SlowBoot

Lee Kindness

COLLABORATORS			
	TITLE : SlowBoot		
ACTION	*NAME*	*DATE*	*SIGNATURE*
WRITTEN BY	Lee Kindness	November 2, 2022	

REVISION HISTORY			
NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

Contents

Chapter 1

SlowBoot

1.1   SlowBoot 1.18

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  ( _____)           /  __  \
   \  \              /  /_/  )              SlowBoot version 1.18
    \  \ Z Z z   z   z/    ___/  z   z    z  Copyright ©95 Lee Kindness
     \  \             /  __  \
 ____) \            /  /_/  )              A solution for slowbooting
(_____) l o w (_____/ o o t            harddrives!!
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        Introduction
      : What does it do?

        Installation
      : Setup

      Advanced Usage
      : More options...

        Technical
      : What it really does

          Legal
      : Copyright, distribution...

        History
      : Version history
            Other        : Other programs

        Contact
      : Author contact
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1.2   Introduction

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The majority of large capacity 3.5" IDE drives take quite a while to
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spin upto speed. The problem is that the A600, A1200 and A4000 IDE interface
does not wait for them. If the drive has not spun up within a certain time
limit it is 'forgotten'. To use these drives you normally have to reboot
again after a cold reboot. This is rather annoying to say the least. Also
what if you wanted to turn on your Amiga via a timer switch so that you could
collect email or backup your HD while you were asleep, you could not do it.
SlowBoot offers a solution to this problem.

Note that SlowBoot is not device dependant, it will work even with SCSI
drives that are slow spinners (if such a problem exists...)

1.3 Installation

Double-clicking on the "Make_BootDisk" icon will use the CBM intaller to
create a bootdisk. If you leave this disk in your drive when you boot it
will automatically boot your HD without you having to reboot.

The install script is self-documented, select help on any stage for more
information.

1.4 Advanced Usage

The "Make_BootDisk" script will create a a bootdisk for your use. However
not all options are catered for in it. You may want to change the following
line that is in the created startup-sequence:

C:SlowBoot >NIL: ...

 SlowBoot accepts the following template:

DEVICE/A,WAIT/N/K,CMD=COMMAND/K

 DEVICE -- The device name of the boot partition, normally this wiuld be
     DH0: but can be anything. Must be given.

 WAIT -- If the drive has not spun up then this is the delay (in
     seconds) which to wait before trying again. Defaults to 1 second.

 COMMAND -- The command to execute when the drive has spun upto speed. By
     default this executes the startup-sequence on DEVICE, ie:

Execute <>CON:///-1/AmigaDOS/AUTO/NOCLOSE/SMART s:startup-sequence

     A usefult feature of this would be to change the name of the
     startup-sequence... this would give good protection against viri that
     latch onto the startup-sequence!!

1.5 Technical

```
              What doen SlowBoot really do? Well it first checks to see if
              DEVICE
               exists.
If it exists then the drive has spun-up ok. If so it reassigns SYS:, C:, S:,
ENVARC:, LIBS:, DEVS:, FONTS: and L: relative to
              DEVICE
               and executes

              COMMAND
               (ie execute the startup-sequence on
              DEVICE
              ). If
              DEVICE
               does not exist
then the computer waits
              WAIT
               ticks and then reboots, giving the drive more
time to spin-up.
```

1.6   Disclaimer, Distrubution and Copyright

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Disclaimer
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I hereby reject any liability or responsibility for these or any
other consequences from the use of SlowBoot whatsoever. This includes,
but is not limited to, damage to your equipment, to your data,
personal injuries, financial loss or any other kinds of side effects.
Although SlowBoot has been tested thoroughly on several different
machines, I cannot rule out the possibility that SlowBoot

    1. is somehow incompatible to your equipment

    2. has bugs that show up on your equipment

    3. does not do what it is supposed to do on your equipment

    4. May dammage you equipment

It is your responsibility to take any precautions necessary to
protect yourself from these or any other effects. I explicitly
reject any liability or responsibility from the consequences of you
using SlowBoot

Distribution
~~~~~~~~~~~~

SlowBoot may be freely distributed and copied, as long as the following
conditions are fulfilled:

    1. All parts of the program and the documentation must be complete.
       The distribution of single parts or incomplete subsets of the
       original distribution is forbidden.

    2. If SlowBoot is to be included in a commercial distribution (including
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magazines!) then I must be sent a copy of the product (or if it is a
mag that I am subscribed to then an increase in subscription). It
would be better if you contacted me beforehand to ensure you have the
latest version. In any case full credit must be given within the
program documentation or magazine.

3. If the included source code is used in another program then credit
must be given in the documentation.

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Note To Magazines
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In the past I have had some of my programs included on magazine coverdisks
without my permission when in the documentation it was stated that this
was required... I want my programs on coverdisks but you _MUST_ read and
fufil the "Distribution" section above. If you disagree then contact me
or write a message in the AMIGA_MAGS echo...

1.7 Contact

I can be contacted at the following addresses:

```
Mail:
 Lee Kindness
 8 Craigmarn Road
 Old Portlethen Village
 Aberdeen
 SCOTLAND
 AB1 4QR

Fidonet:
 2:259/26.20 or 2:250/188.20

Internet:
 cs2lk@scms.rgu.ac.uk
 wangi@spuddy.mew.co.uk
 wangi@fido.zetnet.co.uk
```

I hope you find the program useful.

1.8 History

```
1.12  : 11.09.95
      - First release.

1.14  : 07:10.95
      - DELAY now defaults to 50.

1.16  : 07.10.95
      - DELAY was ignored in version 1.14, it works now.
      - DELAY (which was in 50ths of a second) has been replaced with
```

WAIT (in seconds).

1.17 :
    – The make bootdisk script did not format the disk if SYS:System was
      not in your path. Fixed.

1.18 : 17.10.95
    – A lock was not being freed. After WB had booted and you removed the
      boot disk the icon would remain. Fixed.