01108730-0

Mark Melton

COLLABORATORS			
	TITLE : 01108730-0		
ACTION	*NAME*	*DATE*	*SIGNATURE*
WRITTEN BY	Mark Melton	February 12, 2023	

REVISION HISTORY			
NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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01108730-0

1.1   File Finder

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                                  File Finder
                   Release Version 1.3 17th April 1995
                          written by Mark Melton
              email u9326383@radon.sys.uea.ac.uk (until July 96)


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1.2   Copyright

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Warrenty

None, well ok lets just say that I'm quite confident that it has less bugs than ←
   any Microsloth product, Windoze
95 (96 more likely ;-) for example.

Disclaimer

This~program~is~provided~as~is,~and~no~liability~is~accepted~for~any~dammage~ ←
   caused
to~you,~your~~machine,~~or~for~that~matter~anything~else.~Hey~if using~this ←
   program causes WW3 don't~blame~me~OK.

1.3 Introduction

Introduction

This program is used for finding things, still you probably worked that out~from ←
   the name~;-). I~wrote~it~mainly
because~I~have~access~to~several Amigas~(TM), with rather large hard-drive's. I~ ←
   found~there~was~a~need~to~quickly
find the location of file's~on~the~machines~as~many~of them have files stored in~ ←
   different~ways. There~was~also
the~article~in~the~Amiga Shopper magazine on a file finding utility.
I~modified~their~code~a~bit~and~added~substantial~amounts,~and~came~up~with~this ←
   program.

Current features in version 1.3

-> Find any file on a disk, using standard AmigaDos(TM) file matching patterns.

-> Fully implemented as a commodity, with user definable hotkey etc.

-> Limit search size parameters, only files in a certain size range are checked.

-> Limit date range parameters, only files in a ceratain date range are checked.

-> Window is now sizable.

-> Slightly faster search routine.

-> Interface is an "AppWindow", when a file or directory is droped on the ←
    interface its path is entered in the
path gadget.

-> Now able to search multiple paths.

-> Much faster when doing date or size limited searches. Now only 25% slower ←
    doing
    a date limit search. 60% slower in pervious versions. Size limit search now ←
       has
    no visible overhead. 50% slower in previous versions.

-> Much faster overall when searching. Upto four times faster that previous
    versions!!!

+ a few bug fixes.

-> Stack overflow fixed. Reported by millions (well at least four people :-)

-> GUI problems when running on~non-interlaced NTSC machines fixed. Reported by a ←
    NTSC A500 user, thanks!

-> Problems with SoftLinked directories fixed. Well they now work on my machine, ←
    if you know different let me
know ;-).

-> All gadget enteries are remembered even if GUI is hidden.

-> Close window gadget now "hides" the interface instead of closing it.

-> Solved problem with overflowing text when using topaz 8 font.

1.4 Requirements

Requirements for File Finder.

It is essential that you have at least kickstart & Workbench 2.04.

Other than that there are no further restrictions, well appart from having an ←
    amiga :-).

The program has been written on an A1200 with 50MhzGVP~A1230-II. It has been ←
    tested using~enforcer,~and~does not
cause~ any enforcer hits so it should be OK on all amigas.

Tested on plain A1200, A4000/040, A4000/030/ and an A3000. I have had reports of ←
   it working on the following:-

 -> A500 (NTSC)
 -> A2000 030

I would be grateful for~people~to~confirm~its~operation on other machines, e.g. ←
   A500+, A2000, etc.

1.5 Usage

Usage

This~program~was~designed~with~one~goal~in~mind,~to~be~simple~to~use.~It~is~for~
this~reason~that~the~standard~"look" of~the~workbench~has~been~used.~

The~program~has~three~main~interface~area's.~The~file~list~at~the~top~(initialy~
blank~),~the~search~pameter~control's, contained~within~the~"raised"~box,~and~
the~program~~control~functions~at~~the~bottom.~

Search parameter gadgets.

The program currently has three ways of setting the search parameters.

 1) By~file~name.
 2) By~size.
 3) By~date.

They can be used in combination.

The status gadget informs the user of the current status of the program. It is not ←
    selectable by~the~user.

The Path~gadget,~keyboard~shortcut~P,~is~used~to~specify~the~
 drive~or~directory~in~which~to~look for~the~file.~Limiting~the~search~to~a~
particular~directory~saves~time~by~reducing~the~number~of~files~which~have to~be~ ←
   searched .~~e.g.

DH0:

This would search all of DH0:, whereas

DH0:Utilities/

would only search the directory dh0:utilities.

A simpler and quicker method to specify a search path is to drag the icon of the ←
   disk or directory that
you~wish~to search on to the FileFinder interface, anywhere will do, and release ←
   it. This will enter the path of
the~icon~into the path gadget.

Multiple paths can be entered by either using the shift key to select multiple ←
   icons to drop on the interface, or

by typing in each name with a space between each entry. If drive names with spaces ←
    are entered, e.g. Ram Disk,
then should be enclosed in quotes. e.g. "Ram Disk".

The~Pattern~gadget,~keyboard~shortcut~T,~is~used~to~
specify~the~file~for~which~to~search.~Standard~AmigaDOS~file~patterns~are~accepted ←
    ,~
to~save~you~digging~out~your~AmigaDOS~manual,~if~you~even~~have~one,~here~are~the~ ←
    pattern's

 ?   Matches any single character.

 #<p>   Matches zero or more occurances of <p>.

 <p1>|<p2>   Matches if either <p1> or <p2> matches.

 ~<p>   Matches everything but <p>.

 (<p1><p2>...)   Groups items together.

 %   Matches the null string.

 [<p>-<p>]   Determines a character range.

Now~unless~you've~used~AmigaDOS~extensivly,~that~lot~will~be~about~as~clear~as~mud ←
    .~
So~here's~the~english~translation.

 A?B   Matches any three letter word begining in A and ending in B. Such
 as AcB,~AzB,~ABB,~etc.

 A#BC~Matches~any~name~beginning~in~A~and~ending~in~C,~with~any~number~of~B's~in~
 between.~Such~as~ABC,~ABBC,~ABBBC,~etc.

 ABC#?   Matches any name beginning ABC. Such as ABCD, ABCPIC.info, etc.

 #?XYZ   Matches any name ending XYZ. Such as MARK_XYZ, PICXYZ, etc.

 ABC#?XYZ   Matches any name beginning ABC and ending XYZ. Such as ABCXYZ,
 ABCMARKXYZ, etc.

 A(B|C)D   Matches ABD or ACD.

 ~(XYZ)   Matches anything but XYZ.

 ~(#?.info)   Matches anything not ending in .info.

 A#(BC)~Matches~any~name~begining~with~A~followed~by~any~number~of~BC's.~Such~as~
 ABC,~ABCBC,~ABCBCBC,~etc.

 A(B|D|%)C~Matches~any~name~starting~with~A~ending~with~C~with~B,~D~or~nothing~in~
 between.~Such~as~ABC,~ADC~or~AC ~~~.

 [A-D]#?   Matches any name beginning with A, B, C or D.

The~Size~button,~keyboard~shortcut~S,~opens~the~ Search~Size~limit~window~ ←
    containing~three~gadgets.~

They~are,~the info gadget, which is~a small~reminder of~what~to~do,~the~Max~Size~
gadget,~keyboard~shortcut~M,~where~the~~maximum file size to include in the~search ←
    ~ is~put,~and~the~Min
Size~gadget,~keyboard shortcut S, where the ~minimum file~size~ to~include
in~the~search~is~put.~The~search~size~limit~window~does not have~to be~ closed ←
    after use and can be left open.
To~ignore~a~maximum~file~size~limit~enter~a~value of~0.~e.g.

Max size = 0 Min size = 1000

would only look for files over 1000 bytes (1Kb) in size.

Max size = 10000 Min size = 5000

would only look for files over 5000 bytes (5Kb) long but under 10000 bytes (10 Kb) ←
    .

The Date button, keyboard shortcut D, opens the Date Size limit window containing ←
    three dadgets.

They are, the info gadget, which is~a small~reminder of~what~to~do, the From ←
    gadget, keyboard shortcut
F,~where~the earliest date to include in the search is entered, and the To gadget, ←
     keyboard shortcut T, where
the~most~recent date to include is entered. The~date~range~limit~window does not ←
    have~to be~closed after use and
can be~left open. To ignore a date limit~leave the gadget empty.

The date should be entered in a DD-MMM-YY format e.g.
 04-Mar-95, also 04-03-95 works equally well.

The List Gadget.

This~is~where~the~list~of~files~that~match~the~search~parameters~will~appear.~If~ ←
    the~
list~gadget~is~clicked~on,~details~of~the~file~selected,~will~appear~in~the~info~
window.~This~provides~details~such~as~the~creation~date~of~the~file,~its~name,~the ←
     path to the file and its
size.~The info window can be left open when selecting other~files, there details ←
    will replace those already
in~the~info~window.~

Program~control~gadgets.

Quit,~keyboard~shortcut~Q,~exits~the~program~immediately.~Warning,~you~will~not~be ←
     ~
asked~to~confirm~a~quit~request.

Hide, keyboard sortcut H, closes the GUI, but leaves the program running, press ←
    the hotkey combination
to~popup~the interface, default Shift Alt F.

Find, keyboard shortcut F, commences the search with the current search parameters ←
    .

Abort,~keyboard~shortcut~A,~aborts~the~current~search~operation.~This~will~stop~ ←
    the~ search~at~the~point~it~had
reached~~when~the~abort~button~was~pressed.~Search~ operations~must~be~allowed~to~ ←
    compleat~or~aborted~before~any
other~commands~can~be used, such~as~Quit.

Print, keyboard shortcut R, print's the current contents of the list to the ←
    current prefs printer.

Recommendation

To make the search as fast as possible, it is recommended that the program window ←
    is kept as small as
possible.~It can easily be enlarged after the search is finished.

1.6 Installation

Installation

This couldn't possibly be easier. Simply drag the File Finder icon to wherever ←
    you want
it~to~be~put.~I~would~recomend either your utilities drawer, tools drawer or ←
    preferbly your~WBStartup drawer.

The documentation~consists~of~the~AmigaGuide~format doc, and a plain text file.

TOOLTYPES

(See page 10-23 of the WorkBench 3.0 manual.)

CX_HOTKEY="Shift alt F" or any other combination you want. This key combination ←
    will cause
the~program~to~popup~its~GUI(Graphical user interface) if it is currently "Hidden ←
    ".

Use the tooltype DONOTWAIT if you run the program from the WBStartup drawer.

The CX_POPUP tooltype determinew if the program opens its GUI on startup.

The UPDATE_FREQUENCY tooltype determines how often the list view gadget is updated ←
    . This is how the massive speed
improvements when doing searches were achived. It can be any value from 0 to 255. ←
    When a value of 0 is used the
program operates in the same way as pre v1.3 versions, updating the list view ←
    every time it finds a file matching
the search parameters. If a value of 10 is used (the default value), the program ←
    updates the list ten files at a
time. From my tests 10 is about the optimum value. Feel free to use higher ←
    values but any increases are subject

to a law of deminishing returns.

1.7 Problems

Problems

One problem that you might experience if you have a particularly deep directory ←
    structure, is that of
a~stack~overflow. This can be solved by the increasing the stack size of the ←
    program. See page 3-19~of the
WB3.0~manual for details on how to do this.

If you discover any problems with this program send me the~details,~such~as~what~ ←
    the~problem~is,~what~sort~
of~machine you use machine, you KS and WB version~numbers~and~an~address~where~you ←
    ~can~be~contacted.

1.8 Future plans

                    Future plans

Implement the type limit feature. This my take a while :-(Quite possibly it will ←
     never get done, quite simply
because of the monumental number of different file types. Lets just say that I ←
    would require a significant
number of requests to implement it.

Perhaps add a slider to control the update frequency of the list view gadget.

Add a shell gadget to the info window. This would give you a shell set to the ←
    directory of the file. This would
allow you to quickly extract lha files or run programs etc.

You never know, some shareware subscriptions might encorage me to get these ←
    features implemented :->

Also I would welcome any suggestions for improvements or new features.

                    Contacts

1.9 Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements

Thanks go to the Amiga Shopper magazine in the UK for providing the inspiration ←
    for this program.~This~program~is

loosly based on a program that they ran as a C programming tutorial,~but~has~had~ ↩
    considreable enhancements,~and
extra features added.

1.10 Suggestions/Registration

Firstly I can be contacted by Email or snail mail.

Email (Bugs, suggestions only)

u9326383@radon.sys.uea.ac.uk

I will have access to this account until at least summer 1996.

Snail mail(registration requests, bugs, suggestions)

 Mr M D Melton,
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 North Hykeham,
 Lincoln,
 England,
 LN6 9PN

Registration

What~benifits~will~registration~bring~you. ~Well~appart~from~making~your pocket/ ↩
    wallet slightly~lighter and
slimmer :-),~ firstly it will bring my eternal gratitude, and secondly the very ↩
    latest version of this program,
if you have an email address where I could send it to, or send me a self addessed ↩
    jiffy bag or similar containing
a DSDD floppy. Also it would give mea bit of motivation to continue development ↩
    of the program. What do I ask
for this program, which has been written in my spare time while studying for my ↩
    degree, as a possible method of
suplementing my~income~:-> and because I needed a file finding program.

Registration is the huge figure of £5, yes thats all, just 5 GB pounds. If you ↩
    are sending forign currencies,
please send the equivelent of 7 GB pounds to help cover my costs in getting it ↩
    changed.