

Default

COLLABORATORS

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Chapter 1

Default

1.1 CxControl user manual

←

CxControl

Written by Georges Goncalves

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User manual
of

CxControl
version 1.5

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1.2 DISCLAIMER

1 - Disclaimer :

The author is not responsible for any damage caused directly or indirectly by the use of this program. If your monitor explode, your harddisk crashed and no more formatable, your 680x0 changed in an Intel type processor or the FPU gives results like $1/1 = 0.999999956784$ its not my fault. Use it at your own risk.

1.3 DISTRIBUTION

2 - Distribution :

You can distribute it as long as you don't make money with it :(It's NOT public domain but freely distribuable. Really, it's a CardWare program. That means if you enjoy and use it, you have the moral obligation to send me a postal card of your city or country, not so expensive I think ;-)

1.4 INTRODUCTION

3 - Introduction :

Are you a user of Protracker © Cryptoburners (or other version of Protracker !) or PC-Task © Chris Hames or any other program that uses the sprites. If not CxControl can not help you a lot but continue to read this doc, maybe you'll find it usefull. Then if you use those programs you may have notice that if you use a 'MouseBlanker' type Commodity like Yak © Gaël Marziou & Martin W. Scott (Which I use) or KCommodity © Kai Iske, or DMouse © Matt Dillon or other, the sprites disappear every time you press a key on keyboard. In Protracker, you have lost many things like the vertical sliders, the cursor, the vu-meters, and on PC-Task, you lost the blinking cursor. What a problem.

Some of these 'MouseBlankers' use the Commodities.library to have the possibility to show the GUI, hide it, be Activated, Deactivated, or Removed from memory via the Commodities Exchange supplied by Commodore.

I think, and you may think so, that is very annoying to pop-up the Exchange GUI to Deactivate the 'MouseBlanker', launch Protracker or another, and re-pop-up Exchange to re-Activate the tool after quitting the program. That's why I decide to create CxControl after receiving CxKiller from Gaël Marziou. This tool is very handy but it offers only the possibility to Kill a Commodity. I want only to Deactivate some for a time, and after this re-Activate it. CxControl is designed to be used in scripts.

1.5 REQUIREMENTS

4 - Requirements :

You must have some little things in order to get CxControl to work :

- AmigaOS 2.0 or better (3.x is safer !)
- a little Shell knowledge (very little)
- an Amiga (CxControl is useless on PCs as they don't know what is a commodity ;->)
- You must *HATE* MicroSoft Windows ;-)

1.6 USAGE

5 - Usage :

Here is the HARDER part (joke !)

From Workbench : CxControl is a Shell only utility but if you run it from Workbench, it will crash.

From Shell : The template of CxControl is :
BROKER/M/A,ENABLE/S,DISABLE/S,SHOW/S,HIDE/S,KILL/S

BROKER : Multiple, Argument.
All the Commodity(ies) to perform action.

ENABLE : Switch.
Enables the Commodity(ies) (makes it Active).

DISABLE : Switch.
Disables the Commodity(ies) (makes it Inactive).

SHOW : Switch.
Brings to front the Commodity(ies) GUI (Show interface).

HIDE : Switch.
Removes the GUI from the Commodity(ies) (Hide interface).

KILL : Switch.
Kills the Commodity(ies) (removes it from memory).

Script example for CxControl :

```
----- cut here -----  
  
CxControl BROKER "Yak" "SuperDark" DISABLE  
Protracker  
CxControl BROKER "Yak" "SuperDark" ENABLE  
  
----- cut here -----
```

Things you have to know:

- Remember that the Commodity name is CASE SENSITIVE
If the Commodities name don't have spaces, the '"' are not necessary.
- CxControl does not produce any output message when all goes well. It tells where is the problem in case of failure. Note that handling a Commodity that not exists does not produce an error.
- Returns FAIL if it can't open the dos.library.

What do you want more ?

1.7 HINTSANDTIPS

6 - Hints ans tips :

Here is some useful hints and tips that make the usage of CxControl more handy and/or reliable.

- Have you got an idea ? :-)

1.8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

7 - Acknowledgements :

A special thanks to Gaël Marziou for writing CxKiller, which inspired me for writing CxControl.

1.9 HISTORY

8 - History :

1.0 - First public release.

1.1 - Removed arguments handling. I gave it to the dos.library with RDArgs (Thanks to Commodore !).
Gone on a diet! Size reduced from 3.7Kb to 1.5Kb !!!
Verification of the 2.04+ Operating System at start.
Use of the IoErr() for arguments errors.
Compiled with cres.o, can now be made resident.

1.1a - Cleaning up of the source to clarify it. The diet continues with elimination of forgotten code (When we 'fold' the functions we not oftenly return to them) this result in a reduction from 1.5Kb to 1.4Kb !

- 1.2 - Recompile after removing multiple options handling (no matter if multi options) and without ANY C startup. The diet changes in a hunger strike! The size changes from 1.4Kb to 516 bytes
- 1.3 - Changed the option parsing/analysis. The diet continues... Now 460 bytes long :-)
- 1.4 - Removed useless code. Now return FAIL if OS < 2.04 :) The diet continues... Now 412 bytes long =<%-9 ***
*** Mad guy with a funnel on head, tilted eyes and tongue outside ;-) Always in 'C' of course :>
- 1.5 - Added HIDE and SHOW switches. Works fine but made CxControl grow up to 444 bytes :'(

1.10 CONTACTINGAUTHOR

9 - Contacting the author :

For greets, bug reports, suggestions, comments, flames :(, 1Gb HardDisks, CyberVision and/or CyberStorm060/80MHz/32Mb ram, money :) and Postal Cards I can be reached at :

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