

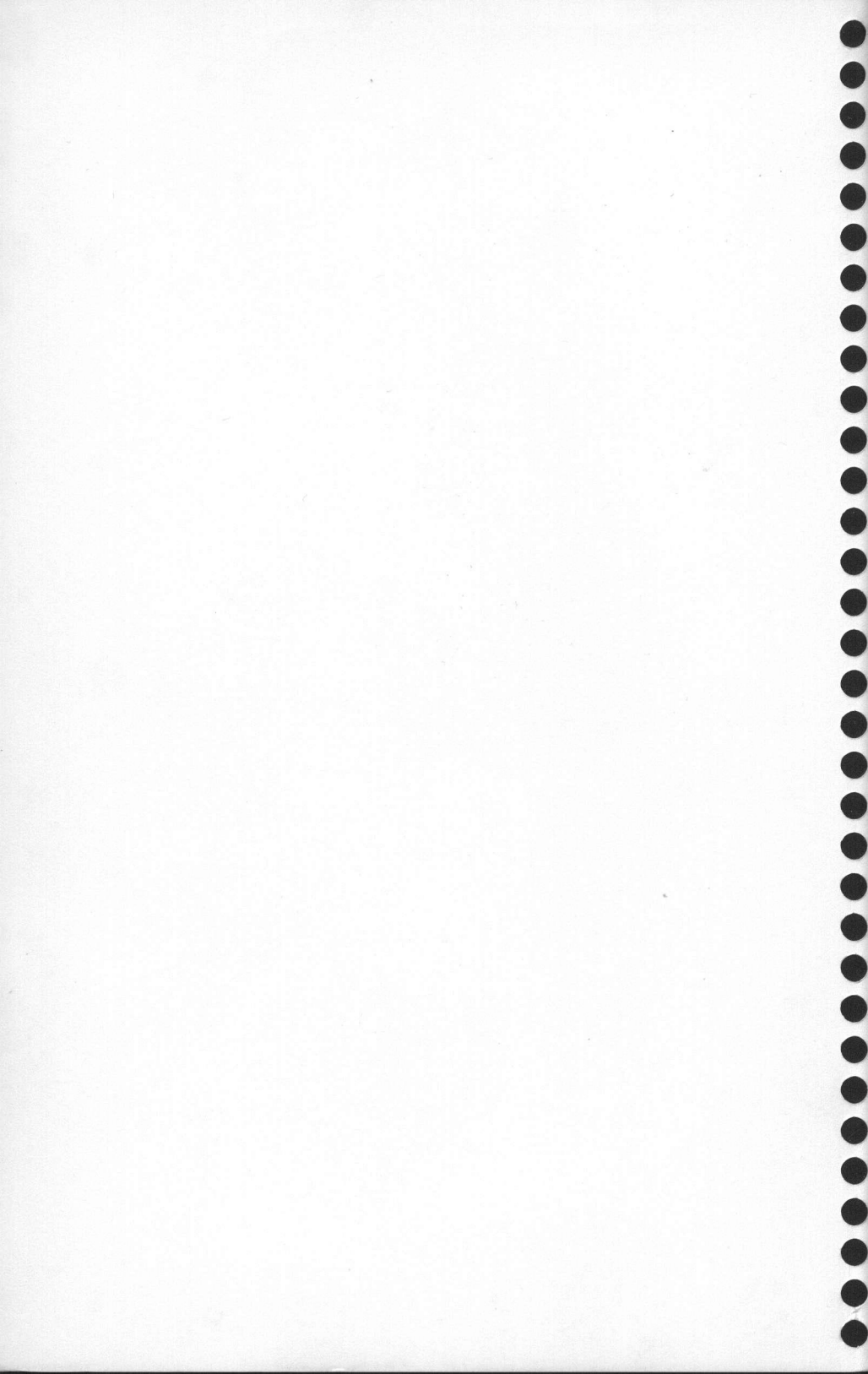
# *Diamond Edge*



*On the cutting Edge of Computer Technology*



*Oregon Research Associates*





# *Diamond Edge*

*On the cutting Edge of Computer Technology*

*Disk Diagnostics, Repair, Optimization, and Data  
Recovery for your Atari ST*

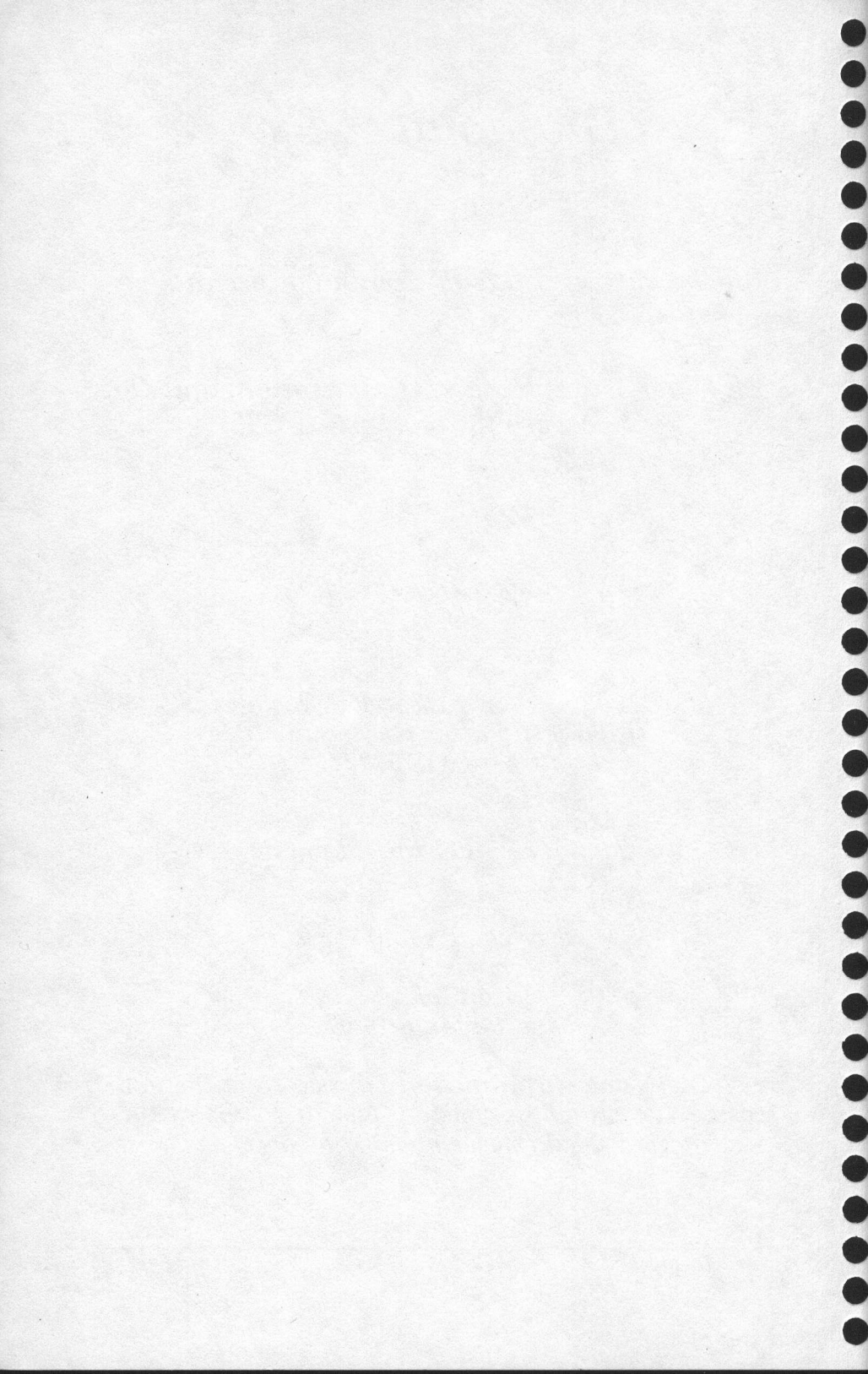
By  
*Robert D. Luneski*

©1992 Oregon Research Associates  
16200 S.W. Pacific Hwy., Suite 162  
Tigard, OR 97224

*Manual By Robert D. Luneski*

*My everloving thanks goes to  
my wife Jo,  
son David,  
and daughter Sara.*

*My strength and inspiration are drawn from the family  
core. Without whose constant love and support this  
project would never have been completed.*



1.0	Introduction .....	1
1.1	What Diamond Edge can do for you.....	1
1.2	Installation .....	2
1.3	What you need to know and do first.....	3
1.4	Preferences .....	4
1.4.1	User Mode.....	5
1.4.2	Warn Mode.....	5
1.4.3	Disk Medic Pause with No Errors .....	5
2.0	The Diamond Edge Basic Window .....	6
2.1	The Active Drive .....	6
2.3	The Fragmentation Map Display .....	7
2.4	The All Drive Information Display.....	10
3.0	Diagnosing and Repairing Your Drives.....	11
3.1	File Validation .....	11
3.1.1	Creating Validation Files.....	11
3.1.2	Validating Files.....	12
3.1.3	What to do if a Validation Error is Identified.....	13
3.2	Testing Your Disk Structure.....	14
3.2.1	Disk Medic Options.....	15
3.2.2	Disk Medic Report.....	17
3.3	Mapping Bad Sectors on Your Disk .....	19
3.4	Partitioning Your Hard Drive.....	22
3.4.1	Selecting the SCSI Drive to Partition.....	22
3.4.2	Disk Partitioning Options.....	24
3.4.3	Disk Partitioning Actions.....	27
4.0	Optimizing Your Drives.....	28
4.1	Choosing the Optimization Method.....	30
4.2	Choosing the Optimization Priority.....	32
4.3	Other Optimization Options.....	34
4.4	Optimizing your Drive .....	35
5.0	Recovering Deleted Files.....	36
5.1	What happens when you delete a file.....	36
5.2	Configuring Diamond Mirror.....	37
5.3	Choosing your Undelete method.....	39
5.4	Undeleting Files .....	40
5.5	What to do after you undelete a file.....	42

6.0	Archiving Disk Information .....	43
6.1	Saving and Restoring Disk Information .....	44
6.2	Saving and Restoring SCSI Partition Info .....	46
7.0	General Utilities .....	47
7.1	Partition Copying .....	47
7.1.1	Partition Copy - Image .....	47
7.1.2	Partition Copy - Defragmented.....	48
7.2	Forcing Media Change .....	48
7.3	Browsing, Viewing, and Printing Files .....	49
7.4	Partition Zeroing.....	49
7.4.1	Zero Partition.....	49
7.4.2	Unzero Partition.....	50
7.4.3	Wipe Partition .....	50
8.0	The Anatomy of a Disk Drive.....	51
8.1	Disk Media and Interfaces.....	51
8.2	Physical Sector 0.....	53
8.2.1	The Partition Structure.....	53
8.2.2	Vendor Specific Considerations .....	55
8.3	Inside a Disk Partition .....	56
8.3.1	The Boot Sector .....	57
8.3.2	The FAT Table.....	60
8.3.3	The Directory Sectors.....	62
8.4	Causes of Disk Damage .....	65
8.4.1	Hardware.....	65
8.4.2	Magnetic Media.....	65
8.4.3	Software and Viruses.....	66
8.4.4	Human Error.....	67
8.4.5	Acts of Nature .....	67
9.0	Online Help & Hotkeys .....	69
9.1	Online Help.....	69
9.2	Hotkeys .....	70
10.0	Technical Support.....	72
11.0	Software License Agreement .....	74



## 1.0 Introduction

### 1.1 What Diamond Edge can do for you

Congratulations, you have just purchased the most powerful set of disk management, optimization, diagnostic, repair, and data recovery tools available for the Atari ST. Included with your software distribution is an owner's registration card. Please take the time to fill it out completely and return it to Oregon Research **TODAY!** It is very important that we be able to reach you to inform you of product upgrades and other Oregon Research news.

One of the most frequently used and least appreciated components of your computer system are your disks and disk drives. That is, until something goes wrong. Diamond Edge provides you with easy to use disk management, optimization, diagnostic, repair, and recovery tools. With Diamond Edge you can:

- Optimize your hard drive for reading or writing speed
- Save, restore, and edit critical disk information to repair damaged information or recover crashed Hard disks.
- Validate the files on your hard disk with checksums or CRCs to guarantee accuracy and detect file corruption.
- Test and repair the structure of your disks. Diamond Edge can identify and repair an exhaustive range of disk problems and can recover information even from very badly damaged disks.
- Map bad sectors on your hard disk to identify physically damaged portions of your disks and mark them unavailable for use. It will even repair and recover information from any effected files.
- Recover deleted or damaged files
- Obtain critical information about your disk status
- Partition your hard disk
- Zero, wipe, and unzero partitions
- Copy partitions either as an image or defragmenting during the copy
- Perform all of these functions on hard disks or floppy disks
- Create happy endings to otherwise catastrophic disk problems
- Much much more

## 1.2 Installation

Before you may begin to use your new software you must complete the installation procedure. Insert your Diamond Edge distribution disk into your floppy drive and Double-click on **INSTALL.PRG**.

To complete the installation you must provide your name, address, product serial number(located on your distribution disk and your registration card), and the hard disk partition where you want to install Diamond Edge. You also have the option of installing and configuring Diamond Disk Mirror(described in Section 5.2).

When you have completed providing the required information, click on **Install** begin the installation process. The installation program will then create a directory called **EDGE** on the specified drive and copy all of the required files to your hard drive. If you chose to install Diamond Disk Mirror at this time, then it will be installed in your **AUTO** folder on Drive C:. Otherwise, it will be copied to your **EDGE** folder.

You are now ready to enjoy your new software. To begin using Diamond Edge, open the **EDGE** folder on your hard drive and double click on **EDGE.PRG** to launch the program. Included with your software distribution is an owner's registration card. Please take the time to fill it out completely and return it to Oregon Research **TODAY!** It is very important that we be able to reach you to inform you of product upgrades and other Oregon Research news. A completed registration card is our only way to know how to contact you. It is also a **requirement** to obtain product support services.

### 1.3 What you need to know and do first

Diamond Edge is a very powerful program. However, if used improperly, it can cause as much damage as it can do good.

**IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU READ THIS MANUAL COMPLETELY AND CAREFULLY TO FULLY UNDERSTAND THE OPERATION OF DIAMOND EDGE.**

Items within the manual that you should pay special attention to are preceded by a ✓.

✓ If you do not understand an operation or the consequences of any program function, then take the time to refer to the manual for clarification. Think before you click!

Here are a few initial actions that you should take after you install Diamond Edge. This will create an emergency disk that can help you recover from many catastrophic disk situations.

#### ✓ CAREFULLY READ THIS ENTIRE MANUAL

- After installation, make a backup copy of your master disk and label it **DIAMOND EDGE EMERGENCY**.
- Run Diamond Edge from the Emergency floppy disk.
- Under the Archive Menu, select Save SCSI Information. Select all of your SCSI devices and then select Save SCSI Information.
- Under the Archive Menu, select Save Disk Information. Select all of your partitions and then select Save Disk Information.
- Quit the Program and remove your emergency disk from the floppy drive. Enable the write protect tab on your emergency disk and then store it in a safe place. You should update the disk information weekly and SCSI information whenever your partitions change.

- Backup your hard drive - FREQUENTLY! Diamond Edge will assist you in recovering from many catastrophic disk situations and regain speed through optimization, however there is NO substitute for a valid up to date backup. To make this job as pleasant and fast as possible, we suggest that you use Diamond Back II to fulfill your backup requirements.

✓ **CAREFULLY READ THIS MANUAL AGAIN!**

## 1.4 Preferences

User selectable preferences are available through the Preferences option under the File menu. These preferences are automatically set during the installation process and you may modify them at any time. The selectable options include the default paths that you want Diamond Disk Information and Disk Validation files to be saved.

✓ Note that ALL of the currently selected menu options and switches are saved in the configuration file. In addition, you have the option of selecting two very important options that control what types of operations a user may perform and what the level of warning that will be given before operations are executed.

<b>Diamond Edge Preferences</b>		User Mode: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Novice <input type="radio"/> Expert
Warn Before Action: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Whenever Data Loss Is Possible <input type="radio"/> Never		
During Optimization or Multiple Medic, pause 5 seconds after Disk Medic is complete if No disk errors are found. Blank = Wait for User input.		
Path to Store Disk Information Files:		
D:\EDGE\DATA\		
Path to Store Disk Validation Files:		
D:\EDGE\DATA\		
<input type="button" value="Save Preferences"/>	<input type="button" value="Use Preferences"/>	<input type="button" value="Cancel"/>

Diamond Edge Preferences Dialog



To save current configuration select **Save Preferences**, to use but not save the current preferences select **Use preferences**, to exit without any modification to the current preferences select **Cancel**.

### 1.4.1 User Mode

✓ The User Mode defines the level of experience with disk functions that YOU say you have. There are two levels: Novice and Expert. Although, all program functions are available to all users, additional warnings and explanations of the effects of the selected action will be given to users that select **Novice** user mode. If you select **Expert** user mode it is assumed that you know what you are doing when you select an action. Be certain that you do.

### 1.4.2 Warn Mode

✓ Warn mode effects the amount of warning that you will receive before certain types of actions. There are two types of warning modes: Only before potential loss of data or Never. Note that even if you select Expert mode and Never warn you will still receive warnings before certain types of actions like repartitioning your hard disk or zeroing Drive C.

Until you are very comfortable with the operation of Diamond Edge, it is strongly suggested that you select Novice user mode and Always warn options.

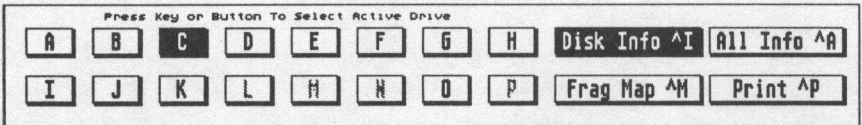
### 1.4.3 Disk Medic Pause with No Errors

There are several situations where automatic continuation after a Disk Medic pass(section 3.2) when no errors are found is convenient. For instance, during Multiple Disk Medic pass or the Disk Medic pass prior to an optimization, you will find that it is easier to have the program automatically continue to the next task if no errors are found. If no errors are found, the value that you enter is the number of seconds that the program will pause to display the Disk Medic Report before continuing on to the next task. If you leave it blank, then the program will wait for user input before continuing. The program will always wait for user input if any disk errors are found during a Disk Medic pass.

## 2.0 The Diamond Edge Basic Window

### 2.1 The Active Drive

When you start Diamond Edge, the basic disk information window is displayed. At the bottom of the basic window is the basic window function block shown below



Diamond Edge Basic Window Function Block

There is one operating principal that applies to nearly every program function: the **Active Drive**. The basic window function block contains a set of buttons showing the available drive partitions in your disk systems and a set of basic program functions. The drive that is selected is called the **Active Drive**.

✓ **ALL PROGRAM FUNCTIONS ARE PERFORMED ON THE ACTIVE DRIVE.** The only exception to this rule are the SCSI level operations and Disk to Disk copy operations. To change the Active Drive click on the drive button or press the letter of the drive that you want to become the Active Drive.

One of three basic displays will be shown at all times: The Disk Information display, the Fragmentation Map display, or the All Drives Information display. You may switch between these basic displays by selecting the appropriate button in the basic window function block. The program begins displaying the disk information basic window.

## 2.2 The Disk Information Display

When you select **Disk Info** from the basic window function block, the critical disk information is displayed for the Active Drive.

Desk File Medic Optimize Undelete Archive Utility Help

**Disk Information for Drive C**

Provides information about your disk structure

Bytes per Sector:	512	FAT Encoding:	16 bit
Sectors per Cluster:	2	Sectors per FAT:	128
Bytes per Cluster:	1024	Number of FATs:	2
Sectors per Track:	8	Start of FAT #1:	1
Tracks per Cylinder:	6	Start of FAT #2:	129
Total Sectors:	65429	# of Root Dir Sectors:	16
Control Sectors:	272	Maximum root entries:	256
Total Clusters:	32714	Start of Root Dir:	257
Data Clusters:	32576	Start of Data Area:	273

Total Bytes:	33357824	0 20 40 60 80 100 Percent Disk Full
Used Bytes:	29319168	
Free Bytes:	4038656	

Press Key or Button To Select Active Drive

A B **C** D E F G H Disk Info ^I All Info ^A

I J K L M N O P Frag Map ^M Print ^P

Diamond Edge Disk Information Screen

For a complete description of all of the items contained in the Disk Information Display, please refer to Section 8.3 Inside the Disk Partition.

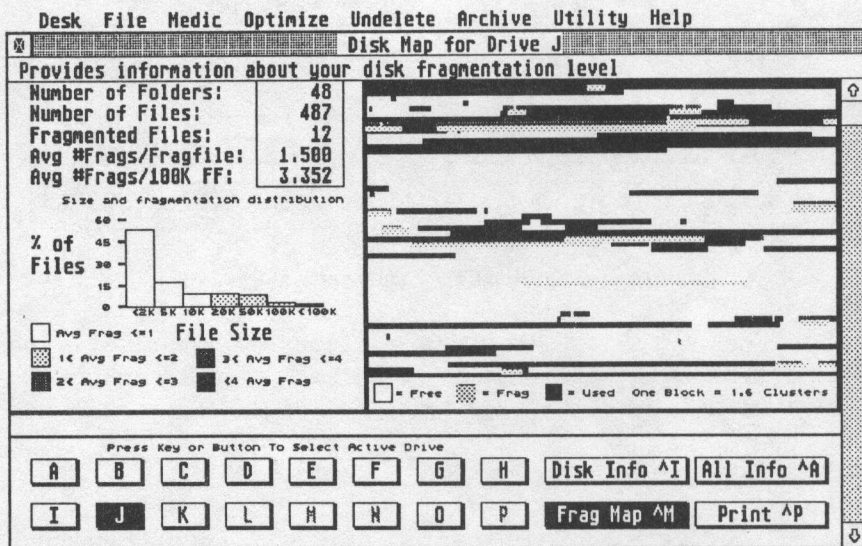
## 2.3 The Fragmentation Map Display

Selecting **Frag Map** from the basic window function block will create a visual display of the fragmentation level of the active drive and provide additional active drive statistics. Fragmentation occurs when parts of files become spread across your disk in different locations. This is a normal by product of the everyday process of creating files, deleting files, and then adding more files.

When a file is created/added, the operating system looks for free space on your disk to place the new file. When it finds some free space, it allocates the space to the new file. If the free space is not

large enough to hold the new file, the operating system looks for additional free space in a different location. The result is a fragmented file: part of the file is placed in one location on the disk and part of the file is placed in a different location. Files will be split into as many fragments as are required.

As many files are added and deleted, your disk will become very badly fragmented. The end effect of disk fragmentation is a serious reduction in hard disk performance. The speed of hard disk reads and writes will become slower, directory searches will take longer, file copies and deletes will take longer. In fact, all disk operations will become significantly slower. The degradation in performance occurs slowly over time and you may not even notice it. Disk performance may not be much slower today than it was yesterday, but it's likely to be a lot slower than it was a month ago!



### Diamond Edge Disk Fragmentation Map

A very unique feature of Diamond Edge's fragmentation map is the way that the visual display is generated. The disk fragmentation map is generated in the order that an actual directory search would take. What you are witnessing is not only the level of file fragmentation on your disks, but also the level of directory fragmentation. If you have a heavily fragmented disk,



you might notice that the map seems to fill in at seemingly random locations. This is demonstrating how hard your disk has to work to perform a simple directory search.

The Disk Fragmentation Map displays a number of useful summary statistics and graphs that allow you to assess the fragmentation level of your disk. For the purposes of the statistics 1 fragment is defined as an interruption in consecutive location of disk clusters in a file. So a file that is broken into two pieces on the disk has 1 fragment, a file that is broken into three separate pieces on the disk has 2 fragments, etc. A file that has all of its clusters consecutive on the disk has no fragments.

The summary statistics shown include the total number of folders on your disk, the total number of files on your disk, and the total number of fragmented files on your disk. Additional information is provided for the fragmented files showing the average number of fragments contained in each fragmented file and the average number of fragments contained in 100K bytes of fragmented files.

The graph in the Disk Fragmentation Map display is a relative frequency histogram showing the distribution of the sizes of files on your disk and the average fragmentation level for each size class. Each bar represents a bin of files sizes and the height of the bar represents the percentage of the total number of files on your disk that are in that size category. The shading on each bar represents the average number of fragments for files contained within that size category.

✓ This information is useful in determining the level and severity of disk fragmentation. It provides you with an idea of how much fragmentation you have, where the fragmentation is, and what type of files does it effect. This information can be used to determine whether it is necessary to optimize the disk partition to regain hard disk performance.

## 2.4 The All Drive Information Display

The final Basic Window View is the All Drives Information display. Selecting **All Info** gives you a visual description of all of your hard drives capacities and the current usage. The disk statistics of total disk capacity, bytes used, bytes free, and percentage bytes free are given for each drive individually. A total for all of your drives is displayed at the bottom of the All Drives Information display.

Desk File Medic Optimize Undelete Archive Utility Help					
Disk Information for All Drives					
Drive Usage Information	Total Bytes	Used Bytes	Free Bytes	%Free	
C	33,357,824	29,319,168	4,038,656	12.1	↑
D	33,357,824	28,912,640	4,445,184	13.3	
E	37,980,288	29,622,272	8,278,016	21.8	
F	64,913,488	32,473,088	32,440,320	49.9	
G	19,861,504	14,028,800	5,832,704	29.3	
H	5,820,416	5,253,120	567,296	9.7	
I	5,820,416	5,253,120	567,296	9.7	
J	15,925,248	4,679,680	11,245,568	70.6	
K	15,925,248	4,679,680	11,245,568	70.6	
L					
M					
N					
O					
P					
Grand Total:	232,882,176	154,221,568	78,660,608	33.7	

Press Key or Button To Select Active Drive											
A	B	<b>C</b>	D	E	F	G	H	Disk Info ^I	All Info ^A		
I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Frag Map ^M	Print ^P		

### All Drives Information Display

You can print out all of the information from any of the three basic window views by selecting **Print** from the basic window function block. It is a good idea to have a printout of all your critical disk information.

## 3.0 Diagnosing and Repairing Your Drives

One of Diamond Edge's primary functions is to protect against, identify, and repair damage to your disks and files. A wide variety of techniques are provided to assess state of, and to repair your disks. Each technique is designed to identify particular types of disk or file damage. The regular use of all of these techniques will provide you with excellent protection against data loss and early warning of potential trouble.

### Medic

Auto-Fix Errors	
✓ Ignore Illegal Names	
✓ Save Lost Clusters	
~~~~~	
Test Disk Structure: C	OT
Test Multiple...	AT
Map Bad Drive C	OB
Map Bad Multiple...	AB
~~~~~	
Create CRC File	OC
Create ✓ Sum File	OS
Validate Files...	OY
~~~~~	
Partition Hard Disk...	OH

### 3.1 File Validation

#### 3.1.1 Creating Validation Files

The first disk protection technique is file validation. The process of file validation involves the creation of a reference validation file used to compare the contents of files at a later date to determine if any data corruption has occurred. This is a file that contains calculated numbers that uniquely identify the contents of

each file on the active disk and all of the file attributes(name, date, time, size, etc.). Diamond Edge provides both 32 bit Cyclical Redundancy Check(CRC) and 16 bit Checksum validation methods.

✓ When creating a validation files it is important to note that Checksums are significantly faster than CRCs and provide more than sufficient security for most applications. It is possible, although extremely unlikely, that a corrupted file would not be identified because it produced the same checksum as the uncorrupted reference. If absolute validation integrity is required, then the CRC method will provide an extra measure of security at the expense of some speed. It is virtually impossible for a corrupted file to produce the same 32 bit CRC as it's uncorrupted reference.

To create a CRC validation file from the active drive, select **Create CRC File** from the Medic Menu, to create a Checksum validation file for the active drive select **Create Checksum File**. The validation file will automatically be created and stored in the path designated in the user preferences. Validation files are named **VALIDY\_X.VLD** where **Y** is the validation type (C=Checksum and R= CRC) and **X** is the active drive.

✓ It is important to note that Diamond Edge validation files are completely compatible and interchangeable with validation files create using Diamond Back II.

### 3.1.2 Validating Files

The next step in the file validation process is to validate that the files on the active disk have not become corrupted over time. This is useful to perform on a periodic basis to determine if any random data corruption has occurred on your disk. It is especially useful after you have had a major disk corruption/crash to determine what files were effected by the corruption.

To perform a validation of the active disk select **Validate Files** from the Medic Menu. A standard GEM file selector will appear and ask you for the reference validation file to use. When you have selected the validation file you will be asked what action to take when the program encounters a file that is not in the reference validation file. You have the option of either automatically adding



the new file to the existing validation file, skipping all new files, or being prompted for action each time a file not contained in the reference file is encountered.

✓ At anytime during the creation of a validation file or the validation of files you may pause the process to study the screen by selecting **Control-S**. To restart the process, select **Control-Q**. You may abort the entire process by selecting **Control-C**.

### **3.1.3 What to do if a Validation Error is Identified**

A file validation error occurs when the calculated CRC/Checksum value does not match the value stored in the reference validation file. Each time this occurs you will be notified on the screen and the effected file will be recorded in a file named `VALID_X.ERR` where X is the active drive.

✓ If a validation error is recorded **DON'T** panic. After the validation is complete, view the effected files recorded in the validation error file. Even though a validation error is observed, you may not actually have a corrupted file.

Many programs(especially auto folder programs) embed configuration information within the programs themselves. When they self modify to update the configuration information, these programs often do it in a way that doesn't change the files size, date, or time stamp. However, the bytes within the program has changed and this will trigger a false file validation error. Other types of files that modify themselves without updating the size, date or time stamp include some database files and files from the Atari Resource Construction program.

## 3.2 Testing Your Disk Structure

Diamond Edge provides the most comprehensive set of disk diagnostic and repair tools for your Atari ST. Diamond Edge has the capability to automatically detect and correct any type of disk structure problem and return even heavily damaged disks to full functionality.

✓ As with all of Diamond Edge's functions, the Disk Medic can be performed on either floppy disks or hard disk partitions. Once a disk structure becomes corrupted, it can quickly develop into catastrophic data loss. We strongly recommend that you perform run Disk Medic on ALL or your hard disk partitions at least once a week. Diamond Disk Medic will test and correct(if Fix is selected) the following types of disk structure errors:

- **Validates the Boot Sector:** This sector tells the operating system what the disk structure looks like and where to find things. If the boot sector is invalid, then you will have to reinstall a valid boot sector using the Archive function before you can continue.
- **Validates that FAT #1 equals FAT #2:** If FAT #1 does not equal FAT #2 then you will be given the option to use one or the other FAT for the Medic pass. FAT means File Allocation Table, please see section 8.3.2 for a full description.
- **Invalid Directories:** These are directory sectors which are either improperly terminated(the next cluster entry in the FAT points to an invalid cluster) or the location where the directory is supposed to be is not a directory. Invalid directories are either truncated, if improperly terminated, or deleted if not valid.
- **Unreadable Directory Sectors:** These are directory sectors that could not be read due to physical disk damage. Readable portions of the effected directory sector chain are adjusted to eliminate the unreadable portion or the directory is deleted from the parent directory if no sectors are readable.

- **Illegal File Names:** These are files that contain unusual characters. Illegal characters are replaced with a X or left unchanged depending on user preference. An illegal file name error is also triggered if there are two or more files in the same directory with the same name.
- **Bad Directory Entries:** These are entries within a directory sector that cannot be recognized as being a directory entry. Bad directory entries are deleted.
- **Inconsistent File Size:** This is where the file size contained in the directory entry does not match the number of clusters allocated for the file on the disk. When fixed, a file with an inconsistent file size is adjusted to reflect the size it actually occupies on the disk.
- **Bad FAT entries:** These are entries in the FAT that point to illegal or nonexistent clusters. Files with Bad directory entries are truncated and their file size adjusted.
- **FAT chain collisions:** These are where two or more files FAT chains contain the same clusters. Independent copies of all effected files are made with valid FAT chains. The user will need to determine which of the effected files are corrupted by the collision.
- **Lost Clusters:** These are clusters that are allocated in the FAT, but do not belong to any of the files currently on the disk.

### 3.2.1 Disk Medic Options

There are several basic options, selectable through the Medic Menu, that control the action of Disk Medic. The first is **Auto-Fix** errors. If you select Auto-Fix errors, then Diamond Edge will automatically correct all disk errors found during the Disk Medic evaluation of the active drive. It will log all errors found in a error file `MEDIC_X.ERR` where **X** is the active drive. Disk Medic Error files are saved to the directory specified for Validation files in the Preferences menu. After the Disk Medic pass, you may view the error file for information on what errors were found and fixed.

✓ If you decide not to Automatically fix errors, then the Disk Medic will evaluate the active disk and record all errors found in the active drive error file, but will not fix any of the errors. You may then view the error file from the Disk Medic Report to find out what errors were found and what files are effected. At this point you may either cancel without fixing the errors or instruct the Disk Medic to fix the errors.

One of the disk error types that the Disk Medic can fix is illegal file names. Filenames that contain characters **other** than A-Z, 0-9, or \_ can cause problems for some programs. However, some people cherish the ability to create file names like ©1992.β1 or !READ.ME!. You can have the Disk Medic ignore illegal file names or have illegal filename characters replaced with X, so !READ.ME! would be changed to XREAD.MEX.

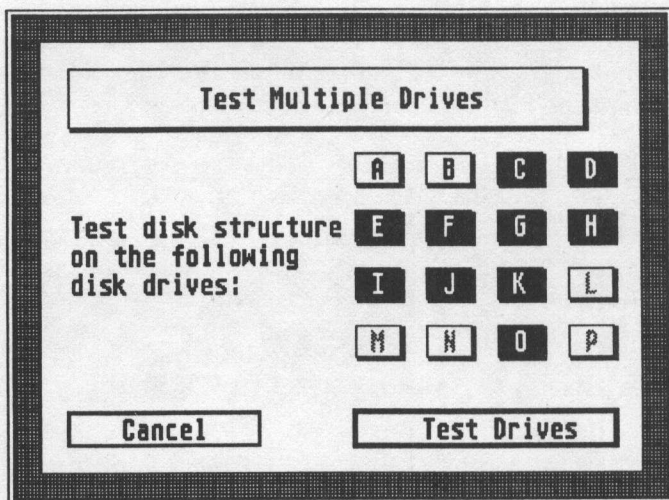
When Diamond Disk Medic performs it's analysis of your disk, it associates all of the File Allocation Table(FAT) entries with files contained in the directory structure. Clusters in the FAT table that cannot be associated with any file in the directory structure are called Lost Clusters.

When you fix the disk errors you may select to either discard the data in the lost clusters or to save the data in the lost clusters to a file. When you select **Save Lost Clusters** from the Medic Menu, any lost clusters will be saved to a file LOSTCLUS.DAT when the active drive is fixed. If LOSTCLUS.DAT already exists on the active drive, then LOSTCLU0.DAT, LOSTCLUS1.DAT etc. will be created in succession.

✓ We highly recommend that you save lost clusters. You can examine the information in the lost clusters data file and often fully recover the lost information. The ability to recover text information form a lost cluster data file is especially good. Although the information you want may be present, non-text data is very difficult to identify and recover from a lost cluster data file.



To begin the Disk Medic Pass of the active drive, select **Test Disk** from the Medic Menu. Remember that the drive you are testing is the Active drive. If you want to test more than one drive in a single pass select **Test Multiple** from the Medic Menu. The Test Multiple selection dialog will then be displayed. Select all of the drives that you want to run Disk Medic on and then select **Test Drives**.



Test Multiple Dialog

### 3.2.2 Disk Medic Report

After you have begun Disk Medic on the active drive, the Disk Medic operation screen will be displayed. The program first validates the integrity of the boot sector and verifies that FAT #1 equals FAT #2. If FAT #1 does not equal FAT #2 then you will be given the option to use one or the other FAT for the Medic pass. If you have Auto-Fix selected, then you will be given the option to turn Auto-Fix off.

✓ When FAT #1 does not equal FAT #2, it is ALWAYS a good idea to run Disk Medic with Auto-Fix turned off using both FATs. Then you should examine the disk errors resulting from the use of each FAT and select the FAT that produces the least number of disk errors.

The Disk Medic pass then proceeds to examine the entire disk structure looking for errors. As the Disk Medic pass proceeds the location of the disk being examined is displayed in the graphic window. Areas where errors are detected are displayed in Red(cross hatch in monochrome). When the Disk Medic pass is complete the Disk Medic Report screen is displayed.

Desk File **Medic** Optimize Undelete Archive Utility Help

Testing the Disk Structure of Drive H

Checking for disk problems that could lead to data corruption

Diamond Disk Medic Report

Disk Error Type	Number
FAT #1 = FAT #2	ERROR
Invalid Directories	1
Unreadable Dir Sectors	0
Illegal Filename	1
Bad Directory Entries	0
Inconsistent File Size	5
Bad FAT Entries	5
FAT Chain Collisions	7
Lost Clusters	200

Disk Errors Need To Be Fixed

Fix Now View Cancel

= Free  = OK  = Problem 1 Block = 1.0 Clusters

Press Key or Button To Select Active Drive

A B C D E F G **H** Disk Info ^I All Info ^A

I J K L M N O P Frag Map ^M Print ^P

### Disk Medic Report

This screen gives the total number of each type of disk error, described above, that was found on the active drive. If Auto-Fix was selected, any errors detected were corrected during the Disk Medic pass. This is indicated by the **Disk Errors Have Been Fixed** message in the Report Screen. If Auto-Fix was not selected and errors were detected this would be indicated by the message **Disk Errors Need To Be Fixed** and the appearance of a **Fix Now** button on the Disk Medic report screen.

✓ Any errors detected and the files they effect can be viewed from the Medic Report screen by selecting View. If Auto-Fix was not selected and you want to fix the disk errors, then selected **Fix Now** from the Medic Report screen. This will launch another Disk Medic pass that will fix all of the disk errors. If you do not want to fix the errors now, then select **Cancel**. If no errors were found or after Disk errors have been fixed, select **Continue**.

### 3.3 Mapping Bad Sectors on Your Disk

The reliability of today's SCSI drives is improving every year, however they occasionally develop portions of the disk that become unusable. This may be due to weakened magnetic media or from physical damage to the disk surface. Regardless of the cause, bad sectors can result in loss of data and disk corruption. The Map Bad Sectors function is designed to identify areas over your disk that are potential problems and mark them as unusable.

You may either Map Bad sectors on just the active drive or on multiple drives. The status of the Auto-Fix option in the Medic menu effects whether bad sectors are automatically marked bad or just recorded for review. When you select **Map Bad Sectors** from the Medic Menu the Bad Sector Mapping Preferences Dialog is displayed. There are three types of Bad Sector Mapping available:

- **Read - Read Non-destructive:** This method of mapping bad sectors reads each sector of the active drive twice and compares the data. If the information read is not the same then that sector is identified as bad. The data already existing on your hard drive is not effected.
- **Read - Write - Read Non-destructive:** This method of mapping bad sectors reads each sector of the active drive and writes it back to the hard drive. The sector is then read in again and compared to the data originally read. If the information is not the same then that sector is identified as bad. The existing data on the active drive is not effected.

- **Write - Read Destructive:** This method of bad sector mapping writes a random bit pattern to each sector on the active drive and then reads that sector back. If the information read back is not the same as the random bit pattern that was written then that sector is marked as bad. This is a destructive mapping and all data existing on the drive will be destroyed.

✓ These methods are listed in increasing order of effectiveness and increasing order of risk. Read - Read is the least effective method but no data is ever written, so even data in marginally bad sectors will not be lost. Read-Write-Read is the most effective non-destructive method, but it has a very small chance of one sector data loss if you have a bad sector where the data can still be read, but goes bad when written to. Write - Read is the most effective method of detecting bad sectors, but all data existing on the drive will be lost (hint: backup your data first with Diamond Back II).

The effectiveness of all methods can be increased by performing multiple bad sector mapping passes. Many bad sectors are simply weak sectors that sometimes operate correctly and sometimes produce checksum errors when reading or writing. These types of sectors may not be properly identified as bad if you just perform one bad map pass. The number of passes that you want to perform is entered in the Mapping Bad Sectors preferences dialog. The time it takes to complete the process increases with the number of passes. When you are ready to begin mapping bad sectors, select **Map Bad Sectors Now**.

The Map Bad Sector pass then proceeds to examine the entire disk surface looking for errors. As the Map Bad pass proceeds, the location of the disk being examined is displayed in the graphic window. Areas where errors are detected are displayed in Red (cross hatch in monochrome). When the Map Bad pass is complete the Map Bad Report screen is displayed.



Attempting to identify and mark physical disk damage - Control-C to abort

Bad Cluster Mapping Report  
The following clusters are bad:

5	18	26	29	33
41	44	48	59	65
72	80	83	87	95
98	102	113	119	120
126	134	137	141	149
152	156	167	173	174
180	188	191	195	198
203	204	206	210	212

Bad Clusters Need To Be Fixed

Fix Now

Cancel

= Free  = Ok  = Problem 1 Block = 1.0 Clusters

Press Key or Button To Select Active Drive

### Map Bad Report

The logical sector numbers of each bad sector found is displayed in the Map Bad Report screen. If Auto-Fix was selected, any errors detected were corrected during the Map Bad pass. This is indicated by the **Disk Errors Have Been Fixed** message in the Report Screen. If Auto-Fix was not selected and errors were detected this would be indicated by the message **Disk Errors Need To Be Fixed** and the appearance of a **Fix Now** button on the Map Bad Report screen.

If Auto-Fix was not selected and you want to mark the bad sectors as unavailable for use and fix any effected files, then select **Fix Now** from the Map Bad Report screen. This will mark the bad sectors as unavailable for use and launch a Disk Medic pass that will fix all of the disk errors. If you do not want to mark the bad sectors as unavailable for use, then select **Cancel**. If no errors were found or after Bad Sectors have been mapped, select **Continue**.

## 3.4 Partitioning Your Hard Drive

A critical component of the operation and function of your hard drive is the drive partitioning. This is how you have your physical disks divided into smaller logical disk drives that are commonly referred to as partitions. A single physical disk drive can have many logical partitions. In general, the performance of your disk can be improved by splitting your disk into a greater number of smaller partitions. There is of course a limit of 14 active partitions imposed by the operating system on all of your physical disk drives.

Diamond Edge provides a full featured disk partitioning system that supports both the Atari Disk partitioning standard as well as third party partitioning standards such as Supra, BMS, and ICD. You can completely change your disk partitioning scheme, just change one partition, hide and unhide secret partitions, save and restore partitioning information. The flexibility of creating a new disk structure or modifying old ones is unlimited.

### 3.4.1 Selecting the SCSI Drive to Partition

✓ It is strongly suggested that the reader consult Section 8 of this manual before attempting to use this function. This will give the reader the basic understanding of disk and partition structure necessary to fully utilize this function.

When you select **Partition Hard Drive** from the Medic Menu, Diamond Edge will scan ST ACSI identification numbers 0-7 and TT SCSI identification numbers 8-15. for active devices. The drive identification of the devices found will be displayed in the Select SCSI Device dialog. Select the SCSI device that you want to partition and then select **Partition SCSI Device**.

Some early SCSI drives and MFM drives attached to the ST using a SCSI-> MFM adapter(like the Adaptec 4000) will not respond correctly to the SCSI Inquiry command. If your drive does not respond to the inquiry select **Rescan**, it may just be slow to respond. If it still does not respond to the inquiry, then select **Manual** from the Select SCSI Device dialog. Select the SCSI ID number and Logical Unit Number(LUN) of the device that you want to partition. Select **OK** to partition the selected hard drive.

**Select SCSI Device to Partition**

ID, LUN	Drive/Controller
0 0	SEAGATE ST296N
2 0	SyQuest SQ555
8 0	QUANTUM P105S 910-10-94x

**Rescan**

**Manual**

**Partition SCSI Device**

**Cancel**

Select SCSI Drive to Partition

**Select SCSI Device to Partition**

ACSI ID	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
LUN 0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LUN 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TT SCSI	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Ok**

**Cancel**

Manual Selection of SCSI Drive to Partition

### 3.4.2 Disk Partitioning Options

After selecting Partition SCSI Disk, the existing partitioning information will be read off the disk and the SCSI Partition Screen will be displayed.

SCSI Partition Information for SCSI ID 2 LUN 0							Partitioning Tools		
No.	Start	End	Size	Type	On Boot		Split	Maximum	
1	2	11436	11435	GEM	✓ -	⬆	Clear	Reset	
2	11437	22871	11435	GEM	✓ -		ATARI	TOS 3.06	
3	22872	54121	31250	GEM	✓ -		Display Size in:		
4	54122	85371	31250	GEM	✓ -		Sectors	Megs	
5	-----	-----	-----	---	- -		Total Size:	86700	
6	-----	-----	-----	---	- -		Available:	1328	
7	-----	-----	-----	---	- -		Recalculate		
8	-----	-----	-----	---	- -		X = Member of a XGM chain		
9	-----	-----	-----	---	- -		Load	Save	
10	-----	-----	-----	---	- -		Currently Editing Partition Size		
11	-----	-----	-----	---	- -		Install Only	Install & Rebuild One	
12	-----	-----	-----	---	- -	⬇	Install & Rebuild All	Print	Cancel

SCSI Partitioning Screen

If valid partitioning information exists on the disk it will be displayed as the basis to begin the partitioning session. There information displayed for each partition includes the starting and ending physical sectors, the size of the partition in physical sectors/Megs , the type of Partition GEM/BGM, etc., whether the partition is active, and whether the partition is bootable. The total size of the hard disk and remaining available space is also displayed.

There are three basic editing modes: Start/End sectors, Size, and Partition Type. The current editing mode is displayed at the bottom of the partition window. To change fields within an edit mode, you may use the usual Arrow and Tab keys or point the mouse and click the left button. To change edit modes click on the object that you want to edit with the left mouse button.



✓ As you edit your partitions there are two basic rules regarding the sizes and locations of partitions: 1) Partitions must be sequential i.e. the start of partition #2 is after the end of partition #1 and 2) You cannot create partitions whose total size exceeds the size of your hard disk.

The following partitioning aids are provided to expedite the task of partitioning your disk:

- **Display Size Mode:** You can select to have the disk and partition size information displayed in either Sectors or Megs. Diamond Edge displays Megs consistent with the ICD definition Meg = 1,000,000 bytes. Note that this is different than the traditional definition of a Megabyte = 1,048,576 bytes used by Atari.
- **Split:** Selecting split will split your hard disk into a number of partitions of equal size. You will be prompted for the number of partitions to split. An easy way to partition your hard disk into one large partition is to split the disk into 1 partition.
- **Maximum:** Selecting this option will create as many GEM partitions of the maximum allowable size, for the Rom Version you have selected, that can fit on your disk. An additional partition will be created with any excess disk space.
- **Clear:** Selecting this option will clear all entered partitioning information.
- **Reset:** This option will reset the displayed partitioning information to the original information read off the hard disk.
- **Atari/ICD:** Selecting this button will toggle the state of the extended partitioning mode. If Atari is selected then extended partitions, (more than 4 partitions on the same hard disk) will be laid out in accordance with the Atari extended partition standard. If ICD is selected, extended partitions will be laid out in accordance with the ICD/Supra extended partition standard. Please see section 8.2 for a complete description of extended partitions.

- **TOSxxx:** Selecting this button will toggle the state of the Rom dependence mode. If TOS1.02 is selected, then partitions whether GEM or BGM will be limited to 32,767 clusters. These disks will be able to be read on any ST regardless of ROM version. If you have TOS 1.4 or above you can specify that partitions may include up to 65,535 clusters. These disks cannot be accessed by machines with TOS1.02 or 1.00.
- **Save:** You can save the hard disk partitioning information currently displayed to a file for future reference or installation. This option creates a SCSI disk information file equivalent to those created by the Save SCSI Information function of the Archive menu.
- **Load:** You can load previously saved partition information files by selecting this function. This is useful for partitioning a new disk "just like" another disk. The loaded information is fully editable.
- **Print:** Selecting this option will print a copy of the currently displayed partition information to your printer. The use of this option is **HIGHLY** recommended. It is **ALWAYS** a good idea to have a printed copy of the physical structure of your disk.
- **Recalculate:** At any time during your editing session you can recalculate the amount of available space on your disk. You can either click on the **Recalculate** button or press the **Return** key to update the available information. All of the currently selected options are taken into account and some of the partitions may begin in a slightly different place after recalculation. This is due to changes in the control sector requirements of the different extended partitioning protocols.
- **Active:** Remember to specify which drives you want to be active. Diamond Edge allows up to 64 different partitions installed on each disk. However, GEMDOS only allows a total of 14 active partitions on all your hard drives. Changing the Active status of extra partitions and using the Install Information Only option is a convenient way to create "Secret" partitions on your hard drive not accessible unless you reactivate it.

### 3.4.3 Disk Partitioning Actions

After you are satisfied with the partitioning information currently displayed you have four action options:

- **Install Only:** Select this option if you only want to install the current partition information without rebuilding any partitions. This is used to change the activation status of hidden partitions or to reinstall the partition information after a hard disk crash without changing any of the data on the hard drive.

✓ Having the partitioning information in physical sector 0 wiped out is a more frequent occurrence than most people might imagine. You should always have a printout of your partition parameters and a SCSI information file saved to floppy disk.

- **Install and Rebuild One:** This option will install the displayed partition information and rebuild one specified partition. Rebuilding a partition involves the creation of a boot sector, FAT sectors, and Root Directory sectors of the appropriate size on the specified partition and then zeroing them. All data in the area effected will be lost.
- **Install and Rebuild All:** Use this option to repartition your entire hard disk. The current disk partitioning information will be installed and all partitions will be rebuilt. All existing data on the entire hard disk will be lost.

✓ If you Accidentally Rebuild a partition and need information that was previously in that area you can recover the information by reinstalling the old partitioning information and reinstalling the disk structure from an archived Disk Information File. See Section 6.0 Archiving Disk Information for instructions on how to perform these life saving actions.

- **Cancel:** If you have not performed any other action, then Selecting Cancel will return you to the Diamond Edge Basic Window. If you have installed partition information or rebuilt one or more partitions, then selecting **Cancel** will perform a cold reboot of your system. This is required for the operating system to become aware of the new disk structure.

## 4.0 Optimizing Your Drives

As time goes on, directories and files become spread around your hard disk in different locations. When you ask your computer to read or write data, it has to look harder and move farther to complete the request. This significantly degrades the performance of your hard disk. Disk optimization, also referred to as disk defragmentation, reorganization, and file remapping, involves the reorganization of files on a disk to improve the disk performance.

```
Optimize
✓ Full Optimization
  Compress Free Space
.....
✓ Prioritize Reading
  Prioritize Writing
.....
Auto-Fix Errors
✓ Ignore Illegal Names
✓ Save Lost Clusters
✓ Remove Deleted
.....
Optimize Drive C      OO
Optimize Multiple... ^O
```

File fragmentation occurs when parts of files become spread across your disk in different locations. This is a normal by product of the everyday process of creating files, deleting files, and then adding more files.

When a file is created or added, the operating system looks for free space on your disk to place the new file. As soon as it finds some free space, it allocates the space to the new file. If the free space is not large enough to hold the new file, the operating system has to go looking for more free space in a different location.



✓ The result is a **fragmented file**: part of the file is placed in one location on the disk and part of the file is placed in a different location. Files will be split into as many fragments as are required. Accessing a fragmented file is much slower than accessing an unfragmented file.

Subdirectories can also become fragmented. Directories are really just special kinds of files. When you create a subdirectory, one cluster is allocated to the directory. Since each directory entry consumes 32 bytes of disk space, this is enough space to store  $(\# \text{of bytes per cluster}) / 32$  directory entries.

For a standard GEM partition with 1,024 bytes per cluster, this number is 32. When you add more than files than the current directory can hold, the operating system allocates another cluster to hold additional directory entries. The additional cluster is never right next to the first cluster so the operating system has to go to many places on the disk just to display a directory.

As many files are added and deleted, your disk will become very badly fragmented. The end effect of disk fragmentation is a serious reduction in hard disk performance. The speed of hard disk reads and writes will become slower, directory searches will take longer, copies and deletes will take longer. In fact all disk operations will become significantly slower because the disk head must travel to many locations on the disk to complete each read or write request.

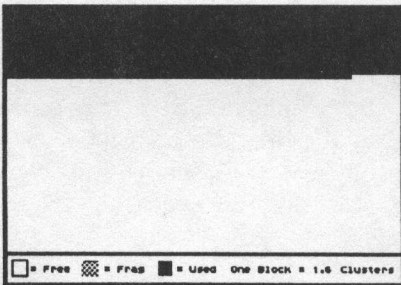
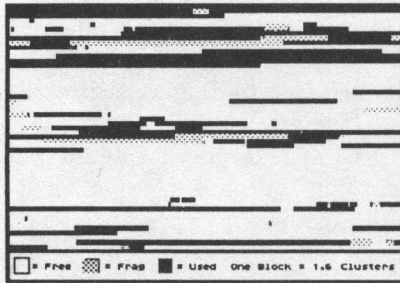
✓ Disk head movement is the slowest component of any disk operation and the amount of disk head movement is critical to disk performance. The degradation in performance occurs slowly over time and you may not even notice it. Performance may not be much slower today than it was yesterday, but it's likely to be a lot slower than it was a month ago! Regular optimization will insure that your drives are always operating at their fastest possible speed.

## 4.1 Choosing the Optimization Method

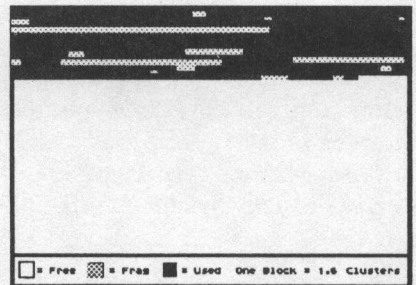
Diamond Edge offers two optimization methods: **Full optimization** and **Compress Free Space**.

You select the optimization methods by selecting the appropriate method under the Optimize menu. Depending on your individual requirements, both of these methods can be used effectively to help maintain your hard disk at peak operating performance. A graphic description of the two methods is shown below.

Source Partition



Full Optimization



Compress Free Space

Full optimization is a complete optimization of your hard disk. First, all of the directory sectors of a given subdirectory are consolidated, then all of the sectors in each file within the subdirectory are defragmented and consolidated, then all of the files within a subdirectory are located consecutively on the disk.

Actually it happens all at once, but the result complete and total optimization: Subdirectory clusters are contiguous, all of the file clusters are contiguous, and all of the files within a subdirectory are located consecutively on the disk. Diamond Edge's state of the art disk optimization algorithm is the fastest, by a significant margin, of any algorithm available for the Atari ST.

Compressing free space eliminates free space from the area of used disk space by moving it all to the end or beginning of the disk. If there is any free space located within the allocated space on the active drive it will be eliminated. Compressing Free space does not defragment files, directory sectors, or directories it simply moves clusters so there is no free space within the allocated area. This basically segments your disk into two separate blocks, all of the used space is together and all of the free space is together.

So why would you want to use Compress Free Space rather than a Full Optimization? There are three reasons:

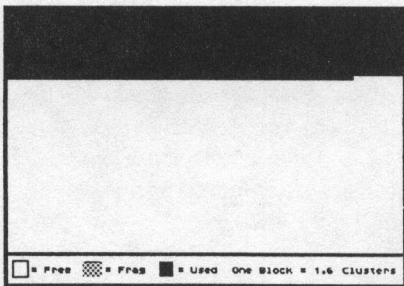
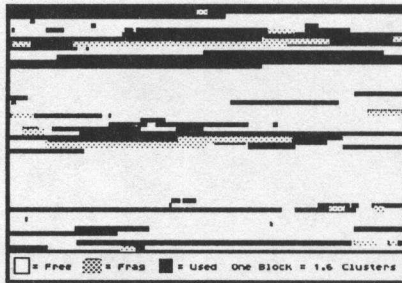
- Even with the speed of the Full Optimization algorithm, Compressing Free Space is generally a great deal faster. This is especially true if the disk was previously fully optimized.
- Compressing free space will eliminate disk fragmentation in the future. Free space accumulates within an area of allocated disk space through the deletion of files. When a file is then created or added, the operating system looks for the first available free space on your disk to place the new file. As soon as it finds some free space, it allocates the space to the new file. If all of your free space is consolidated in one block, then files added to your hard disk will not be fragmented.
- If you have already fully optimized your hard disk and have not added or deleted many files, then the performance difference between Full Optimization and Compress Free Space will be negligible.

✓ We recommend that all disks be fully optimized when you first receive Diamond Edge. After that you can use the compress free space option to keep the free space contiguous in between full optimizations. Use the disk fragmentation maps and statistics to assist you in determining the level of disk fragmentation on each of your disks.

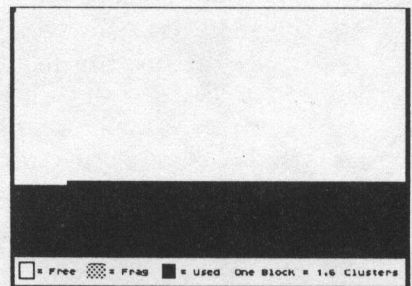
## 4.2 Choosing the Optimization Priority

Diamond Edge provides two optimization priorities: Optimization for **Reading** and **Writing**. A graphic description of the two methods is shown below.

Source Partition



Optimize for Reading



Optimize for Writing



You select the optimization priority by selecting the appropriate method under the Optimize menu. The basic distinction between the two priorities is where on the disk the allocated space is moved.

Selecting **Prioritize for Reading** will move all of the allocated disk space to the beginning of the partition. This improves the reading performance of the disk because all of the directory sectors and file clusters are physically closer to the FAT tables. This significantly reduces the amount of disk head movement that is required to find and then read a file. Disk head movement is the slowest component of any disk operation and the amount of disk head movement is critical to disk performance.

✓ In addition to the normal optimization function, when performing a read priority full optimization of Drive C all of the files contained in the Auto folder and root directory sectors are moved to the very start of the partition. The order of execution in the auto folder is not changed. This can dramatically speed up the boot process.

Selecting **Prioritize for Writing** will move all of the allocated disk space to the end of the partition. This improves the writing performance of the disk because all of the free space is physically closer to the FAT tables. The operating system does not have to work very hard to find the free space and when it does the disk head does not have to move very far to write the information.

✓ The optimum optimization method is a function of individual requirements. We highly recommend read optimization for your boot partition C. Beyond that, the choice is dependent on how you use your disks and personal preference. Experiment with both methods and use the method that gives you the best disk performance over time.

### 4.3 Other Optimization Options

In addition to the Optimization Type and Priority, there are a number other options available to you when doing an optimization. The first three are: **Auto-Fix** errors, **Ignore Illegal File Names**, and **Save Lost Clusters**. These functions should be familiar and function exactly as described in section 3.2.1.

✓ Before each optimization, the disk is automatically subjected to a Disk Medic pass to assess it's ability to be optimized. If **ANY** disk errors are detected in the Disk Medic pass, they must be fixed before the optimization can proceed. Optimization of a disk that contains any errors is not allowed.

The other option involves the disposition of deleted files within the directories. A full description of what happens when you delete a file is given in Section 5.1. The optimization of a disk drive significantly reduces the probability of successfully recovering a deleted file. If you select **Remove Deleted**, then the space occupied in the directory sectors for the deleted files will be removed. This will help speed up directory searches.

However, if you elect to keep the deleted files directory entries, and have a valid Disk Mirror file(see section 5.2) before the optimization, and the clusters containing the file you need to recover were not overwritten during the optimization, then there is a chance that you could recover some of the file. This could only happen if the file resided in the free space block after the optimization and the clusters were not used as swap space during the optimization. Not the best of odds, but still a chance.

## 4.4 Optimizing your Drive

✓ Before you perform an optimization there is one thing left to do: **Backup your hard drive.** Diamond Edge provides secure protection against and recovery from a wide variety of disk related problems, however there is **NO SUBSTITUTE** for a valid up to date hard disk backup. Regardless of the safeguards within the program, the only way to protect against an unexpected power outage during an optimization is to have a current hard disk backup. We find that using Diamond Back II is the fastest and most reliable means to accomplish hard disk backups.

You may either optimize just the active drive by selecting **Optimize Drive** from the Optimize menu or on multiple drives by selecting **Optimize Multiple**. Before each disk is optimized, it is automatically examined by the Disk Medic for problems. Any problems detected by the Disk Medic must be fixed before optimization will be allowed. After the disk has passed the Disk Medic examination, the optimization will begin. A bell will ring to indicate that the optimization is complete.

## 5.0 Recovering Deleted Files

It happens to all of us sooner or later (some more frequently than others). You have just spent 3 hours working on an important paper and you decide to clean up your scratch directory. You start grabbing files and tossing them in the trash. Then suddenly your heart stops as you realize you just flushed the last three hours of work and all your ideas down the drain. Diamond Edge rescues you from this desperate situation by providing two different methods of recovering files that have previously been deleted including the ability to recover fragmented files.

```
Undelete
Configure MIRROR... 0N
Run MIRROR          0R
-----
✓ Simple Undelete
Mirror Undelete
-----
Undelete File(s)... 0U
```

### 5.1 What happens when you delete a file

When you delete a file, all of the information regarding a file is not completely erased. In the directory sector holding the file, the first byte of the file name is replaced by the hexadecimal value 0xe5 ( $\sigma$ ). This character tells the operating system that this file has been deleted and not to include it in directory searches anymore. So, the file READ.ME would become  $\sigma$ EAD.ME. All of the rest of the directory information is left intact.

The next thing that happens is that all of the clusters allocated to the file in the FAT are cleared. This is the largest problem in recovering a deleted file. Although, the directory information remains intact, so we know where the file started, the FAT cluster links have been eliminated so we have no idea actually where the file is on the disk. If the file was not fragmented, then the



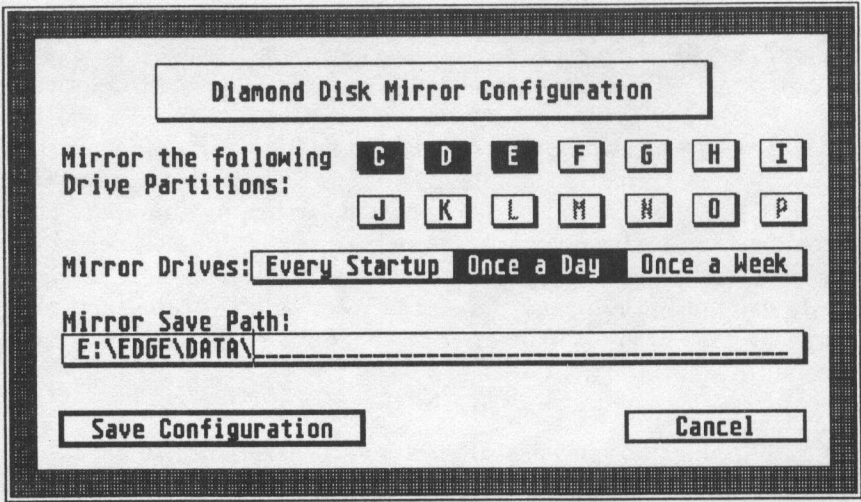
clusters lie in consecutive order and recovery is relatively straightforward. However, if the file was fragmented full recovery is nearly impossible without knowledge of the FAT prior to deletion.

The good news is that nothing happens to the data on the disk. The data remains completely intact. The bad news is that now that the clusters have been released for use by the operating system, they can be overwritten at any time. Remember that clusters are allocated on a "first found, first used" basis. So, if your freshly deleted file happens to be the first available free space, the very next disk write will overwrite the data and make recovery impossible.

✓ The key to successfully recovering deleted files is 1) knowledge of the FAT prior to the deletion and 2) speed of action. The longer you wait to attempt to undelete a file the lower the probability of successful recovery.

## 5.2 **Configuring Diamond Mirror**

One of the keys to successful recovery of deleted files is knowledge of the FAT structure prior to deletion. Diamond Mirror is an auto folder program provided to save FAT and directory structure information at user specified intervals. Diamond Mirror can be configured either from within Diamond Edge by selecting **Configure DMIRROR** from the Undelete menu or by running **DMIRROR.PRG** from the GEM desktop. After **DMIRROR.PRG** is run from the desktop or **Configure DMIRROR** is chosen from Undelete menu, the Diamond Mirror Configuration menu will be displayed.



### Diamond Mirror Configuration

The following items need to be specified to configure Diamond Mirror:

- **What drive to Mirror:** Select the drives that you want Mirrored by clicking on the appropriate drive buttons. You may select as many or as few of your active devices that you want to Mirror.
- **How often to Run Mirror:** You can select to have Diamond Mirror execute every time your machine is booted up, once per day, or once per week. It is usually best to keep your Mirror files reasonably current. You can bypass any scheduled Mirroring by pressing ALT-S just before Diamond Mirror is scheduled to run.
- **Where to put your Mirror files:** Specify the path that the Diamond Mirror files will be stored.

After you are satisfied with your configuration, select **Save Configuration**. If you want to exit without changing the existing configuration, select **Cancel**.

If you are configuring Diamond Mirror from within Diamond Edge, you can run Diamond Mirror by selecting **Run DMIRROR** from the Undelete menu. If you are running Diamond Mirror from the GEM desktop, you have the option of running Diamond Mirror by selecting **Run Mirror**.

### 5.3 Choosing your Undelete method

Two methods of recovering deleted files are provided by Diamond Edge: **Simple Undelete** and **Mirror Undelete**. Select Mirror Undelete if you have a recent Mirror file for the drive that contains the deleted file. Otherwise, you should select Simple Undelete.

A **Simple Undelete** calculates the number of clusters the file would have occupied on the disk. Then it locates the starting cluster of the deleted file and calculates the number of consecutive clusters from the beginning cluster that are not currently allocated to other files. These unused clusters are then recovered.

A **Mirror Undelete** uses FAT and directory information stored in the disk Mirror files to determine exactly what clusters the file occupied prior to deletion. The clusters that the file occupied, that are still not allocated to other files, are recovered. This is the only method that can fully recover a fragmented file. Both of these methods can assist you in recovering deleted files even if you regularly run DMIRROR.PRG.

✓ When will a Simple Undelete be able to recover a deleted file when a Mirror undelete could not? If you created or added a file to your disk after the last time you ran Diamond Mirror and you then deleted that file, the Mirror file would contain no information about that file. In that case a Simple undelete would be your best chance at data recovery. Remember to keep your disks well optimized to give you the best chance of recovering deleted files.

## 5.4 Undeleting Files

When you select Undelete Files from the Undelete menu, the Undelete control screen is displayed.

Select Files to Undelete

Directory:  
H:\UTILITY\ICD\

Filename	Size	Date	Time	Recoverable?
oOOTFIX .TOS	11282	4/29/91	2:05 PM	No
oACHEDFF.PRG	2958	2/28/91	11:01 AM	Yes
oACHEON .PRG	2958	2/28/91	9:11 AM	No
oLEANUP .CFX	35	5/14/90	2:00 PM	Yes
oOLDBOOT.PRG	3352	3/22/91	4:14 PM	No
oOPYFIX .PRG	4617	2/25/91	9:07 AM	No
oESKTOP .PRG	73637	8/18/91	11:04 PM	No
oDPARK .DOC	887	2/06/91	8:15 AM	No
oDPARTS .TOS	13557	5/29/91	1:04 PM	No
oCD561 .LZH	47872	5/31/92	9:01 PM	No
oDUTIL .PRG	41014	5/14/92	0:11 PM	Yes
oCDFMT .DAT	5378	2/13/90	10:14 AM	No

Search Mask:  
o\* .PRG

Find  
Find Next

Undelete

A	B	C	D
E	F	G	H
I	J	K	L
M	N	O	P

Cancel

Undelete Control Screen

The Undelete File Selector functions exactly like the normal GEM file selector, except that only subdirectories and deleted files are shown. To open a subdirectory shown in the control screen double click on the entry. To move up to the parent directory again, click on the close box in the Undelete File Selector window. If you want to change the active undelete drive, then select the desired drive button from the available drive buttons.

✓ Each file that appears in the Undelete File Selector has an additional entry that indicates whether or not the file will be recoverable. If all of the clusters belonging to a file can be recovered then the recoverable entry is: Yes. If none of the clusters belonging to the deleted file can be recovered, then the recoverable entry is: NO. However, if only some of the clusters belonging to the file are recoverable, then a ratio of the recoverable clusters to the total number of clusters will be shown.



Diamond Edge provides a general purpose deleted file finder within the Undelete control screen. This is especially useful if you have forgotten the name of the file(s) you want to recover or simply don't remember what directory the file used to reside. To search for deleted files enter a deleted file search mask in the editable field in the Undelete Control screen labeled Search Mask. You can search for a specific file or enter a general purpose wildcard to find all files that match the wildcard criteria.

The two standard wild cards on the Atari ST are \* and ?. The \* appearing in a wild card search mask will backup all files containing a character string in the \*'s position. The ? appearing in a wild card search mask will backup all files containing a single character in the ?'s position.

For example, if you wanted to search for all deleted files with a .PI1 extension., you would enter  $\sigma^*.PI1$  for the Undelete Search Mask. If you had wanted to search for all deleted files with extension of PI1, PI2, or PI3 you would enter  $\sigma^*.PI?$  as the Undelete Search Mask.

To initiate the deleted file search, select **Find** from the Undelete Control Screen. You can also press the return key to initiate deleted file search. The program will search the current drive for the first file that matches the wildcard specification. If a match is located, the Undelete File Selector will automatically move to the directory containing the file and select the file. If you want to find additional deleted files that match the current wildcard mask, select **Find Next** from the Undelete Control screen.

✓ To select a file to undelete, click on the file name in the Undelete File Selector. When the entry appears **selected** it is marked for undeletion. You may select as many files as you want to to undelete in the same directory by holding the shift key down while selecting the file. After you have selected all of the files that you want to undelete in the current directory, then select **Undelete** from the Undelete control screen. For each file that you select you will be prompted to enter the first character of the deleted filename. The program then checks to see if there is another file in the directory that already has that name. If a conflict is found, you will be prompted to enter a different first character.

In order to undelete files from a subdirectory that has also been deleted, you must first undelete the directory. When you have finished undeleting all of the files that you require, select **Cancel** to return to the Diamond Edge basic window.

## **5.5 What to do after you undelete a file**

✓ After you have undeleted all of the files that you require, you should verify the validity of the recovered files. If you have a current validation file for the drive, then perform a validation pass to assess the state of the undeleted files. This will tell you if the undeleted file is the same as before or if the files data has been corrupted. If you do not have a current validation file, then you should manually examine the files you just undeleted to determine if they are valid.

Verification of the undeleted file is required because even with Mirror protection, the validity of the file recovery is not 100% assured. If you deleted some files and then add other files, the "first available first used principal" would apply and the new files would overwrite the area of disk that the deleted file occupied. Then if you deleted those new files before the next time that you run Mirror, there would be no record of that activity. The Mirror file would tell you where the originally undeleted file resided on the disk, and the operating system would say that that space is unallocated. This would result in a recoverable status of Yes, even though the files information had been overwritten.

The undeletion tools provided by Diamond Edge are designed to assist you in recovering accidentally deleted files. However, they cannot save you from every possible situation. The best protection against loss of data is regular hard disk backups using a three backup set generational strategy. There is no substitute for a valid hard disk backup.

## 6.0 Archiving Disk Information

Catastrophic failures of the disk operating system, the hard disk driver software, or applications programs occasionally cause the total loss of critical disk information. The most often effected areas include the partitioning information located in physical sector 0 of the hard disk, the partition boot sector, the partition File Allocation Table, and the partition root directory sectors. The data on your hard disk is often totally unaffected, however you can't access ANY of it because the information that tells the operating system how to find it is either gone or corrupted.

```
Archive
Save Disk Info... 0A
Restore Disk Info... 0Y
-----
Save SCSI Info... 0G
Restore SCSI Info... 0K
```

✓ While there is still no substitute for a valid hard disk backup, the easiest and fastest way to recover from these situations is to simply reinstall a copy of the corrupted information. We **HIGHLY** recommend that you keep a current archive of disk information on all of your hard drive partitions and current SCSI partitioning information on all of your SCSI drives. We also recommend that you keep this data on a floppy disk in addition to on your hard disk. The creation and regular updating of a Diamond Edge Emergency disk described in Section 1.3 is an excellent catastrophe prevention strategy.

## 6.1 Saving and Restoring Disk Information

To save critical disk partition structure information (boot sector, FAT table, directory sectors), select **Save Disk Info** from the Archive menu. The Save Disk Information dialog will appear. Select all of the drives that you want to create disk information files for and then select **Save**. A GEM file selector will appear prompting you for the directory to save the information files. The default directory is the Disk Information directory specified in the Diamond Edge Preferences dialog. Only the destination path is required, the disk information file names are automatically generated. Select **Ok** from the File Selector to save the disk information files. Select **Cancel** to abort the process.

To restore the critical disk information to a disk, select **Restore Disk Info** from the Archive menu. The restore disk information dialog will appear.



Restore Disk Information



You have the option of restoring the boot sector, the FAT table, the root directory sector, or any combination. Then choose the drive that you want the information restored. It is often advisable to first reinstall the boot sector, perform a Disk Medic check with Auto-Fix **OFF**. If significant problems remain, then reinstall the FAT table and root directory sectors.

✓ If the boot sector is severely damaged, TOS may refuse to recognize the disk as valid. It may not be listed as active or may not be recognized at all (i.e. one less drive appears than you think you have). If this occurs, it will be necessary to rebuild the partition from the Hard Disk Partitioning function described in section 3.4, before you can reinstall the archived disk information.

Select the **Select Disk Info File** button to choose the disk information file to restore to the selected disk. After specifying the information file to restore, a dialog is shown describing the disk characteristics from the disk information file selected for restore. If the disk information is correct then select **Proceed with Restore**. If you have **any questions** at all regarding whether the information you are about to restore is correct, then select **Cancel** to abort the restore

✓ After restoring the disk information, it is extremely advisable to run Disk Medic on the restored partition. Modifications to the disk (file creation, deletion, expansion, etc.) made after the creation of the disk information file will not be reflected in the restored information. This could lead to some loss of data created or modified after the disk information file was created. Much of this information can be recovered through the undelete function or from the Lost cluster save file produced by the Disk Medic. There is no substitute for an up to date hard disk backup or an up to date disk information file.

## 6.2 Saving and Restoring SCSI Partition Information

The total loss of the hard disk partitioning information located in physical sector 0 of your hard disk is more common than most people believe. This is an easily recoverable situation with absolutely no loss of data, if you have a SCSI information file saved. However, if you don't have the SCSI information saved, only the most skilled and knowledgeable hackers can resurrect your disk.

To create a SCSI information file, select **Save SCSI Info** from the Archive menu. Diamond Edge will scan ST ACSI identification numbers 0-7 and TT SCSI identification numbers 8-15. for active devices. The drive identification of the devices found will be displayed in the Select SCSI Device dialog. Select all of your SCSI devices to create information files for each SCSI drive.

Some early SCSI drives and MFM drives attached to the ST using a SCSI-> MFM adapter (like the Adaptec 4000) will not respond correctly to the SCSI Inquiry command. If your drive does not respond to the inquiry select **Rescan**, it may just be slow to respond. If it still does not respond to the inquiry, then select **Manual** from the Select SCSI Device dialog. A manual selection dialog will appear to allow you to specify the SCSI ID Number of the device that you want to partition.

Selecting **Save SCSI Info File** will bring up a GEM file selector prompting you to enter the directory path to save the SCSI information files. The default directory is the Disk Information directory specified in the Diamond Edge Preferences dialog. Only the destination path is required, the disk information file names are automatically generated. Select **Ok** from the File Selector to save the SCSI information files. Select **Cancel** to abort the process.

To restore the disk partitioning information to a SCSI disk, select **Restore SCSI Info** from the Archive menu. Select the SCSI drive that you want the information restored and then press **Select SCSI Info File**. A GEM file selector will appear allowing you to select the SCSI information file to restore to the selected drive. Select **Ok** to proceed with the SCSI information restore. If you have **any questions** at all regarding whether the information you are about to restore is correct, then select **Cancel** to abort the restore.

## 7.0 General Utilities

Diamond Edge provides a number of general disk maintenance utilities to help you get the most out of your disks.

Utility	
Copy Drive Defrag...	ⓀD
Copy Drive Image...	ⓀI
Force Media Change	ⓀM
-----	
View File...	ⓀF
Print File...	ⓀP
Browse Disk	ⓀJ
-----	
Enable Zeroing	ⓀE
Zero Partition	ⓀZ
Un-Zero Partition	ⓀX
Wipe Partition	ⓀW

### 7.1 Partition Copying

Diamond Edge provides two general purpose disk to disk copying methods for different applications.

#### 7.1.1 Partition Copy - Image

**Copy Partition Image** copies sector for sector an exact image of the source partition to the destination partition. The directory structure and disk fragmentation characteristics of the source are exactly duplicated on the destination. The source and destination partitions must be of exactly the same size and type(both GEM or both BGM). All existing data on the destination partition is lost.

To perform a partition image copy, select **Copy Partition Image** from the Utility menu. You will be prompted to enter the source and destination partitions. If you have **Warn** mode set to then you will be told that all data on the destination partition will be lost and given the opportunity to cancel. Otherwise the partition copy begins immediately.

### 7.1.2 Partition Copy - Defragmented

✓ **Copy Partition Defrag** copies the entire contents of the source partition to the destination partition and defragments the files in the process. The result is a destination disk that has had a full optimization for reading performed. The source and destination partitions do not have to be the same size or type. So you can perform a Copy Partition Defrag from a 10 Meg GEM partition to a 40 meg BGM partition. All existing data on the destination partition is lost.

To perform a partition defragmented copy, select **Copy Partition Defrag** from the Utility menu. You will be prompted to enter the source and destination partitions. If you have **Warn** mode set then you will be told that all data on the destination partition will be lost and given the opportunity to cancel. Otherwise the partition copy begins immediately.

## 7.2 Forcing Media Change

TOS occasionally has difficulty detecting whether a disk has changed state and requires updating it's internal information about the disk. This is especially true regarding floppy disks. If you suspect that you have modified your disk and TOS does not recognize the change, then you can choose the disk as the active disk and select **Force Media Change**. This will force all versions of TOS to flush and rebuild all information it has about the disk.



## 7.3 Browsing, Viewing, and Printing Files

These functions allow you to look around your disk, look at text files, and print text files. Selecting **Browse** will give you access to the GEM File Selector to look around your disk. Selecting **View File** allows you to view a text file on the screen. Selecting **Print File** will allow you to print a text file of your choice on your printer. This is useful to examining and printing Disk Medic Error reports or Validation Error reports.

## 7.4 Partition Zeroing

If your disk structure has become unrecoverably corrupted or if you just want to easily erase all of the files on your disk, Diamond Edge provides several methods of Zeroing your disk. Zeroing a disk means erasing all of the information in the disks FAT and root directory sectors. The result will be a completely empty partition. Because zeroing a disk is not something you want to do accidentally, you must enable the zeroing functions by selecting **Enable Zeroing** from the Utility Menu.

### 7.4.1 Zero Partition

To Zero a partition, make the partition you want to zero the active partition. Then select **Zero Partition** from the Utility menu. Regardless of the warning level specified in the user preferences, you will always be warned before a zeroing operation. If you decide to continue with the zeroing select **Yes**, if you want to abort the zeroing select **No**.

✓ After you have confirmed your intent to zero the partition, but before the zeroing is actually performed all of the critical disk information is saved in a disk information file. This will allow you to Unzero the partition with absolutely no loss of data if you decide that you have mistakenly zeroed the partition.

## 7.4.2 Unzero Partition

To Unzero a partition, make the partition you want to Unzero the active partition. Then select **Unzero Partition** from the Utility menu. The same procedure is followed to unzero a partition, as to restore the disk partition information.

After selecting the disk you want to unzero, select the **Select Disk Info File** button to choose the disk information file to restore to the selected disk. After specifying the information file to restore, a dialog is shown describing the disk characteristics from the disk information file selected for restore. If the the disk information is correct then select **Proceed with Restore**. If you have **any questions** at all regarding whether the information you are about to restore is correct, then select **Cancel** to abort the restore.

✓ After, unzeroing the disk it is extremely advisable to run Disk Medic and File Validation on the unzeroed partition. Any modification to the disk(file creation, deletion, expansion, etc.) made after the disk was zeroed can cause corrupted disk structure and information on the unzeroed partition. If you unzero a disk immediately after zeroing it, the recovery will be complete with no loss of data. If you have written anything to the disk and then unzero it you will have at least some corrupted information.

## 7.4.3 Wipe Partition

Wiping a partition is a special kind of Zeroing. When you wipe a partition, not only are the FAT tables and root directory sectors erased, but every sector of the partition is overwritten. This is especially useful if you need to completely eliminate highly confidential data.

## 8.0 The Anatomy of a Disk Drive

The disk drives in your Atari ST are as amazing and mysterious as any part of your computer. The following is intended as a basic primer to Atari ST disk structure. It does not represent an exhaustive or totally comprehensive treatment of Atari Disk Drives. It is intended solely to provide enough of an understanding of your disks to get full utilization of the power of Diamond Edge.

A basic level of computer knowledge is required to understand this section. The user should be familiar with basic storage elements such as bytes, sectors, and hexadecimal representation of numbers (denoted by a leading 0x). If the reader is not familiar with these concepts, reference to any good introductory programming book is recommended before reading this section.

### 8.1 Disk Media and Interfaces

✓ There are two basic types of disks that the Atari ST can access: Floppy disks and Hard Disks. All of Diamond Edges functions are usable on either type of disk. Floppy disks for the Atari ST come in 360K, 720K and 1440K capacities. High density floppies (1440K) require a high density disk and controller upgrade from Atari Corp. or a third party vendor. In addition to greater storage capacity, high density disk drives provide twice the data transfer rate. We highly recommend upgrading your disks to high density compatibility.

Hard disks are the primary storage system for most Atari users. Unlike Floppy disks, hard disks are rigid platters that rotate over fixed heads. The read/write heads never actually come in contact with the disk media, but ride over an extremely small cushion of air. If the heads ever did come in contact with the media, for instance as a result of bumping your hard drive, you would experience significant loss of data. This is known as a head crash and can ruin your hard drive.

The Atari ST communicates with the hard drive via an interface protocol. Until the Atari TT, all Atari ST machines communicated with external devices through a protocol known as the Atari Computer Systems Interface (ACSI). This is similar to, but

not identical to the industry standard peripheral communication protocol called the Small Computer Systems Interface(SCSI).

Most hard drive manufacturers produce hard drives that communicate with the host computer using the standard SCSI protocol. Because the ACSI protocol is not exactly like the SCSI protocol, Atari ST systems require a communication translator to convert the native ACSI protocol to the standard SCSI protocol that the hard drive understands. These are commonly referred to as host adapters. Atari Corp., Supra Corp., ICD Inc., and Berkeley Microsystems all manufacture ACSI host adapters for the Atari ST. In addition to the ACSI interface, the Atari TT and the Falcon 030 also have true SCSI interfaces.

Some older hard drive systems were built using IBM PC compatible MFM or RLL hard drives. These drives not only require the ACSI host adapter to translate ACSI to SCSI, but also require an additional communication translator to convert SCSI commands to MFM/RLL commands. The two translations of commands combined with the general poor performance of MFM drives make these systems extremely slow.



## 8.2 Physical Sector 0

The basic unit of storage on a hard disk is the physical block or sector. The standard size of physical sectors is 512 bytes. The most important sector of all is physical sector 0. This is where the information is stored that tells the hard disk driver how the drive is partitioned and how to access the information stored on the drive. The hard disk driver software reads this sector to determine the logical layout of the physical disk.

### 8.2.1 The Partition Structure

The partitioning information appears in physical sector zero in the following format. All offsets given are in hexadecimal values from the start of the sector.

Physical Sector 0 Structure

Component	Offset
Total Hard Disk Size	0x1C2
Partition 1 Structure	0x1C6
Partition 2 Structure	0x1D2
Partition 3 Structure	0x1DE
Partition 4 Structure	0x1EA
Start of Bad Sector List	0x1F6
Size of Bad Sector List	0x1FE

Each partition structure contains the following information:

Partition Structure

Component	Size
Partition Flag	1 byte
Partition Identifier	3 bytes
Partition Starting Sector	4 bytes
Partition Size	4 bytes

The partition flag defines whether the partition is active and whether the partition is bootable. When set, bit 0 indicates the partition is active and bit 7 indicates that the partition is bootable. Bits 1-6 are currently not used.

The partition identifier is a three character identifier that is used to classify the type of partition. There are three standard types of partitions recognized: GEM, BGM, and XGM.

A GEM partition is the normal type of disk partition. The logical sector size is the same as the physical sector size: 512 bytes. GEM partitions can be as large as 16 megabytes under TOS 1.0 and 1.2 or 32 megabytes (with the right driver) under TOS 1.4 or above.

BGM stands for Big GEM partition. These partitions are used to create partitions larger than 16 megabytes. The ST operating system has a limitation on the number of allocation blocks that can be accessed on a single disk. To get around that limitation, and to create larger partitions, the logical size of these allocation units is increased. One logical sector can contain many physical sectors. The logical sector size is a power of 2 times 512 bytes, i.e. logical sectors can be 512, 1024, 2048, 4096, etc. bytes large. The hard disk driver software then converts the request for a logical sector to the appropriate physical sector.

XGM stands for Extended GEM partition. The original Atari hard disk specification as shown above was limited to 4 partitions per hard disk. To get around that limitation, Atari created the specification for the extended partition. The XGM entry points to a location on the hard disk where another pseudo-physical sector 0 resides that describes the location and size of additional partitions. These additional pseudo-root sectors can be chained together to create as many partitions as are required. See Section 8.2.2 for third party specific information regarding XGM partitions.

Other partition types have been defined by a variety of different operating environments outside of TOS. ACK and OOP are used as identifiers for Spectre partitions. OS9 is used as the partition identifier for the OS9 operating system.

The remaining entries in the partition structure pertain to the partition size and location. The starting sector is the starting physical sector of the partition. The partition boot sector always resides in the first logical sector of the partition. The sector size is the total number of 512 byte physical sectors in the partition.

## 8.2.2 Vendor Specific Considerations

Several third party hard disk host adapter vendors developed an extended partitioning standard prior to the release of Atari's standard. In particular, Supra Corporation and ICD hard drives support this standard. The basic difference is that these vendors allow up to 12 individual partition structures to be specified in physical sector 0 before an extended partition, described above, is required. The format of the partition information structure is identical, they just allow more to be specified in each sector. The offsets of these additional partition structures are as follows:

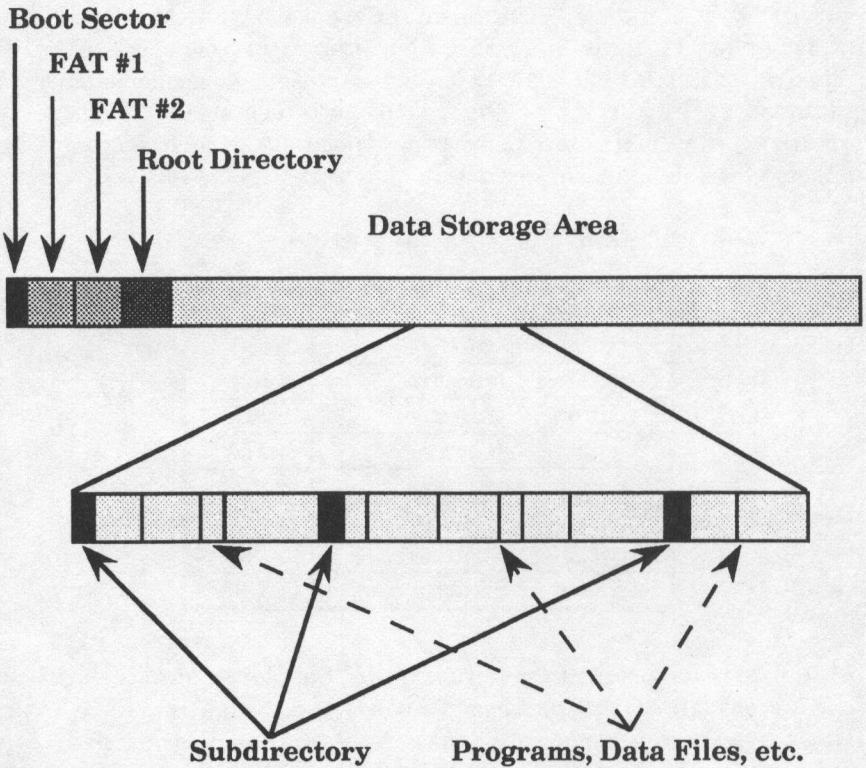
### Third Party Partition Extensions

Component	Offset
Partition 5 Structure	0x156
Partition 6 Structure	0x162
Partition 7 Structure	0x16E
Partition 8 Structure	0x17A
Partition 9 Structure	0x186
Partition 10 Structure	0x192
Partition 11 Structure	0x19E
Partition 12 Structure	0x1AA

✓ It is important to note that an ICD or Supra hard disk driver can access all of the partitions on a Atari formatted hard disk. However, the reverse is not true. An Atari hard disk driver can only access the first four partitions on a ICD or Supra formatted drive.

### 8.3 Inside a Disk Partition

The internal structure of a disk drive partition is really not as complicated as it seems. It is organized via a controlling boot sector that tells the hard disk driver how big the drive is and where to find key disk information. Information about files and file attributes are stored in directory sectors. The information about where files are physically located on the disk is contained in the File Allocation Table or FAT. A linear layout of your disk is shown below:





### 8.3.1 The Boot Sector

The partition boot sector is one of the most important sectors on each partition. The boot sector always occupies logical sector 0 of the partition. It tells the hard disk driver all of the critical disk parameters necessary to access information on the disk. Most of the Diamond Edge Disk Information screen is based on information contained in the boot sector. The information contained in the boot sector and each items significance is described below. All offsets given are in hexadecimal values from the start of the sector.

Boot Sector Contents

Item	Offset	Length	Comments
Branch to Code	0x00	2 bytes	Used if bootable
Filler	0x02	6 bytes	Manufacturer's ID
24 bit Serial Number	0x08	3 bytes	Used to detect media change
Bytes per Sector	0x0B	2 bytes	Intel format
Sectors per Cluster	0x0D	1 byte	Generally 2
Reserved Sectors	0x0E	2 bytes	Intel format
Number of FATs	0x10	1 byte	Generally 2
# of Root Dir entries	0x11	2 bytes	Intel format
Total sectors	0x13	2 bytes	Intel format
Media Descriptor	0x15	1 byte	Ignored by ST BIOS
Sectors per FAT	0x16	2 bytes	Intel format
Sector per Track	0x18	2 bytes	Intel format
Number of Sides	0x1A	2 bytes	Intel format
Number Hidden Sec	0x1C	2 bytes	Intel Format
Checksum Even out	0x1FE	2 bytes	Used if Bootable

Most of the information stored in the boot sector is coded in 8086 or Intel format. This means the first byte represents the low byte of the word and the second byte represents the high byte of the word. This is opposite of a Motorola stored word which is stored high byte first and low byte second. The reason that the ST uses the Intel encoding in the boot sector is because the Atari ST disk structure was derived from and is compatible with IBM disk structure.

When you look at the entry for the number of bytes per sector and find the value 0x0002, this is really 0x0200 or 512 bytes per sector. Now if the partition were a BGM partition, you might find the low-byte/high-byte value 0x0008 at offset 0x0B. Decoded this is 0x0800 or 2,048 bytes per sector. Remember that to get partitions with higher capacities, TOS increases the logical size of the sectors. Physical sectors are always 512 bytes.

The next item in the boot sector is the number of sectors per cluster. Typically, there are 2 sectors per cluster. A cluster is the basic disk allocation unit. All space allocated to files is allocated in whole numbers of clusters and the smallest number of clusters allocated to a non-zero length file is one. For standard GEM partitions with 512 byte logical sector sizes, this means that a small file will consume 1 cluster = 2 sectors = 1,024 bytes of disk capacity regardless if the file is 1 byte large or 1,024 bytes large. One of the disadvantages of BGM partitions is inefficient disk utilization. The same 1 byte file that occupied 1,024 bytes on a GEM partition, would occupy 4,096 bytes on a BGM partition with 2,048 byte sectors.

The number of reserved sectors is the number of sectors reserved at the start of the partition including the boot sector. This value is typically equal to one. The number of File Allocation Tables is typically equal to 2. These structures will be described in detail in section 8.3.2.

The next entry is the maximum number of root directory entries. Unlike subdirectories, the root directory is a fixed size. Since each directory entry (described in section 8.3.3) occupies 32 bytes, the number of logical sectors occupied by the root sector can be calculated from this value. The next entry is the total number of logical sectors in the partition. This includes the boot sector, FAT tables, and root directory sectors. The number of sectors per FAT is given in the next entry.

The remaining entries, sectors per track and number of sides, pertain to the physical properties of floppy disks and are generally not even filled in on a hard disk boot sector. With the knowledge presented so far in the boot sector, the operating system has all of the information required to calculate and locate specific controlling structures.

The sector numbering convention always has the boot sector as sector 0. The starting logical sector of the first FAT is then  $0 + \#$  of reserved sectors. The start of the second FAT is then  $\#$  of reserved sectors +  $\#$  of sectors per FAT. The start of the root directory sector is then  $\#$  of reserved sectors +  $\#$  of FATs \*  $\#$  of sectors per FAT. And finally the starting logical sector of the data storage area is  $\#$  of reserved sectors +  $\#$  of FATs \*  $\#$  of sectors per FAT +  $\#$  of root directory sectors. All of the sectors allocated to the boot sector, FAT tables, and root directory sectors are called control sectors, the remaining sectors are called data sectors.

## 8.3.2 The FAT Table

Now that we know where to find all of the control structures, it is time to examine the most critical one. In fact so critical, the operating system maintains two independent copies of the FAT table to guard against corruption and unrecoverable loss of data. The File Allocation Table is used to store information about where files reside on the disk, what space is used by files and what space is available for use. Simply stated, the File Allocation Table is a road map to tell the operating system where to go look for an existing file and where it can put new ones.

The values of each entry in the FAT are encoded. The Atari ST supports two styles of encoding for the FAT: 12 bit encoding and 16 bit encoding. 12 bit encoding is generally used for small capacity (no more than 4096 clusters) storage media such as floppy disks and RAM disks because it reduces the size required for the FAT. In this encoding scheme, two FAT entries occupy three bytes, whereas in 16 bit encoding two FAT entries occupy 4 bytes. Decoding a 12 bit FAT is quite complicated, however 16 bit FAT encoding is simply the Intel encoding low byte-high byte described earlier.

The first cluster available for use is cluster number 2. The reason clusters 0 and 1 are not used are buried deep in history. For each file, the value of each entry in the FAT is the next cluster containing data for that file. There are several special values that a FAT entry can have:

### Special FAT Values

Value		Meaning
12bit	16bit	
0xFFF	0xFFFF	End of File
0xFF7	0xFFF7	Bad Sector
0x000	0x0000	Free Sector



The operating system uses the FAT to find where files are and to determine where it can place new files. When a new file is added to the disk, the operating system looks at the FAT to find the first FAT entry with a value of 0. If the amount of contiguous free space is insufficient to hold the file, then the operating system will look for the next available free space (thus creating a fragmented file). This process continues until enough clusters have been allocated to hold the file. Based on this information, the operating system creates a FAT chain for the file and makes the appropriate entries in the FAT.

Each file on the disk has an associated FAT chain. The FAT chain is the structure that the operating system uses to locate all of the clusters associated with a given file. For any given file, the value of each entry in the FAT "points" to the next cluster belonging to that file (the next cluster in the FAT chain).

So if a file occupied clusters 10, 11, 12, 16, and 22. The file's FAT chain would look like this: FAT[10] = 11; FAT[11] = 12; FAT[12] = 16; FAT[16] = 22; FAT[22] = 0xFFFF. The process of going from FAT entry to FAT entry until you reach the end of the file is called "walking the FAT chain".

We now know how to walk the FAT chain, to locate all of the clusters that belong to a file. But where do we start our walk? The answer to that resides in the directory sectors.

### 8.3.3 The Directory Sectors

The last special control structure used by the disk operating system is the directory sector. There are two types of directory sectors: the root directory and subdirectories. The only differences between the root directory and subdirectories are in expandability and location. The actual structure of the directory entry is identical in the root directory and subdirectories.

The root directory is a control structure that lies outside of the "data" area and is not expandable. When you partition your disk, the maximum number of root directory entries is set and recorded in the boot sector. On the other hand, subdirectories are really a special kind of file with their own FAT chain. Space for subdirectories are allocated as needed, lie within the data storage area, consume available disk space, and are expandable. Although some versions of TOS limit the number of files in a subdirectory that can be viewed from the desktop window, there is essentially no limit of the number of files you can have in a subdirectory.

The critical structure within a directory sector is the directory entry. Each directory entry consists of 32 bytes and contains all of the information about the file. The elements of the directory entry are:

Directory Entry Contents

Element	Offset	# of Bytes
Filename	0x00	8
Extension	0x08	3
Attributes	0x0B	1
Reserved	0x0C	10
Time	0x16	2
Date	0x18	2
First cluster	0x1A	2
File Size	0x1C	4

The first field contains the filename. This name generally consists only of uppercase ASCII letters and numbers. If there are less than eight characters in the file name the remaining places are filled with the ASCII character 0x20 (space).

The filename extension occupies the next three bytes and is filled with spaces if necessary. Not that the dot (.) in a file name is not stored in the directory sector but is added by the operating system. So the filename READ.ME would be stored as READ(space)(space)(space)(space)ME(space). If the first character of the filename is 0xE5 this means the file has been deleted.

The next field is the file attribute byte. It contains a bit code of the attributes of the file. The meaning of the bits are:

#### File Attributes

Bit	Value if set	Meaning if set
0	0x01	Read Only
1	0x02	Hidden File
2	0x04	System File
3	0x08	Volume Entry
4	0x10	Directory
5	0x20	Archive Bit
6		Reserved
7		Reserved

The value that is recorded in the directory entry is the result of "ORing" all of the applicable attribute bits together. So the attribute byte for a read-only hidden file that needs to be backed up (archive bit set) would be  $0x01 \vee 0x02 \vee 0x20 = 0x23$ . A normal file has a file attribute of zero. The next ten bytes of the directory entry are reserved for future use.

The next two entries are the file creation/modification time and date. These entries are stored as bit encoded (to save space) Intel format words. The next entry contains the answer to the question we asked when discussing the FAT: the first cluster of the file. This is stored as an Intel encoded word and points to the first cluster in the file's FAT chain. The last element of the directory entry is the file size. The file size is 4 bytes long and is stored as an Intel format long word.

In every subdirectory there are two special entries that are always the first two entries in the directory: "." and "..". The entry "." represents the current directory and contains all of the location information for the current directory. The entry ".." represents the parent directory(directory that contains the current subdirectory) and contains all of the location information for the parent directory.

Space for subdirectories is allocated one cluster at a time. As mentioned before, each directory entry take 32 bytes of disk space. So when (**#of bytes per cluster/32 bytes per directory entry**) number of files have been added to the subdirectory another cluster needs to be allocated to the subdirectory before any more files can be added.

The number of directory entries per cluster is 32 for a GEM partition with 512 bytes per sector. The FAT chain for the subdirectory is updated and the subdirectory can now hold another 32 entries. This process of expansion is essentially limitless(subject to disk capacity).

It is important to note that the very process of expansion creates a special kind of disk fragmentation: Directory Fragmentation. As the directory is expanded, the added directory clusters are never contiguous. This means that the operating system has to move the disk head all over the disk just to get information about a single subdirectory. Significant levels of directory fragmentation seriously impacts disk performance. You can detect directory fragmentation by observing the order that the disk fragmentation map is generated.



## **8.4 Causes of Disk Damage**

Damage to data on your disks can result from hardware failure, magnetic media errors, software bugs, computer viruses, human error, or acts of nature.

### **8.4.1 Hardware**

Hardware is those parts of the computer that you can see and touch such as the keyboard, mouse, disk drives, and the computer itself. Generally when a problem is attributed to hardware failure one or more of peripheral systems has failed. Most peripheral device failures do not result in data loss. They are generally restricted to the minor inconvenience of a trip to the repair technician.

However, if the peripheral that failed is a disk drive the potential for data loss is much greater. We need to distinguish between two types of drive failures: permanent and temporary. A permanent drive failure means that nothing can be done to recover the data because the drive cannot be accessed. The read/write heads not moving is an example of this. This is much different than a temporary failure such as the destruction of the disk partitioning information. With the tools provided by Diamond Edge, you have a very good chance at full data recovery.

### **8.4.2 Magnetic Media**

Magnetic media is the magnetic disk material that is used to store your information. Media errors occur when there is an area of the disk that does not hold the magnetic charge. Weak or damaged disks often function completely normally until you attempt to read or write data to the damaged areas. This can lead to an error condition known as flipped bits. A bit can be a 1 or a 0. If the magnetic media is weak, then a bit can be a 1 the first time it is read and change to a zero the next time it is read. Use the Map Bad function with multiple passes to detect and mark bad sectors as unavailable for use.

If you detect bad media on a floppy disk, copy the remaining information to another disk and throw the bad disk away. Once a disk media weakens you will continue to experience data loss, often unrecoverable. Your data is worth more than the cost of a new floppy disk.

### **8.4.3 Software and Viruses**

Software related problems consist of "bugs" in user applications, conflicts between concurrently running applications, or computer viruses. Bugs are defects in the application software that can potentially lead to disk damage. If a program "crashes" with one or more bombs while writing to the disk, it can leave the disk in a corrupted state. If this occurs, it is advisable to run Disk Medic immediately to assess any possible damage.

Conflicts between concurrently running programs is generally between the applications and one or more Auto folder or accessory programs. Random crashes can occur in an application program that are actually the fault of bugs in an auto folder or desk accessory. If you suspect a conflict, reboot your computer with no auto folder or accessory programs active. Then add one auto folder program at a time, rebooting in between, until you identify the conflict. A binary search will find the offending auto folder program more quickly, but the one at a time method is more conservative. If a conflict causes a crash you should run Disk Medic to assess any possible damage.

Computer Viruses are another type of software threat to your disks. Viruses enter your system through boot sectors of floppy disks or attached to otherwise benign application programs. They become active and spread throughout all of your disks each time the program or triggering mechanism is run. Viruses can be benign or malignant.

Benign viruses often do little more than display a message on your screen at some predetermined time. However, malignant viruses can cause strange system behavior and even wipe out your entire disk structure and all of your files. It is strongly advisable to check every new floppy disk that enters your disk drive for viruses and keep all of your floppy disks write protected. Also, link viruses can be attached to actual programs and data files. Whenever, a

new program is introduced to your disk it should be scanned for link viruses. This includes commercial software and software downloaded through a modem.

Oregon Research provides an excellent Virus protection program called the Ultimate Virus Killer for only \$34.95. It has the capability of detecting and killing every known strain of virus on the Atari ST. It provides protection against unknown viruses and can kill many types of link viruses. These are particularly nasty viruses that attach themselves to programs and can cause significant disk damage. It repair damage to over 500 different benign executable boot sectors.

Computer viruses should be taken very seriously. They can easily cause 100% loss of data.

#### **8.4.4 Human Error**

Absolutely the most common cause of data loss is human error. These can result from overwriting a newer version of a file with an older version, accidently deleting an important file, or performing a disk operation that you didn't really want to do. Diamond Edge provides many tools to assist you in recovering from human induced loss of data.

#### **8.4.5 Acts of Nature**

If the power goes off or the electrical current is not consistent while performing disk read/write operations, you will likely have corrupted data or disk structure. Never operate you computer when there is an electrical storm in your general vicinity. If you can see it or hear it, shut down immediately.

Always ensure that you have a stable power source. Installing surge protectors and line noise filters is an excellent protection against this type of data loss. Note that surge protectors on your electric line is not always enough. If you have a modem connected to your computer then you also need a surge protector on your phone line. Many a "surge protected" computer system has been fried by surges coming over the phone lines from lightning strikes.

The disk drives in your Atari ST are as amazing and mysterious as any part of your computer. This primer to Atari ST disk structure was not intended to be an exhaustive treatment of the subject. We hope that it has given you a greater appreciation for the complexity of disk drive structure and provides enough of an understanding of your disks to get full utilization of the power of Diamond Edge.

If nothing else, we hope that this greater understanding of disk structure convinces you of the high probability of eventually experiencing disk structure corruption. The best protection against disk structure corruption are regularly updated disk information and mirror files and a current up to date hard disk backup.

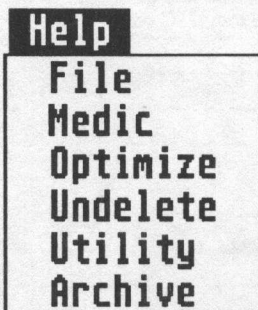


## 9.0 Online Help & Hotkeys

To make your experience with Diamond Edge pleasant and powerful, online help and keyboard equivalents are provide for every program function.

### 9.1 Online Help

Diamond Edge contains an extensible online help system. Access to the help topics is obtained through the Help menu. The available help topics include: File, Medic, Optimize, Undelete, Utility, and Archive. Selecting one of these help topics will display Help for the topic selected. The unique feature of this online system is that it is fully user extensible. If you have a better way of explaining a feature or if you want to add your own notes to the explanations you can customize the help files to suite your individual needs.



The help files are contained in the HELP subdirectory of the EDGE folder. The files are named FILE.HLP, MEDIC.HLP, OPTIMIZE.HLP, UNDEL.HLP, UTILITY.HLP, and ARCHIVE.HLP. These are ASCII files and can be customized with any file editor. If you use a word processor to modify the files remember to select "Save as ASCII" when you save the file. Although you can change any of the information in the files, you must not change the file name or location or Diamond Edge will not recognize the files.

## 9.2 Hotkeys

For ease of use, keyboard equivalents and hotkeys are provided for every major program function. In addition there are special keyboard commands that control the operation of various program functions.

During functions that scroll data such as Creating a Validation file or Validating files you may pause the display by selecting Control-S, pressing Control-Q will restart the process. Control-C is the universal abort key and applies to every abortable function, such as Mapping Bad Sectors or Validating a disk drive. Optimizing and the Disk Medic functions are not abortable via Control-C.

The program functions and their associated hotkeys are described below:

Function:	Hotkey:
<b>Basic Window Function Block</b>	
Change Active Drive	Press Drive Letter
Disk Information	Control-I
Fragmentation Map	Control-M
All Disk Information	Control-A
<b>File Menu</b>	
Preferences	Control-F
Open Window	Control-W
Quit	Control-Q
<b>Medic Menu</b>	
Test Disk Structure	ALT-T
Test Multiple	Control-T
Map Bad Sectors	ALT-B
Map Bad Multiple	Control-T
Create CRC File	ALT-C
Create Checksum File	ALT-S
Validate Files	ALT-V
Partition Hard Disk	ALT-H

Additional program functions and their associated hotkeys are described below:

Function:	Hotkey:
<b>Optimize Menu</b>	
Optimize Drive	ALT-O
Optimize Multiple	CONTROL-O
<b>Undelete Menu</b>	
Configure MIRROR	ALT-N
Run MIRROR	ALT-R
Undelete Files	ALT-U
<b>Archive Menu</b>	
Save Disk Info	ALT-A
Restore Disk Info	ALT-Y
Save SCSI Info	ALT-G
Restore SCSI Info	ALT-K
<b>Utility Menu</b>	
Copy Drive Defrag	ALT-D
Copy Drive Image	ALT-I
Force Media Change	ALT-M
View File	ALT-F
Print File	ALT-P
Browse Disk	ALT-J
Zero Disk	ALT-Z
Unzero Disk	ALT-X
Wipe Partition	ALT-W

## 10.0 Technical Support

Diamond Edge is backed by Oregon Research's technical support staff trained to provide you with fast and courteous service. If you require assistance beyond what the manual, help features, and readme files can provide, then call or write use with the information listed in the technical support checklist below.

Before calling Oregon Research technical support, please attempt to recreate the problem so that you can provide us with an exact sequence of events. If the problem reoccurs, then contact us by phone, FAX, or electronically on Genie with the following information:

- Product Information:** The name, version number, and file date/time of the application program. The version number appears in the About box.
- Your user registration number:** This appears on the master disk label.
- System Information:** You'll need to know, the Atari ST computer model that you own, including memory configuration and TOS operating system version.
- Disk Drives:** The model and capacity of all of your internal and external disk drives. Also the vendor of your hard disk host adapter and driver software.
- Additional Hardware:** You'll need to know the brand names of any additional hardware that you have connected to your system. This includes printers, modems, accelerators, custom video cards, PC emulators etc.



- Auto folder and Accessory Programs:** You will need a list of All Auto Folder and Accessory programs active in your system. You should first try eliminating all auto folder and accessory programs and rebooting. If the problem goes away consult section 8.6.3 for more information on isolating a Auto folder conflict.
- Error Messages:** Write down the EXACT wording of any error messages that you received from the program.
- Attempted solutions:** Make careful note of any steps you took to solve the problem and what the results were.

If you need assistance beyond these suggestions, and you cannot find the answer to your problem in the manual , help features, or readme files, then please write, call, or FAX us with the information in the technical support checklist. We need all of the information in the checklist to efficiently serve you.

Mail:

Oregon Research Associates  
16200 S.W. Pacific Hwy., Suite 162  
Tigard, OR 97224  
USA

Phone:

(503) 620-4919

FAX:

(503) 624-2940

Electronic Support:

Genie: ORA.TECH                      Daily

Compuserve: 76635,2310

## 11.0 Software License Agreement

### READ BEFORE BREAKING THE SEAL ON THE DISK ENVELOPE

This package contains computer software (referred to as "Diamond Edge"). The terms of this agreement and the information in this manual are made readily available to you so that you may make an informed decision prior to breaking the seal on the envelope that contains the software disk. Breaking the seal indicates your acceptance of the terms and conditions of this agreement.

In return for acquiring a license to use Diamond Edge, you agree to the following terms and conditions.

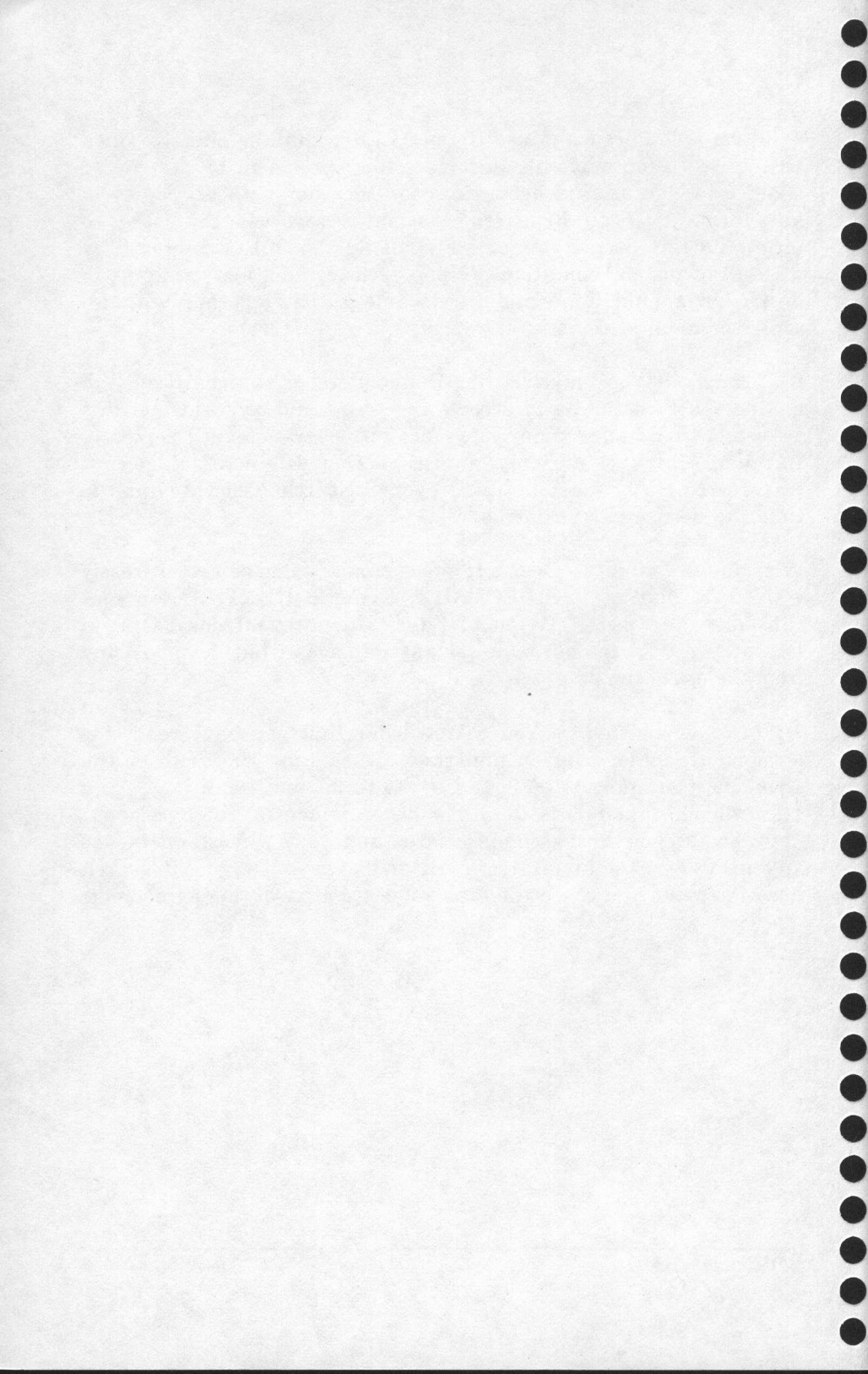
1. Copyright - You acknowledge that Diamond Edge and the documentation are copyrighted and all rights are reserved by Oregon Research Associates. Further, you acknowledge that Oregon Research Associates retains ownership of Diamond Edge, including any portion or derivative work thereof.
2. Usage - You may use Diamond Edge in its present form on a single computer to be designated by you. You may copy Diamond Edge for backup purposes and for applications on the single designated computer; however you may not translate, disassemble, decompile, or modify in any way Diamond Edge or any copy in whole or in part. Rental of Diamond Edge is expressly prohibited by this agreement.
3. Limited Warranty and Disclaimer - Diamond Edge and the documentation are provided "AS IS". All warranties, either expressed or implied, are disclaimed, including but not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for particular purpose. Oregon Research Associates warrants the disk media only to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of 90 days. Defective merchandise returned during this period will be replaced without charge. Diamond Edge is not guaranteed to work with all application programs or all hardware configurations, and Oregon Research Associates specifically disclaims any implied warranty with respect to fitness for any particular purpose or merchantability.

4. Term - The license to use Diamond Edge shall be effective until terminated. You may only terminate this agreement by destroying Diamond Edge and its documentation together with all copies in any form. Oregon Research Associates reserves the right to terminate this license immediately should you fail to comply fully with all terms and conditions. Upon such termination you agree to destroy Diamond Edge and its documentation together with all copies or modifications in any form.

5. Transfer - You may transfer Diamond Edge and the license to another party if the party accepts the terms and conditions of this agreement. At that time, you must either transfer all copies of Diamond Edge or destroy any copies of Diamond Edge not transferred. You must notify Oregon Research Associates at the time the license is transferred.

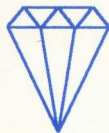
6. Limited Liability - By the terms of this agreement you expressly waive any right to INCIDENTAL or CONSEQUENTIAL damages caused by the use of Diamond Edge. In no event shall Oregon Research Associates be liable for any damages whatsoever arising from the use of the program.

7. Acknowledgement - You acknowledge that you have read this agreement, understand it and that, by opening the seal on the envelope, you agree to be bound by its terms and conditions. You acknowledge that this is the exclusive statement of the agreement between Oregon Research Associates and you, which supersedes any prior agreement, oral or written between Oregon Research Associates and you concerning the subject matter of this agreement.









# *Diamond Edge*



## *Disk Diagnostics, Repair, Optimization, and Data Recovery for your Atari ST*

### *Diagnostics*

Analyzes your disk for critical errors that could lead to data loss. Complete reporting of all disk errors and the files effected.

Assess media integrity and map bad sectors on your disks.

Assess the integrity of the data on your disks with CRC and checksum validations.

### *Repair*

Repairs damaged disk structure, damaged files, and maps bad sectors

Save, restore, edit critical disk information to repair information on very badly damaged disks or to recover crashed disks.

Assessment and validation of the integrity of recovered information

### *Disk Optimization*

Improves Disk Access. Defragments files and directories, consolidates free space and optimizes data locations to improve disk performance.

FAST disk optimization for reading or writing. Complete optimization or consolidate free space. Analyzes level of fragmentation to assess disk performance.

### *Data Recovery*

The Complete Undelete. Diamond Mirror system automatically saves critical disk information that allows you to recover deleted files.

Undeletes fragmented files AND subdirectories!!! Recover as much of original file as possible and validates integrity of the result.

Identifies and recovers data from lost data clusters. Unzero Disks.

### *General Disk Management*

Powerful set of General disk management and information tools, hard disk partitioning, copying, zeroing, wiping, and much more. All program functions work with any hard or floppy disk.

*On the cutting Edge of  
Computer Technology*



Oregon Research Associates  
16200 S.W. Pacific Hwy., Suite 162  
Tigard, OR 97224  
Ph: (503) 620-4919 FAX: (503) 624-2940