co-Processor. Part of Denise or Lisa graphics chip. Which changes the
colour at any given line on the screen or raster.

CPU
Central Processing Unit. The Motorola 680x0 series are CPUs. Also known as
Processor.

Crash
Refers to a situation when the computer fails due to a software failure or
some sort of hardware fault. A Reboot or restart is required to regain
control of the computer.

CrossDos
Suite of drivers and utilities that allow the Amiga to read and write PC
formatted disks in 720KB or 1.44MB sizes. Usually has PC0, PC1 DosDrivers
and a CrossDos commodity for text filtering and translation.

Cursor
A flashing or hightlighted block indicating the text insertion point. Seen
on CLI, Text Editors and Word Processors.

CyberStorm
Range of accelerator cards from Phase 5 for A3000/A4000 range of Amigas.

CyberVision
Graphics card from Phase 5 for Zorro II/III based Amigas.

1.6 Letter D

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Datatypes
Library which allows programs to load other file types which include
pictures, animation, music, text and other types from other computer
platforms.

Denise
Graphics chip in OCS/ECS Amigas. Provides upto 64 colours (Halfbright) and
sprites.

Device
A program which controls a particular device or group of devices. For
example, the scsi.device controls Hard Disks mainly either via IDE or SCSI
interfaces.

DHCP
Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol. Provides IP addresses dynamically,
commonly used on networks or when using the (C)SLIP protocol when
connecting to the internet. Replaces the older BOOTP method.

DIMM
Dual In-line Memory Module. 64 bit memory board to add memory to modern
computers.  Tend to come in sizes of 16Mb, 32MB or more and run at 10ns or
faster.

Directory
A directory is a container for files or other directories.

Disk/Disc
Refers  to data storage medium. Common types are floppy disks, hard disks,
compact discs, Syquest disks and Iomega Zip disks.

Diskfont
Library on the Amiga which allows access to Bitmap fonts.

DiskSalv
Widely used disk salvage program which can repair faults on OFS and FFS
formatted disks, and recover from Validation problems and undelete files.

DMA
Direct Memory Access.  Feature which allows other chips to access memory
direct instead of via the CPU.

DMAC
Direct Memory Access Chip used on A3000s and A4000s for memory access.

DMS
Disk MaSher. A disk image creator and extrator program. Only works on
Amiga floppy drives, an alternative is the ADF format for other platforms.

DNS
Domain Name Server. Converts between IP addresses and human readable
formats e.g. 110.56.76.12 to www.noname.com

Dopus
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Directory Opus. Popular file manager type program and the latest versions
can replace Workbench with a better desktop system

DOS
Disk Operating System library which provides functions for file management
on the Amiga.

DRAM
Dynamic Random Access Memory. Type of memory used for main memory on
computers, tends to very cheap and quite fast. Loses its contents when the
computer is switched off.

Drawer
A directory with drawer icon which may contain files or other drawers.

Driver
A Program which interfaces a peripheral or device connected to the Amiga
with the Operating System and gains access to that device's many features.
Drivers include Printers, Scanners, Modems, SCSI devices and so on.

DTP
DeskTop Publishing. Refers to page mackup production. The Amiga uses a
number of DTP programs such as PageStream, ProPage and Page Setter.

DVD
Digital Versatile Disc. Replaces the CD for video, produces very high
quality pictures and sound. Can contain around 4GB of data. Not supported
on the Classic Amigas.

Dynamic IP
Dynamic Internet Protocol. When dialing your provider to get onto the
Internet, sometimes they give you an IP address from a pool of addresses.
So you don't always use the same address.

1.7 Letter E

E
Programming language for the Amiga.

Early Startup
Initial screen which is brought up by pressing both Mouse buttons during a
boot. Allows users to select boot device, graphics mode and turn off/on
caches.

ECP
Extended Capabilities Port which allows bi-directional communication on
new Parallel Ports. Ten times faster than the older Centronics standard.
IOBlix supports ECP.

ECS
Enhanced Chip Set. Replaced the older Original ChipSet with a Fatter Agnus
(1MB) (8270) and a Super Denise (8373) which gave higher screen
resolutions such as Productivity mode. Tends to come with Workbench 2 as
well.

EDO
Extended Data Out. Faster type of memory SIMM commonly used on modern PCs.
Uses shorter access times for access to memory. Not directly supported on
the Amiga.

EIDE
Enhanced IDE. Faster and bigger capacity than nornal IDE which also
supports ATAPI (also known as ATA-2).

E-Mail
Electronic Mail. A method of transfering messages over the internet to an
E-Mail address e.g. F.Bloggs@myaddress.com Uses special protocols such as
SMTP and POP3.

EPP
Enhanced Parallel Port found on newer parallel ports which allows
bidirectional communication. See also ECP.

Escom
Former owner of the Amiga who took over ownership from Commdore a year
after they went bust. Escom went under themselves due to over-expansion of
their PC shops. Escom also restarted production of the Amiga 1200 and
A4000T for a short while.

Exec
The kernal or core of the Amiga Operating System, this library controls
what programs are run and schedules them using multi- tasking depending on
priority. Also looks after memory allocation.

Extra Half-Brite
A trick which allows upto 64 colours on an ECS Amiga by using the
bottom 32 colours and halfing their intensity to give another
32 colours.

1.8 Letter F

FastFileSystem
Also known as FFS. The name of the file system for disks for storing
programs or data onto disks. Replaces OFS (OldFileSystem).

Fast RAM
Refers to memory which only the processor can access and not the Chipset
(see Chip RAM). Since the Fast RAM is free from the chipset, programs and
data can be run much faster.

Fastwire
A high speed communcation port, replaces SCSI. Used for disks, video and
so on.

Fidonet
Special message based system used on BBS' (Bulletin Boards), people can
join message groups called Echos which concentrate on particular subjects
to which they can read and contribute. Now superceded by NewsGroups and
Mailing Lists on the Internet.

Flash ROM
A reprogrammable ROM chip used in various devices such as Modems and
expansion cards. Instead of replacing the chip as before, updates can be
'flashed' onto the ROM instead.

Floppy disk
A removable storage device. The Amiga can handle 3.5" disks or the older
5.25" disks. Amiga floppy disks can hold 880KB on double density disks or
1.76MB on high density disks (these have two holes).

Floppy Drive
A device that reads and writes to floppy disks. On the Amiga they are
referred to as DF0:, DF1:, DF2: and DF3:. The Amiga uses Double Density
drives normally but High Density Drives can be added.

Font
Refers to the typeface and font used to display characters on the screen.
The Amiga can use Bitmap and Compugraphic Fonts. Other types include
PostScript and TrueType fonts.

Format
Function needed to prepare disks with a specific File System so that files
can be saved onto them. Creates a disk bitmap and directory structure on
the disk. The Amiga uses OFS and FFS file systems, PCs use FAT and
Macintosh uses HFS.

FPM
Fast Page Memory. Type of memory SIMMs used in the majority of Amiga
computers.

FPU
Floating Point Unit. A Processor chip designed specifically to process
decimal numbers with high precision. The 68020 and 68030 require a
seperate FPU but on the 68040 and 68060 they are built in.

FTP
File Transfer Protocol. Method used on the Internet to transfer programs
between computers.

1.9 Letter G

G3/G4
Third and fourth generation PowerPC processors used in the new
PowerPC only accelerator cards on the Amiga. Developed by DCE,
Phase5, Escana and Met@box.

Gadgets
Special symbol that appears on screens and Windows on Workbench. For
example, on an Amiga window (from top left) has Close Gadget, Zoom gadget,
Front-to-Back gadget, Up/Down gadgets and a ReSize gadget.

Gadtools
Library provided with Workbench 2+. Updated the gadget library from
Intuition with better functions and better looking interface.

GadToolsBox
Program which allows programmers to design program interface using menus,
screens windows and gadgets for application programs.

Gary
Gate Array chip on OCS/ECS based Amigas. Monitors, interfaces and handles
data to or from peripherals.

Gateway 2000
Parent company of Amiga Inc and Amiga Intl. Based in US. Bought the rights
to the Amiga in 1997 from the remains of Escom.

Gayle
Gate Array chip on AGA based Amigas.

Genlock
Device used to combine computer displays and video displays together.

GIF
Graphics Interchange Format used extensively on PCs and on the Web. Uses
LZW compression for images. Copyrighted by CompuServe Inc.

GigaBytes
A thousand million bytes of data or more acurately 1024 x 1048576 =
1,073,741,824 bytes

Guru Meditation
Name of a Software Failure or crash when the Amiga reboots itself. Gives
the address and cause of the failure in an alert.

Graphics
Library which is used on the Amiga to produce the images, gadgets, sprites
etc on an Amiga screen.

Graphics Card
A replacement graphics chip which supercedes the inbuilt graphics chipset.
Tend to use PC style chunky 256 colour or more displays which is faster.

Goliath PSU
A very large and powerful replacement Power Supply Unit usually in the
range of 200W.

GUI
Graphical User Interface, the name given to the OS display for the benefit
of the user. Contains icons, menus, windows and pointer etc.

1.10 Letter H

HAM
Hold And Modify screen mode. Modifies existing Amiga display modes by
adding extra colours to the display. Can produce displays of upto 4096
colours on OCS/ECS systems or 256,000 colours on AGA systems

Handler
Program which handles a given device such as the RAM Disk, auxillary

device, ports, queues and speech synthesis.

Hard disk
A high capacity and high speed self-enclosed disk. Usually mounted
internally in computers to store and load programs and data. Can range
between 10MB and 10GB!

Hard drive
Similar to hard disks but also contain circuitry to control the hard disk.

Hayes
A Hayes Compatible Modem uses AT commands to control the functions of a
modem. The majority of modems are hayes compatible.

HDToolbox
Tool used to setup and partition hard disks into logical parts called
volumes.

Hex
Hexadecimal. Numbering system containing 16 digits for numbers 0 to 15.
i.e. 0 to 9 and A to F. Uses Base 16.

HTML
HyperText Markup Language. Document format for hyperlinked files
containing text, graphics and sound. Extensively used on the World Wide
Web.

HTTP
HyperText Transfer Protocol. Used on the World Wide Web to transmit and
display html pages between the server and the client.

1.11   Letter I

Icon
A picture representation of something on the screen of a program or a
file. The Amiga uses five types: Tool, Project, Disk, Drawer and Trashcan.

ICQ
I Seek You. Special protocol that allows people to find out if some one is
online on the internet and then allow to communicate with them.

IDE
Intelligent Drive Electronics. Name of interface for Hard Disks and CD
ROMs. Built into the A600, A1200 and A4000. Called via the scsi.device.

IDEFix
Updates the old IDE interface to allow Atapi devices to be added such as
CDROMs.

IFF
Interchangable File Format. Agreed file format between Commodore and
Electronic Arts. Used extensively for graphics (ILBM), sound (8SVX),
animation (ANIM) and documents (FTXT).

ILBM

InterLeaved BitMap format used for Amiga Graphics files. First used with
DPaint by Electronic Arts.

Intuition
Library used by the Amiga to produce the Workbench interface using
screens, windows, menus and gadgets. Some functions are replaced by
Gadtools.

Interpreter
Program which converts a high level language to machine code while it is
executing. Programs such as BASIC and ARexx use interpreters.

IP
Internet Protocol. Basic system used to transmit data over the internet.

IPX
Intranet Packet Exchange. Used by Novell Networks for its networks.

Interlace
Screen display by doubling the number lines on the screen by
interlacing two raster displays together. For example, PAL has
256 lines, interlaced PAL has 512 lines.

Internet
Global network of computer using TCP/IP for its method of transmission of
data. Covers E-Mail, Newsgroups, FTP, Telnet and the WWW.

IRC
Internet Relay Chat. Program used to chat to other people on the internet
in real time.

ISA
Industry Standard Architecture. Name given to expansion slots on older
PCs. Now superceded by faster PCI slots.

ISDN
Integrated Services Digital Network. A digital network system which is
faster than using modems over the telephone line.

ISO9660
Standard in which CD discs are written in. Amiga CDs use this standard for
its CDs. The RockRidge standard is used for long filenames (PCs use
Joliet). NB: ISO = International Standards Organisation.

ISP
Internet Service Provider. Company which setups and looks after your
internet account. They provide an account name, and phone number to call
with your modem.

1.12   Letter J

Java
Programming language created by Sun MicroSystems for a platform
independance. Created for dynamic web pages or stand alone programs.

JavaScript
Programming language developed by Netscape for its Web Navigator program.
Used extensively as part of web pages for powerful features.

Joliet
CD filesystem standard for Windows 95+ CDs with long filename support.

Joystick
Peripheral designed for games which has four or more direction movements
and fire buttons.

JPEG
Joint Photographic Expert Group. Standard for photo quality picture files
with 'losy' compression built in.

Jumper
A feature which uses a small electronic 'switch' to turn features on or
off on the motherboard of a computer.

1.13   Letter K

Keyboard
Input device consisting of typewriter style QWERTY keyboard layout with
letters, digits, symbols and special function keys.

Kickstart
The name of the Amiga's ROM chip which contains most of the essential
operating system and allows the Amiga to boot from either floppy disk or a
hard disk. The version of Kickstart can be derived from the Workbench menu
on the About menu.

Kilobytes
Number of bytes in thousands. 1KB is equal to 1024 bytes (2^10).

1.14   Letter L

Locale
Library which caters for different languages other than English. Locale
set up via the Locale Preferences. Application programs can be localised
by installing catalog files to cater for different languages.

Lowlevel
Library which provides low level functions for mice, joysticks and joypads
esp. for CD32 games.

Library
A file containing lots of functions which can be called and shared between
programs. AmigaOS consists of a number of libraries and extra libraries
can be added to add functionality. Libraries are stored on the Kickstart
ROM and on disk in LIBS:.

Linux

Popular Unix type operating system. A 68k and PPC version is available
to run on the Amiga.

Lisa
Graphics chip used in AGA based Amigas, replaces the older Denise chip.
Adds 256 colour modes, more screen modes, bigger HAM modes and larger
Sprites.

LHA
File archive format widely used on the Amiga. Uses Lempel-Ziv compression
and Hoffman encoding.

LZX
Another file archive format, tends to be faster than LHA and compresses
better.

1.15 Letter M

Machine Code
Programs written for a specific processor, usually Assembled or Compiled
from a Development System e.g. C/C++, BASIC etc.

Magic Workbench
A collection of 8-colour dithered icons to replace Commodore 4 colour
icons.

Mailing List
Sending E-Mails about a particular subject to a list of subscribers. An
alternative to news groups but tend to be relatively short term and
managed.

Math Libraries
Special maths libraries to process integer or floating point maths. Some
libraries process single or double precision numbers.

MCP
Master Control Program. A commodity program which patches Workbench with
new features and bug fixes.

MCX
Magic Commodity. Another commodity program which uses system legal
features.

MED
Music Editor. Name of music modules produced by MED programs such as
Octamed.

MegaBytes
Refers to millions of bytes. 1M is equal to 1024x1024 or 1,048,576 bytes.

Memory
Usually refers to RAM (Random Access Memory) or Main Memory which is used
to temporarily store executing programs and data. The Amiga has two kinds:
Chip RAM and Fast RAM. Sometimes, incorrectly refers to disk storage by
some people.

Menu
Produces a list of choices such as programs or particular functions.
Workbench has pull down menus called: Workbench, Icon, Window and Tools.
Menus can be called up by pressing down the right hand button and placing
the pointer over the screen title bar. Pop ups menus can appear in certain
programs on the screen.

MIDI
Musical Instrument Digital Interface. Standard used to transmit data
across a chain of music instruments using a standard data format.

MIME
Multipurpose Internet Multimedia Extensions. Tells mail applications what
sort of data is contained in a message and encodes data to be sent via
Internet mail systems using Base64 or Quote-Printable.

MMC
Multi-Media Chip or Mystery Monster Chip. Proposed replacement chip yet to
be announced by Amiga Inc. to replace the 680x0 series for the Amiga II.

MMU
Memory Management Unit. Special addition to 680x0 processors which allow
Virtual Memory and Memory Protection in some cases for Workbench.

MOD
Music Module. Name of other types of music files produced by other tracker
programs.

Modem
Modulator/Demodulator. Converts digital signals to analogue signals and
vice versa over telephone lines. Speeds can range from 2400 to 56000 baud.
Amigas can use any Haynes compatible external modem.

Monitor
A display output device for use on computers. Consists of a CRT (Cathode
Ray Tube) to display colours and may have built in speakers for sound.

Mouse
A device with rolling ball and buttons for use on a Graphical Interface
such as Workbench. Controls an arrow or pointer on the screen.

MPEG
Motion Picture Expert Group. Type of 'losy' compression used in video or
music. Commonly used with VideoCD and DVD.

MSH
MessyDos File System. Allows older Amigas to read/write PC disks.

MUI
Magic User Interface. A replacement for Gadtools, adds new libraries and
classes to enhance programs to be more configurable and flexible.

MultiProcessing
Ability to share processor time between multiple chips for example the
Amiga can share some tasks between the central CPU and the Chipset.

Multisync
Advanced typed of Monitor which has a wide range of frequencies such as
the Microvitec 1438 or 1440 etc.

Multitasking
Ability to process more than one program at a time by using a system of
timeslicing (allocating a certain length of time for processing),
priorities and interrupts. True multi-tasking is Pre-Emptive, that is the
OS does the scheduling, but Co-operative is dependant on the programs
giving up time for other programs to run.

1.16   Letter N

NDOS
Non-Dos Disk. Refers to disks formatted with a custom file system to
prevent copying. Used extensively on games disks.

NewIcons
Icon collection with multiple colours and 3D images. Uses a different
system to Workbench's icon library by adding the image to the tooltypes
e.g. IM1=<hex values>

NewsGroup
Special message area on News Servers for specific interests where people
can read messages on specific subjects and write their own. Available on
the Internet.

NSD
New Storage Device standard for large hard disks now supported on
AmigaOS 3.5.

NTSC
National Television Standards Committee. North American TV format 640x200.

1.17   Letter O

Operating System
Special program used to control the hardware and run application software
on computers. Can be supplied on ROM or on disk. (OS)

Object-Orientated
Programming method where data and functions are classed as objects. Makes
programming much easier to understand, write and modify.

OCS
Original ChipSet. First chipset to appear on Amigas from the A1000
onwards, contains Agnus (8370), Denise (8362), Gary and Paula chips. 512M
Chip RAM, 32 colours, sprites etc.

Octal
Numbering system based on 8 digits (0-7).

OpenGL
Open Graphics Language. Standard widely available to program 3D graphics.
Developed by Silicon Graphics Inc.

1.18   Letter P

PAL
Phase Alteration Line. European Standard for TV resolutions running at
rates of 15.6kHz Horizontal and 50Hz Vertical. DblPAL runs at 27.5KHz
Horizontal. Standard size of 640 x 256.

Parallel
The parallel port used mainly to send data to printers. Uses 8 data lines
instead of Serial's 1 line and therefore faster. The Amiga has only a
simple port with only 16 pins in use out of 25.

Paula
Sound chip used in all Amigas. Can produce 8 bit stereo sound. Controls
parts of floppy drives and joysticks as well.

PC
Personal Computer. Tends to refer to Intel based computers running MS DOS
or Windows. But can be valid for any single user computer.

PCI
Peripheral Connection Interface. Standard expansion slot for modern
computers such as PCs, Macs and Suns. Replaces the older ISA slot.

PCMCIA
Personal Computer Memory Card International Association. Standard for
'Smart Cards' such as memory or RAM Disk cards that can be fitted on the
left side slot of A600s or A1200s. Can be used for SCSI such as the
SquirrelSCSI or Whippet fast serial card.

PCX
ZSoft's Paintbrush picture format used on PCs mainly.

PDF
Portable Document Format. Page description format but simpler than
postscript.

PFS
Professional Filing System. Replaces FFS at is faster, and more stable (no
more Validation) and can bypass the 4GB limitation.

Pixel
Picture element. A single dot on the screen.

Planar Graphics
Uses layers of bitmaps together to produce colour on the screen. Amigas
use this standard to display its graphics, can produce very good 2D
graphics and smooth scrolling. Very slow with lots of colours.

PLIP
Parallel Line Interface Protocol. Network communication between computers

using parallel port.

PNG
Portable Network Graphics. Replacement file format for GIF as GIF has licensing restrictions from CompuServe while PNG doesn't.

Pointer
An arrow or other pointing image controlled by the Mouse.

Postscript
Page description language used extensively in Destop Publishing and high end printers.

PowerPacker
Compression method used on pictures or text or even programs which allows realtime decompression when opened.

POP3
Post Office Protocol v3. Protocol used to send/receive Electronic mail.

PowerUp
Name given by Phase 5 to PowerPC accelerator cards for the Amiga computer. Currently 603 and 604 PPC chips are used.

PowerPC (PPC)
Name of the range of Processor chips made by Motorola, uses RISC (Reduced Instruction Set Chip) technology for extra speed. Range includes 601, 603, 604, 620 and G3.

PPP
Point to Point Protocol. A protocol used for communication between locations for Dial Up networking.

Preferences
Configuration programs used to set up the Amiga to the user's preferences. Sets up the screen, colours, printers, pointer and so on.

Printer
Output device which produces a paper copy of whatever is on the computer screen for example, text or pictures.

Project
A data file produced by a program or tool. Also the name of an icon type.

Promotion
A software de-interlacer on AGA chipsets. Turns off display flickering on non-interlaced VGA monitors.

Protocol
A standard using in networking for sending data between people. Standards include: IPX, TCP/IP, SMTP, POP3 etc.

PSU
Power Supply Unit. Usually a transformer which converts mains electricity to lower voltages for use with computer equipment.

1.19   Letter Q

Q-Drive
CD ROM Drive developed by Amiga Technologies which fits to the PCMCIA
port.

Quarterback
A backup package which can backup files to floppy disks or other removable
devices.

Quarterback Tools
A Disk FileSystem repair utility for the Amiga.

QuickTime
Name of a video or animation format developed by Apple Computers.

QNX
Company and name of OS kernal (core) to be used for Amiga OS.

1.20   Letter R

RAM
Random Access Memory. Refers to Main Memory which temporarily stores data
and programs for processing by the Processor. Size is measured in
KiloBytes or MegaBytes.

RAM Disk
Uses memory to temporarily store files. The Amiga has two kinds RAM: which
dynamically grows/shrinks and RAD: which can keep its contents even after
a reboot but is fixed in size.

RAMSEY
Name of memory control chip in big box Amigas.

RDB
Rigid Disk Block. Portion of disk that contains details of the
hard disk, the partition and the file systems stored on the disk.

RDRAM
Rambus Direct RAM. A very new type of memory that may replace SDRAM/DIMMs
with Rimms (Rambus Memory Modules). Runs at 1.6GB/sec.

Reaction
New GUI interface system using BOOPSI to replace Gadtools introduced
in AmigaOS 3.5.

Realtime
Refers to processes which are time critical. QNX is a real time Operating
System. AmigaOS is very fast and very close to a real time OS.

Register
Name of a special memory location on a Processor. Used by programs to
store data about to be processed.

ReqTools
Library which provides file or font requesters for AmigaOS.

Requester
A window with a choice of files or list of choices to be selected from.
Libraries such as ARP, ASL or Reqtools can produce requesters.

Rexx
An Inter Program Communication language developed by IBM. Used by programs
to process data and pass it to other programs. Supplied with Workbench
2.0+.

RGB
Red Green Blue. Name of three colours used by Monitors and TVs to display
colour.

RISC
Reduced Instrucion Set Chip. Replaces the CISC (Complex) processors with
fewer but faster machine code instructions.

RKRM
Amiga Rom Kernel Reference Manual (RKM) by Addison-Wesley. The main
developer books needed by programmers to program using AmigaOS. There are
a number of volumes: 'Includes & Autodocs', 'Devices', 'Libraries',
'Hardware Reference Manual' and the 'Amiga User Interface Style
Guide'. The last version was the Third Edition that covered Workbench
2. No further editions were published.

RockRidge
Standard used on Amiga CD disks for long file names.

ROM
Read Only Memory. Similar to RAM but cannot be written to, does not loose
contents when the computer is turned off. The Amiga has a ROM chip called
Kickstart which contains part of the OS.

RTG
ReTargetable Graphics. Process to direct output from any graphics chipset
to a monitor.

RTA
ReTargetable Audio. Process to direct sound from any sound chips to
speakers.

RS232
Standard for serial ports.

1.21 Letter S

SANA-II
Standard Amiga Network Architecture system used for networking using
Serial, Parallel or Ethernet communications.

SCART
Special video and audio connection used widely on television and video

equipment. Also, appears on Commodore 1084(S) monitors.

Screen
AmigaOS uses screens to display windows and images on. A screen is made up
of width and height and depth with flags for gadgets. Depth specifies how
many colours the screen can support.

Script
A file containing a series of AmigaOS commands that can be 'executed'
either from a shell or via an Icon with C:Iconx tool.

SCSI
Small Computer System Interface. Expansion system for adding hard disks,
CD ROM drives, tape drives and scanners to computers.

SDRAM
Synchronous Direct RAM. New memory type which mainly uses DIMMS. They can
run very fast at 0.8GB/sec. Not used on the Amiga.

Serial
Serial Port, used for simple communications, can be used for slow devices
such as mice or a modem.

Shell
A console windows which AmigaDOS commands can be entered.

SIMM
Single In line Memory Module. Type of memory board used widely on Amigas
and other computers. Can be 16 or 32 bit, usually has 72 pins (older simms
have 30 pins) and run at 70, 60 or even 50ns.

SLIP
A type of Serial Line Interface Protocol used for Dial Up networking via
serial port.

Slow Memory
Refers to fast memory on the A500s Trapdoor. Tends to run slower there
than from the Expansion port.

SMTP
Simple Mail Transfer Protocol. Protocol used to send/receive Electronic
Mail.

SOCKS
Short for Sockets, a Proxy Protocol which allows users to access other
hosts via a Socks Server (a Firewall) for extra security.

SoftKick
Loads kickstart from a file instead of a ROM chip. Programs which can do
this include SKick, ReloKick, kick or ZKick.

Sprite
A hardware driven image run independantly of whats on the screen. The
Amiga's mouse pointer is a sprite.

Squirrel
Name given to SCSI adapters for the A1200 and A600 which fit in the PCMCIA

port. A Surf Squirrel has a fast serial port.

Static IP
Uses a fixed Internet number for access to the network. Usually provided
by the Internet Provider.

SVGA
Super Video Graphics Adapter. Video mode which supports 256 colours or
more and higher screen resolutions. Also refers to PC Monitors which
support 31kHz or more Horizontal rate.

1.22 Letter T

TCP/IP
Transport   Control Protocol/Internet Protocol. The main protocol or
standards used to communicate over the internet.

Telnet
Program used to login directly to other computers over the internet and
enter commands.

Tool
Name given to programs on Workbench. Also, the type of icon for programs.

Tooltype
Special parameters given to programs via the icon or .info file. They
usually appear as NAME=PARAMETER.

Trackdisk
Name of the device that controls floppy disks and drives in AmigaOS.

Trashcan
Name of a special directory which appears on all disks in AmigaOS. The
trachcan stores files waiting to be deleted via the 'Empty Trashcan' menu
option.

1.23 Letter U

UAE
Umbiqious Amiga Emulator. Program to emulate an ECS based Amiga on PCs,
Macs and Unix machines.

Utility
Name given to small programs that do a small function such as look at a
text file, view a picture or animation or some other small function. They
are stored in the Utilities drawer.

UTP
Unshielded Twisted Pair. Network cable that uses pairs of twisted cable
for high speed data transfer.

USB

Universal Serial Bus. New standard which replaces the serial, parallel, game and floppy ports with a faster port which can do all of the above and allow devices to be chained together and be 'hot-swappable'.

UUX
Uuencoding. Encoding method for sending binary files as ASCII files especially via E-Mail. Replaced by MIME.

1.24 Letter V

Video
A device which can display text or graphics. Video sometimes refers to television and video recorder. A Genlock can be used to combine video and computer displays.

Video Toaster
A device create by NewTek that allows special effects to be included in video productions on the Amiga.

Virtual RAM
A method in which main memory can be extended to use the hard disk as memory. Not very fast.

Virus
A malicious program which can destroy programs and data by infecting other programs or bootblocks. They can also cause strange things to happen while your computer is on.

Viscorp
They 'took over' from Commodore for short time to pay Amiga's way until Escom took over. They wanted to make ED, a Set Top Box based on Amiga Technology. It never appeared.

VRAM
Video Random Access Memory. Memory for access by video or graphics cards only (similar to Amiga's Chip RAM).

Voodoo
Name given to a highly regarded 3D graphics addon to produce fast and detailed 3D graphics. The Picasso IV will soon have this add on.

VGA
Video Graphics Adaptor. Name given to 16 colour or better computer displays on PC computers. Can also refer to the 15 pin video port on computers.

1.25 Letter W

WarpUp
Name given to a suite of libraries used to control PowerPC accelerator cards instead of Phase 5's ppc.library. Produced by Haage & Partner.

Warp3D
Name given to a suite of libraries used to control 3D graphics cards on
the Amiga such as the CyberVision, BlizzardVision and Voodoo cards.

WorldWideWeb
Name given to the text and graphics based view of the internet. Uses HTTP
protocol to view HTML pages over the internet using a program called a
Browser. Common Amiga browsers are Alynx, IBrowse, Voyager and AWeb.

Windows
Name given to an area or framed area of the screen. Consists of four
borders, with a title bar and sizing gadgets. Used by the majority of
Amiga Programs.

WAV
A wave form sample of sound or music. Common format used on PC computers.

Workbench
Name of Amiga's Graphical User Interface used to manage files and
directories and launch programs.

Word Processor
An application program which processes words like a type writer but with
extra features such as picture insertion, spell and grammer checking and
so on.

1.26 Letter X

XPK
A suite of compression libraries used to compress data or files.

XFD
Another library used to compress or decompress files or data.

1.27 Letter Y

YAK
Yet Another Commodity. Another multi-function commodity program.

YAM
Yet Another Mailer. An electronic mail program commonly used on the Amiga.

1.28 Letter Z

Zip File
Compression method commonly used on the PC computers.

Zip Disk
A 100MB removable disk which can be used in Iomega's Zip Drive.

```
Zip Drive
A special removable drive that can hold Zip disks of 100MB.

Zoo
An older compression method used on the Amiga.

Zorro
Name of the Amiga's expansion slots. There are three types:

  Trapdoor  - simplified expansion slot on A500s, A600s and A1200s.
  Zorro II  - full slot on the A2000 or A1500 for 16 bit expansion cards.
  Zorro III - full slot on the A3000 or A4000 for 32 bit expansion cards.
  Zorro IV  - 5x faster version of Zorro II using new 96 pin slots.
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1.29 History of the Amiga

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   Date       Event    ( * = Important events )

   1982       Hi-Torro company created by Jay Minor and 2 others  (later
              renamed  to Amiga Inc). Developed the first prototype Amiga
              called  'Lorraine'.

   1984       January 4th. First Amiga prototype hardware displayed at
              the  Winter CES. Boing ball demo shown.

   1985     * Amiga Inc getting very short of cash. Atari and SGI were
              first interested but Commodore gave the best offer of
              $4.25 a share.

              In June, the first silicon based Amiga shown. Not many
              people could believe the kind of graphics it could do.

              On July 23rd, the A1000 was displayed  with Andy WarHol
              at the launch who drew a picture of Blondie on the spot.
          *   The A1000 was released in September. It cost half the
              price of a EGA based PC.

              Amiga World magazine released. The famous Juggler demo
              released.

   1986       Original A2000 designs were rejected by Commodore, instead
              they went for a German design. As a result, more than half
              of the  original Amiga crew were laid off. Within months,
              none of the original crew remained.

              Defender of the Crown game released. It was so impressive
              that it sold thousands of Amigas.

   1987     * The Amiga 500 and the A2000 were released.

   1988       Sales of the Amiga rose.

   1989       Batman Pack (A500) released. It sold in the 100,000s.

   1990       The Amiga became the world's best selling home computer.
```

On April 24th, the Amiga A3000 was unveiled and in May it was released. It had the new Workbench 2.0.

In June, the CDTV was released, which looked like a VCR with a CDROM and used the old Kickstart 1.3. It was very expensive, and marketed not as a Amiga computer but a home appliance.

* In August, the A500+ was released which had ECS and Workbench 2.04 There were problems with software compatibility as a lot of programs hit the hardware which didn't work on the new hardware which caused a few problems for new buyers.

In November, the Newtek Video Toaster was released. It was widely used in TV and Video productions including some famous ones such as B5, Seaquest DSV, Star Trek TNG, Quantum Leap, Robocop, Alladin and Jurrasic Park etc.

1991   The CDTV was a financial failure and Commodore themselves made some mistakes as well. The A600 was unveiled which was no better than the A500+ (although it included PCMCIA port and IDE interface, but some had ROMs with no scsi.device in it!), it didn't have a keypad.

1992   The A3000+ was shown which had AGA and was very expandable, but Commodore scrapped it, in favour of the A4000.

* In March the A600 was released, it caused an outcry for those people who still bought the older A500/A500+ (CBM never released information until the last minute).

Amiga Format magazine, reached reader figures of 130,000 and peaked at 160,000 readers.

On September 11, the A1200 was unveiled which had AGA and Workbench 3. It was an actual prototype but if it was developed further it could have been even better.

* The A4000 was released in December and the A1200 was released slightly later to cash in on the Christmas sales. The A4000 was good but was priced too high.

1993   Commodore starts laying off people, the new AAA chipset is shelved due to lack of money. Rumours of Commodore's demise is rife and the PC starts to gain a lead over the Amiga.

Amiga Report, an online magazine by Jason Compton, was started in March.

By April, the A1200 reached 100,000 sales.
Workbench 3.1 was released to developers for testing.
The Emplant Emulator was also announced this month, which emulates the Apple Mac.

In September, the CD32 console was released (contained a
CDROM drive and AGA chipset). It had a lukewarm reception
and Commodore promised lots of games for it – which never
appeared. They planned advertising, costing £7million.

1994   In MArch, Commodore announced huge losses and by April
they laid off a lot of their staff. By the 25th, only
30 employees were left, of the original 1000.

On Wednesday the 27th, the West Chester facility was
closed down.

* Finally, on Friday April 29th, 4:10, Commodore filed
for liquidation.

Later, another sad event, occured, Jay Miner, the 'father'
of the Amiga, died on June 20th due to a long illness
in El Camino Hospital In Mountain View.

1995   Chelsea Football Club considered taking legal action
against Commodore for due sponsership money.

Commodore UK tried a management buyout until the last
minute.

On March 1st, the Amiga World magazine was cancelled.

* In April, Escom and Dell fought over Commodore. Escom
offered £7m while Dell offered £15m but wasnt sure they
wanted the Amiga...!? Escom won the contest.

Escom created Amiga Technologies to sell the A1200
and A4000T which went back into production. There was
a small problem with Escom made A1200s, the floppy drive
had a small flaw that caused some programs to fail to
load! The A4000T was priced at £2000-£2500 for 040/060
Amigas...!

On April 16th, GVP went out of business. They were very
popular hardware manufacturers for the Amiga (GVP-M have
now taken over).

1996   On April 11th, Viscorp (STB company) announces that it
will try to buy the Amiga from Escom (they tried all
year, keeping the community in the lurch).

A range of 15" and 17" monitors will be released for use
on the Amiga by Microvitec on 8th May.

May 15th, Phase 5 announces its PowerUp accelerator
boards for the Amiga.
Also, Eagle Computers announce that they will make
A4000TE computers.

The Walker was shown to the public, it used AGA, had a CD,
floppy drive, a standard sized motherboard and Zorro slots
but the Black curved casing caused some controversy –

Darth Vader's helmet, a vacuum cleaner?!

* On July 15th, Escom filed for bankrupty. They bought out
hundreds of shops across the country and underestimated
the growth of PC sales.

In a shock move, Carl Sasserath (author of Amiga's Exec)
resigns from Viscorp on Nov 24th.

On Nov 29th, Viscorp's bid for the Amiga was cancelled.

Jason Compton (author of Amiga Report) resigns as spokes
man from Viscorp, disillusioned, on Dec 4th.

Amiga Power, a games magazine, was closed in September.

1997   On Feb 1st, QuikPak (makers of A4000s) makes a bid for
the Amiga.

On March 2nd, Phase 5 announces that they will be making
the CyberStormPPC and BlizzardPPC boards which will
use fast PowerPC 603/604 chips along with 68040/68060
to run OS functions.

Villagetronic discovers that the number of OS 3.1
upgrade kits are in short supply by March 19th.

Vulcan and Clickboom took on the Amiga market and managed
to release new games. Myst and Quake were converted to
the Amiga and sold thousands of copies.

* On March 27th, a new owner was found for the Amiga.
Gateway 2000, bought out Amiga from Escom and rename Amiga
Technologies to Amiga International to sell the remaining
stocks of Amiga to the public. They have sold a lot to
various third world countries including India.

May 9th, Haage & Partner announces that they will bring
Java to the Amiga (we are still waiting in '99).

Amiga Inc, the Research and Development arm was opened to
develop the new Amiga. Staff includes Jeff Shindler,
Dr Havemose, Bill McEwen and Fleecy Moss (who later left).

In June, Amiga User International magazine closed and
Amiga Computing in July. Finally, Amiga Review closed
as well due to lack of advertising.

On July 5th, Index Info. gets a licence to make Amigas
such as the Access machine and the BoXeR.

On July 10th, Intrinsic Computers also get a licence!

On Sept 15th, Amiga Intl now has a list of spare parts
to sell.

Cloanto releases Amiga Forever CD containing UAE and

Kickstarts and Workbenchs licenced from Amiga Intl
on 10th Oct.

DCE Gmbh gains a licence to sell its own Amigas on
October 29th.

On Nov 11th, Index releases their Access Amiga box to
the world. Ideal for information points etc.

Amiga Intl. announces that a large order of Amiga
1200s are going to India on Dec 21st.

1998   * 15th May, World of Amiga show, gave a shock to the Amiga
          Community. They announced Amiga OS 4 (actaully Amiga OS 5
          dev) to be run on an industry standard developer machine
          (x86 based) at around US$999.

          The current Amiga range is declared to be legacy or
          'Amiga Classic'. Amiga OS 3.5 upgraded has been cancelled.

          AmigaOS 5 machines will be aimed at Digital Convergance
          platform for customers. No details of processor or
          hardware were released.

        * At the Amiwest show in July, further details about the
          AmigaII or AmigaNG were released:
           3D graphics, Dolby AC3, multi-MPEG decoding, Internet,
          scalable multimedia processors, HDTV, OpenGL, Java,
          Firewire, USB, ADSL and Autoconfiguration!

          At the MAE show in October, Amiga Inc, announces that
          AmigaOS 3.5 WILL after all be developed as a gift for
          the Amiga community. Features includes new interface,
          better CDFS, Internet capable, better printer support,
          RTG and RTA (later dropped), PPC support, new FFS, plus
          bugs fixed from WB 3.1.

          On November 11th, Amiga Inc, announces that QNX Software
          Systems Ltd will utilise the QNX realtime OS as the
          foundation for the Next Generation Amiga.

          Due to loss of a partner the Developer box did not appear.

1999   On February 26th, Jim Collas will take over Amiga Inc
          and has moved its HQ to San Diego and start Fast
          Track Development Plans. Former head, Jeff Shindler
          will take over product strategy for the new Amiga.

          On July 16th, Amiga Inc releases Technology brief detailing
          their new Amiga Operating Environment using AmigaObjects,
          and Java using the Linux (instead of QNX) operating system.

          They also announced the specification of the Amiga Multimedia
          Convergence Computer (MCC) based on a unknown High-performance
          next generation CPU and the latest hardware technology such as
          SDRM, 3D graphics, DVD, MPEG, TV, 16bit surround sound etc.

Phase 5 announces the new AmiRage K2 computer based on the
PowerPC and using QNX as the operating system instead of Linux
on 5th August.

In a shock move, Jim Collas, President of Amiga, resigns,
probably due to differences of strategy with Gateway. Tom
Schmidt takes over as President (1/9/99)

Amiga files 17 new patents on various Digital Convergence
technologies.

Tom Schmidt (15/9/99) announces that Amiga will be only
developing software and the AmigaOE. The MCC computer is
cancelled, along with any hopes of a next generation Amiga.

At the end of October, Haage & Partner releases AmigaOS 3.5
software upgrade for existing Amigas. Requires an 020, CDROM,
6Mb RAM and Hard Disk (raising the minimum standard from a
basic 2Mb A1200).

2000   Jan. Amino buys name and rights from Gateway to continue the
            Classic series to the next generation. They are headed by
            Fleecy Moss and Bill McEwan. They partner with the TAO
            group.
            The old Amiga Inc is folded into Gateway's development group.

            Phase 5 goes bankrupt due to shortage of PPC sales and delays
            getting G4 boards into production.

            April. Amiga announce new developer system based on a 500 MHz
            AMD K6-2, 64Mb RAM, and GeForce 256 graphics which will run
            Linux and Tao's Elate OS on top. Also, announce partnerships
            with major companies such as Sun, Sony, Redhat etc for the
            new system.

    Information taken from Various sources inc. CUCUG.

1.30 The Author

Thanks to all those who have contributed to this guide and for spotting
the odd error!

This guide was written by Peter J Hutchison on a...

A1200 with Blizzard 1230-IV, 16MB RAM, 1.1GB 2.5" HD, Microvitec 1440, 12x
CDROM, ZyFi Speakers.

Disclaimer:

Information in this guide is accurate as far as I know. Any modifications
made to your system is done at your own risk. I cannot claim
responsibility for any damage caused directly or indirectly by the advice
given in this guide.

Other Guides in the series:

```
                           Foozle
                           Workbench1.3
                           PC Task 4.x
                           Printer Guide
                           Upgrading WB
                           Expanding the Amiga
                           Hard Drive
                           Graphics Cards
```

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