PSXControl

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PSXControl

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	TITLE : PSXControl						
ACTION	NAME	DATE	SIGNATURE				
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REVISION HISTORY						
NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME			

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Chapter 1

PSXControl

1.1 AmigaGuide Developer documentation to PSXControl v1.0

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Faeries Geneses
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Important to know is that this doc is not complete. Loads of stuff will change in future releases! At the moment, only the library calls are

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- - $\$ \div $\$ "The biggest trick the devil ever pulled was convincing everybody" $\$ $\$ div $\$ -

- - \div " that he doesn't exist. " \div - -

- -\$\div\$ Verbal Kint (The Usual Suspects) \$\div\$- -

1.2 Disclaimer

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DISCLAIMER

- 1. Tim Jacobs, Korneel Ketelslegers and Tobias Schächtelin, further referred to as 'the authors', cannot be held responsible for anything that might go wrong when using this package.
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1.3 Introduction

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INTRODUCTION

PSX-Control also offers the possibility for other coders to take advantage of the Playstation's capabilities. To help those coders (and not telling them to re-invent the wheel) some basic functions are included in PSX-Control that make their lifes a bit easier.

Some of those functions include transfering and execution of files.

Imagine you want to code a 3D-object viewer (with texturemapping and phong-shading and all those goodies), but you simply can't get it fast enough on the Amiga. Then the solution is simple: You transfer a homemade viewer executable to the Playstation, you put all the texture and object data on one PSX memory address and then run the program! If the user wants to view other objects, then you simply transfer new data to that address and re-execute the program.

This is just an example of thousands of possible projects you can think of.

Want to code a render plugin for your favourite renderprogram so you can see your rendered scenes immediatelly and realtime? Or want to walk through your virtual dreamhouse or want to see how your house looks like when a plane crashes into it? All this is now possible with the render capabilities of the Playstation.

The main advantage of PSX-Control is that the util coder doesn't have to write his/her own software for every different type of Playstation development system there is. All these can be adressed in the same way using the psxamiga.library

1.4 Requirements

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In order to develop for PSX-Control you at least need an Amiga that is capable of running PSX-Control :).

Knowledge of how to use libraries can also come in handy, but if you want to develop some serious applications, knowledge of Playstation programming in general could be usefull.

1.5 Using the psxamiga.library

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Using the psxamiga.library is very simple: You open the library and call the functions you need! There are some things you REALLY should pay

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attention to though.

Things to check in the psxamiga library base

* Before calling a function, always check the pa_Status. This must be set to UBYTE 1 before you call a function. If it is set to UBYTE 0, then another program is already performing an action that locks the other programs out (eg. transfering of files). If another program is using the psxamiga.library, then the function calls will simply fail.

The library functions

* Transfering of files is done by calling the function Transfer2PSX().

This function automatically detects what kind of file you are transfering and will act accordingly.

Executables will always be transferred to the CORRECT address. If you want to upload code at random addresses, then DON'T include the PSX-EXE or ECOFF header in that file, and specify the correct destination address (remember that PSX Executables are always hardcoded for a certain address. On the PSX the rule:

"coders that write from a fixed address should be shot" is not valid.

Data files are transfered to the address specified.

* If you want to execute a file, then first set all registers to the correct addresses using the function SetCPUReg() and then call the function PSXExecute(). The registers you should AT least set are:

EPC = The program counter. The Playstation will jump to this address when
 you do a PSXExecute().

GP = Global Pointer (usually set to zero)

SR = Stack Register (usually set to \$801ffff0)

1.6 DevInfo

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· PLAYSTATION DEVELOPMENT

Some important things you should know about Playstation development are:

- * Never transfer a file to the adressing range \$80000000 \$0801FFFFF when the pa_System is YAROZE. The Yaroze terminal and LIBPS.EXE files reside at these addresses and overwriting them will make the Yaroze crash.
- * Take care when transfering files to certain addresses. If several programs are using the psxamiga.library at the same time, then those programs might overwrite addresses that you are using.

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1.7 The Authors

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The PSXControl program and all the accompanying files where created by the Faeries Geneses team.

To contact us for bugreports, suggestions, please send an email to:

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You can also contact Faeries Geneses members if you like. Currently our team consists of the following members:

THE TEAM

- Tim Jacobs
Main coder and public relations manager.

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Currently studying physics at the Limburgs Universitair Centrum (LUC) in Diepenbeek as a first-year student.

Korneel Ketelslegers
 Coder and visual art director.

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Currently studying film-making techniques at the art department of the KHLim (Katholieke Hogeschool Limburg) in Genk as a fourth-year student.

- Tobias Schächtelin Main coder and Supervising Producer

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Currently studying literature and linguistics at the University of Tübingen.

OTHER PROJECTS

This is a list of programs that have been released by Faeries Geneses:

* MP3Tagger v1.3 Simple and effective editing of information within MP3 audio files. Released on aminet as "mus/misc/FG-MP3Tagger.lha".

Other projects currently in development:

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- * conversion.library (finished)
 Easier converting of numbers from ascii <-> hex, dec, oct, bin for asm and c programmers.
- * Mogaira (abandoned)
 Converts autodocs to amigaguide files, .i includes to .h includes, fd files
 to pragma & protos files.
- * ww_Addnote (80% finished)
 Adds footnotes to WordWorth documents faster and more confortable.