N-Dex

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COLLABORATORS			
	TITLE : N-Dex		
ACTION	*NAME*	*DATE*	*SIGNATURE*
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REVISION HISTORY			
NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Chapter 1

N-Dex

1.1   N-Dex v1.1 © FairWare 1997

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                                      N-Dex v1.1

                        © FairWare 1997



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1.2   What the f@c% is N-Dex?

Basically, N-Dex is a simple AmigaDOS script to create an~index~file~-~in AmigaGuide format - for all the files in any directory.~"What's~the~point~of that?" I hear you mutter under your breath (I have~good~hearing,~you~see~:).

Imagine that your hard drive is full of many~different~programs~on~the various partitions you have. So that you can~find~any~documentation~files quickly, and to prevent the uneccessary~cluttering~of~important~directories, you have all the docs files in~one~directory.~However, this is~a mess in itself, so what you need is an~index~of all the~files in that~directory so you can, using multiview, simply~click~on the~name of a file to~view it!

And it isn't limited to guide or text files either! You~can~create~an~index file for your directory of pictures, or samples,~or~protracker~mods!~All you

need is the correct datatype for that filetype~and~your a~click away~from
reading/viewing/hearing the file!

1.3 So what do I need to run it?

Here is a list of the requirements for running N-Dex :-

    An Amiga with OS3.0+ and KS3.0+ (required for datatypes & multiview)

    An ENV: assignment

    The following programs somewhere in your path:

        Date
        Delete
        Execute
        IconX   (Only needed if you use the icon)
        List
        Multiview
        RequestChoice
        RequestFile

    (If you have a standard setup, these should all be present ;^)

1.4 How do I install it then?

Installation is simple. Simply copy this file to whereever you normally keep
your doc files, and then copy the N-Dex script (and it's icon if you wish to
use it) to wherever you want them on your hard drive or the floppy disk you
normally boot with.

1.5 Duh! How do I run it?

                    There are many (many) ways in which you can run N-Dex, and I ←
                      will go over
most of them here. Others include setting it up in a DOpus style utility,
or perhaps from a menu utility such as ToolsDaemon or ToolManager, or maybe
in an appicon program, but I wont go in to those here. Expert users will be
able to work them out for themselves anyway. If you need help, don't
hesitate to contact
                me
                  .

    Using Workbench

    1)   Double click on the N-Dex icon. A requester will appear prompting
         you for a directory to create an index for.

    2)   Click once on the N-Dex icon. Hold down shift. Double click on

the icon for a disk or drawer. N-Dex will create an Index.Guide
for that disk or drawer.

Using the CLI

3) At a CLI prompt type N-Dex. A requester will appear as per method
    1).

4) At a CLI prompt type N-Dex DirName, where DirName is the path of
    either a disk or directory. I bet you can't guess what happens
    now   :)

Once you have selected a disk/drawer and run N-Dex, the supplied path
will be checked to make sure it is actually a valid path. If it is not, you
will be informed via a requester and will have to run N-Dex again, this time
supplying a valid path.

Next, the path will be checked for the presence of an existing guide
file. If one exists, you can choose to either:

Update it - Overwrites the old file with a new, up-to-date one.

View it   - Views the current guide file. When you quit MultiView
             you will be shown this requester again.

Quit   - Chicken out and decide not to create a new guide file
             after all.

Assuming you have chosen to update the old guide file (or one does not
exist yet for that directory), you will be asked whether you wish for icons
to be included in the guide. If you answer 'Yes', and you have a suitable
icon datatype installed, you will be able to click on the link and view the
icons. If you select 'No', you won't.

Next you will be asked if you want to include sub-directories. Answering
'No' will mean that N-Dex will just create the index for files in the
directory originally given. Choosing 'Yes' means that all files in sub-
directories will also be included (however, empty sub-directories will be
ignored).

N-Dex will now go ahead and create the index. When it is done, you will
be informed, and then you can view the guide. Simply load the 'Index.Guide'
file from the path given previously in to MultiView, and click away!

1.6   It's all in the past now ...

Version   Date   Comments

1.1   17-04-97   First public release
                        Added the ability to include sub-directories.
                        Rearranged the code a little.
                        Finished the docs and uploaded to Aminet.

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    1.0        17-12-96    The first version.  Wow, history in the making!
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1.7 Who am I?

The author of this fine, outstanding utility (well, script file :) is me, Kevin Fairhurst *wave*. I am currently a third year computer scientist at the University of York (in England), and I am doing my best at avoiding studying for my finals.

If you want to get in touch with me, you can email me (until the end of June '97 at any rate) on:

    krf101@york.ac.uk

You could also write to me in the old fashioned way at:

    1 Thirlmere Rd
    Hindley
    Wigan
    Lancs
    WN2 3QH

And now the reason you really clicked on this page, the greets:

Hello's to worms, walrus, manatee, tecno, homerman, platon42, turtle, lettuce, jpw, jizmak, babydee, pi[[ar, and everyone else I chat to on IRC!

(I can usually be found on #worms, going by the nick of redvers)

Hello to everyone else I know, and most of the people who know me!

1.8 Also by the same author ...

Other great (and pointless :) utilities by the same author:

    CheckMouse   Do different things in the startup-sequence depending
                   upon the mouse buttons

    Centre   A utility like 'echo' that centres text on a line

    R   A reboot utility offering a "Really reboot?" option

    Random   A utility to pick a random number (great for
                   randomising background prefs for Workbench :)

On it's way real soon:

    A (rather large) sample set for WormsDC ...

1.9 Index

Index of database N-Dex.Guide

Documents

Also by the same author ...

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It's all in the past now ...

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