The Paragon Report



PARAGON COMPUTER'S free Publication with Information News and Views for ALL ATARI users
February 1991

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New Products



That's A Mouse Alternative ST/Amiga Mouse

Features:

* Super 290 dpi resolution.

* Plug in and go - no extra software or cabling

Quality manufacture - each That's a mouse is factory tested and carries a 12 month warranty.

* Supremely ergonomic design.

* Micro Switch Buttons - give a light, easy and

* High Quality Ball runs smoothly on most surfaces. * Durable - made from non-slip, toughened plastic.

* Minimal maintainance - incorporates a self cleaning

Long Cable - for left handed mouse users.

* Easily switchable for Atari ST or Amiga.

AT SPEED 286 AT IBM Emulation for the Atari ST

Screen Emulation

AT SPEED will emulate a number of the standard PC graphics display modes. These include

CGA Mono (Screen resolution 640 x 200)

CGA Colour (Screen resolution 320 x 200)

Hercules (Screen resolution 720 x 350)

Olivetti (Screen resolution 640 x 400) *EGA (Screen resolution 640 x 350) *VGA (Screen resolution 640 x 480)

Note: - When using an Atari ST in medium resolution on colour monitor only colour CGA emulation is available.

Floppy Disk

AT SPEED allows access to an internal floppy disk drive as either a 360k sigle sided or a 720k double sided drive. Additionally a second double sided drive can be accessed as drive B:

Hard Disk

AT SPEED will support most hard disk drives which are Atari AHDI 3 compatible. Individual partitions can be accessed up to 32MB in size with up to 24 hard disk partitions. DOS can be installed to auto-boot from the hard disk.

Mouse Support

AT SPEED supports mice attached to the ST's mouse port and standard serial PC mice. Both the ST mouse and PC compatible serial mouse are configured using AT SPEED software.

Hardware Support
AT SPEED gives 640k of free DOS memory on an ST with at least 1MB of RAM. Additional memory can be accessed as Extended Memory.

Printer Support

AT SPEED can print through the standard ST parallel port as well as print to the Atari SLM804 Laser printer when configured as a Diablo compatible printer.

Clock Support

AT SPEED system software automatically transfers the time set under TOS to DOS.

AT SPEED package includes, AT SPEED board, PC System disk, 60 page manual including detailed fitting instructions and a section introducing DOS, IC sockets to connect the AT SPEED to an ST or Mega ST, registration card.

Optional Extras

STE adaptor which allows AT SPEED to be fitted to an STE - no soldering required. Speed Bridge which eliminates the need to solder AT SPEED to a Mega ST.

System Requirements

Any Atari ST, a colour monitor or monochrome monitor, DOS 2.0 or higher. A double sided internal or external disk drive is recommended. Note: When using an Atari ST in medium resolution on colour monitor only colour CGA emulation is available.

Most specifications of AT SPEED also apply to PC SPEED except where printed below.

PC SPEED XT IBM Emulation for the Atari ST

Screen Emulation

PC SPEED will emulate a number of the standard PC graphics display modes. These include

- CGA Mono (Screen resolution 640 x 200)
- CGA Colour (Screen resolution 320 x 200)
- Hercules (Screen resolution 720 x 350)
- Olivetti (Screen resolution 640 x 400)

Note: - When using an Atari ST in medium resolution on colour monitor only colour CGA emulation is available.

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20 St	79.95	Clip Art Disk 4	35.00
b Animator	39.95	Club Backgammon	39.00
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5.25 H/D Disks 1.6Meg	39.95	ST monitor plugs	
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software/hardware item	quantity	item cost	total cost
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50 VC		PORCH IZ Amingster	A.
14.95		attle Zone	8
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prefered method of payment:			Y
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cheque: please state cheque number:		080/210	N.
money order: please state order number	er:	70100 E	
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	ST Protector	14.95	
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Welcome to the eleventh edition of THE PARAGON REPORT

The magazine of *PARAGON COMPUTERS* Pty Ltd. Australia's largest ATARI only dealer





THE PARAGON REPORT contains news, reviews and information for Atari ST users in Australia, New Zealand, U.S.A. Canada, Germany, England, Holland and Sweden.

The magazine is produced in house using the Paragon Desktop Publishing Solution, consisting of an ATARI Mega4. Megafile 44 hard drive. SLM804 laser printer, QMS Postscript Laser printer, Hawk 432 Scanner, Augur OCR, Migraph scanner, PageStream, Calamus, Lantech Network system and Imagen Post Script Software.

The information for the magazine is compiled using the latest in human technology, Eyes and Ears.

Thank you to all the ST users for the moral support and for the kind remarks on the previous issues of PARAGON REPORT, (please keep it up). Due to numerous requests from readers of previous issues, we have included a list of our ST software, we would like to remind readers that our ST software list is updated every 3 days due to the arrival of new software, we also have specials on most software at the end of the month, to make room for new stock. Please call for the latest ST software and special list

We welcome any feedback on THE PARAGON REPORT and any comments, suggestions, articles reviews or news can be sent to (The Editor) c/o PARAGON COMPUTERS or leave a message on PARAGON BBS on (09) 325 5160 (its free) or phone (09) 221 3216. / 3lines. (human response). 9am - 5.30pm W.A.S.T. Monday to Friday. 9am - 12pm W.A.S.T. Saturday. or Fax on (09) 325 8251. 24 hrs.

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A STA

Psssst!



New products from Atari this year will be TT030, Mega STE, Another Stereo monitor for the STE, a new version of GDOS, a new version of Word Flair, a new Laser printer, a Notebook computer

Developers are now working on a 386SX emulation board for the Atari TT.

Atari will be shipping STE's with soldered in RAM very soon now in Oz, the suggestion is, if you were thinking of upgrading from your STFM to an STE, do it now, this way an upgrade to 4 Meg is easier now than it will be very soon.

Atari will be showing a note book style computer at the Hannover show in March, unfortunatly at this time I cannot say if it will be based on a 68000, 68030, 80286, or 80386, I have heard it will be THIN.

Commodore have announced that it intends to reduce the company's work force in the United States by about 10% or 250 to 300 people of its 3,000 employees world wide. Already a number of layoffs have occurred within the Australian subsidiary.

Atari U.S. have fired all of their sales staff (Now he will have to find another job, ed).

The revolving door at Atari Corp turns again, who will appear this week? no other but Greg Pratt, Greg has spend many many years with the Tramiels and hopefully knows his way around them more than most, this can be good for the U.S. market, we watch with renewed interest. In the 10 seconds taken to write this paragraph, another rumour is that yet another General Manager may be recruted from Germany, look out behind Greg!

Atari and third-party developers have unveiled 14 new software titles for the Portfolio. These include Power BASIC, Portfolio Stock Tracker, Turbo Translator, Personal Finance, Scientific Calculator, Bridge Baron, Wine Companion, Portfolio Astrologer, Chess, Hyperlist, Diet/Cholesterol Counter, Spell Checker /Dictionary/Thesaurus.

ISD, publishers of Calamus and DynaCADD have now released a version of DynaCADD for the Amiga. Versions for the Apple Macintosh and UNIX workstations are planned for release

in the near future. With versions already on the ST and MSDOS platforms, DynaCADD is rapidly becoming a new performance standard in the CADD arena.

Version 2.1 of Page Stream for the ST is being worked on flat our by SoftLogic, now that version 2.1 of Page Stream is finished on the Amiga. They say that they are going to correct the spelling mistakes in the ST 2.1 manual before release, (maybe they think that anyone who uses an Amiga for DeskTop Publishing won't notice the spelling mistakes, ed).

The 16 Bit Computer Fair at the Novotel in London was again a great success for the massive games playing U.K. market, very few developers were seen, as usual, with around 120 dealers selling the same games as one another at various discount prices, nothing new was shown at the show from Atari U.K.

Nevin Shalit (Tracker ST U.S.) informs me that the funniest thing he saw at the Comdex show in the U.S. was Jack Tramiel pointing and saying, "what's that?" and son Sam Tramiel replying, "That's the new Mega STE."

Following the current sales trends in Europe. Atari will release the TT030 in Australia in either of two configurations: 4 Meg of memory with a 50 meg HD and 8 meg of memory with an 80 meg HD.

Atari have relocated the firm's entertainment division to the Chicago area. All Lynx and 2600/7800 developement and support will be provided from these offices.

The rumor is that Atari Oz are going to bring over Nathan Potechnin from ISD Canada for the release of Calamus SL on the TT 030, he may be travelling the country doing workshops on TT/Calamus SL DeskTop Publishing Systems. Is this going to be the first professional step into the professional DTP area for Atari Oz? Will they be equiped to handle the sales created by Nathan on his tour?

Question:

Does HiSoft's ST Lattice C version 5 Developers pack really come with 7 double sided disks, 3 manuals and a box over 3 inches deep?

Answer: Yes.



From the Teknishuns Bench



At last! Another Paragon report and with it comes a chance to clear the confusion over the STe models and Hard disk drives. I want this to be the definitive discussion about the subject so that it can be finally put to bed and we can all get on with using this great new machine to its greatly increased capabilities.

Lets begin by being brutally honest, OK? There IS a problem with the STe and Hard disk drives All of the early builds, All models of hard drive. Not as some reports would have you believe some STes and non Atari drives, but (read my lips) ALL of them. The latest builds are claimed by the company to be fully reliable, and our testing indicates that they are correct.

How can you tell if your machine is affected? Turn it over and in the middle you will see a sticker with a large number stamped on it. The pattern of this number is:- ?? ?? ??????? where "??" are numeric (and occasionally alpha) characters and "_" are spaces. The two characters with a space either side are the ones to examine, they tell you when it was built in terms of the batch. A couple of examples will illustrate the coding. A _9C_ shows that the computer was built in the "C" month of '89, and those who are familiar with Hexadecimal numbers know that "C" hexadecimal is the decimal number 12, so the date code is December '89. A _05 is the fifth month of '90, or build batch May 1990. With me so far? Good!

Information from the company says that builds AFTER July 1990 are OK, and our testing so far verifies this. If your machine is in the early batches, read on. If not, relax and skip this article!

OK, if you're still with me you will want to know exactly what the symptoms of the problem are. If you do not own a Hard Disk, there is nothing to be concerned about, you have one hellava machine, enjoy it! If you plan on buying a Hard disk unit some time later get it fixed then.

For those with Hard Disk Drives the problem is described as Scrambled F.A.T. Syndrome, or "F'd Fats" for the enraged and crude ones. (They're the ones with Megabytes of data down the drain and no backup for most of it, usually weeping and wailing at the same time). What the end user sees goes something like this:- Everything has been going well, maybe for months then during some manipulation of files between partitions or saving to hard disk from within an application a message like "This Application cannot find the folder or file you just tried to access". Such a message is usually harmless but this time the folder is gone or else when an attempt is made to access it bombs appear and the machine is either back at the desktop or locked up altogether. A wise action is to save the file to a floppy (if possible, UGGHH!) and shut the system down IMMEDIATELY! Such action will minimize the damage.

Perhaps the story of my own first encounter with the STe hard drive problem will illustrate the importance of early recognition and appropriate action when dealing with the situation.

We at Paragon had one of the first STe computers in Australia (no discussions on how we did it, please). This unit was not on public display but was being used in developmental work and so was inevitably connected to the "Tech's Hard Drive" which is a unit choc full of files that are used for system development and diagnostics. Some of these programs could be considered "dangerous" in the hands of inexperienced users because they have the ability to write directly to disks (floppy or hard) without the usual supervision by the Operating System. So when the poor ole tech lost his programs in late 1989 everyone dismissed the report with "it looks like you were not careful enough - a victim of using your 'blow up any disk' equipment!"

"But I was only using GEM to reorganize my files", I said, but anyway the files were gone. What had happened? Well I had been moving some files from one partition to another when the message about not being able to find the folder or file appeared. The files inside that folder were important so the copy process was continued but one level deeper, inside the folder. The message soon came again and was traced to one folder at one level deeper (the folder inside the folder) and when that particular folder was accessed, there was a crash and reboot, back to the desktop. At that early stage I suspected something like the old 40 folder limit, although this had been fixed in the earlier TOS 1.4 operating system (and also the STe TOS). The system was switched off, and back on after a pause of several seconds but that particular folder caused a crash whenever an attempt was made to open it.



From the Teknishuns Bench



So it looked like there was some physical damage on the hard disk (still not suspecting the new STe) so I began to move files away from that partition ready to zero it and do a markbad. As you might have guessed it was only another few minutes before the message appeared again and by now there were also folders on the destination partition that caused a crash when accessed. The feelings of panic got stronger as every attempt to "rescue" a file from one area of the hard disk and put it elsewhere seemed to show damage over more and more of the hard disk. Eventually there was virtually nothing left worth saving so it was time to reformat the whole thing. This presented an even greater horror as the drive itself seemed to have hundreds of bad sectors, so many in fact that the format was aborted (by the software). That was enough bad news for one day and the system was switched off and put to one side.

The next day the drive seemed to have cured itself because all went well during the format but a few days later (after many files were entrusted to the drive again) the problem turned up again. Fortunately by then the STe was needed for other things and the Tech's Hard Drive was formatted and rebuilt with an STfm, the problem went away and was forgotten until the reports started coming in from people in the UK with the same symptoms. Atari U.K. said that the problem would only occur with third party hard drives (this is not correct). U.S end users thought that the problem was associated with modifications required to the STE to pass U.S. FCC regulations. Over the next several weeks the exact cause of this damage to files on Hard disks was unravelled as STe owners around the world consulted each other to come up with the common threads. The details go like this.

The STe has a much improved time factor when communicating with Hard disks and other DMA devices because a lot of tweeking has gone on in the operating System software. As a result the DMA chip runs slightly hotter than in the older models and errors can be introduced into the data flow. For quite a while we thought that only some machines had the problem but Phil (is there NOTHING that that man Reeves can't do?) wrote a program to write files all over a hard drive, delete them and repeat the process continuosly which was able to produce the fault in every STe but not Megas or STfms.

Now some were worse than others in that they failed almost immediately but even the few STes that we had believed were OK would fail we they got just that little bit hotter when the burning West Coast afternoon sun came in through our western windows. Some would go all day, writing and deleting thousands of files and folders several levels deep until that extra heat got to them, although the old STfms could take it with no worries.

If you find hard disk damage when using an STe you should shut down immediately because that should limit the damage to one file or folder. When the system is cool again you should be able to recover most of the files to floppy. The damaged folder or file will cause a crash if you try to access it even on a non STe computer.

The fix for the problem is very easy. Take it to an Atari authorized warranty repair centre and they will change the DMA chip for a new type. This new chip is only for the STe and will cause problems if fitted to a Mega (we don't know about STfms), so there are now two DMA chips, one for the STe and another for the rest.

Please do not ask for the modification unless you have a Hard Drive; at Paragon (at least) we do not stock a huge number of these chips and use them sparingly to help those with hard disks. In fact we would probably ask to see your drive and make a note of its serial number before doing the repair on your STe because there is no need for any changes unless your machine is connected to a hard drive.

Old farmer's saying "If something is working, DON'T FIX IT!!!"

Good advice, I reckon!

By Trev Holland The Paragon Report February 1991



Review HiSoft Lattice C V5

by Arnd Hurlbrink for the Paragon Report. Feb 1991

Background A number of years back, in the 1970s, Dennis Ritchie invented and implemented the C language on a PDP-11, using the Unix operating system. The development of C has its roots in the older, but still widely used BCPL, which in turn was influenced by B. Because it is considered a middle level language and offers access to a vast amount of functions, C has been used to write high performance software like word-processors and even operating systems. Incidentally, TOS was written in C. More recently, the C language has gained its popularity for being a very powerful, easy-to-learn, general purpose programming language. The Atari ST range of computers is blessed with several good compilers, among them Metacombo C, and its successor, Laser C, Turbo C, HiSoft C Interpreter and now Lattice C

Overview of Lattice C Version 5 Inside the 220mm x 205mm x 85mm grey box, along with the usual licence agreement and registration card, you get a neat little wallet containing 7 double sided disks (yes, you read right), three large handbooks of about 300 pages each and an installation guide.

The Environment Having made a backup of a seven disks, the system already worked reasonably well by just booting up on disk one, which creates a ram disk and automatically copies all library and include files onto it, taking up about a minute. Clicking on the main program loads the integrated environment with all the usual functions. Up to four text files may be

viewed at once and scrolling of text is very smooth. Browsing through the menu, there are a multitude of options. A powerful feature is that up to ten programs may be installed as tools, which may then be run without leaving the comforts of the editor. But, before any serious work could be done, the program needed to be installed properly and this was easily done by running the installation program,

which in turn created two more disks. The environment is rather memory-hungry. The almost essential ram disk already requires 300K, thus owners of a 512K machine won't be able to run the integrated environment, but HiSoft hasn't left those users in the dark and also have included a cut down version of the editor and a powerful command line interface. On a 1M system compiling is a breeze, as the environment loads without any problems. With the default settings compiling takes about 30 seconds. The settings can be changed so the ram disk is used, reducing the time to about 10 seconds. The ram disk has about 50K free, just large enough for one or two programs. If the system should crash due to an error, all is not lost, as the ram disk is reset-proof. I expect

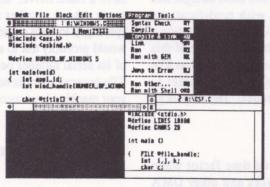
similar results using a hard disk. If you have a second or a hard disk, running the tools is no problem at all, once they are installed properly. If you have only one drive like me, you can still install them on drive B: and the system simply asks for your work and tools disk whenever it is needed. If your machine has more that 1M, then you can reconfigure the ram disk and put the tools on it as well, and the best part is, that if they are located on the boot disk they will be loaded automatically.

The C compiler The C compiler which is usually run from the integrated environment, can be used just as well by itself using the TOS command line, the supplied command line interface, or the cut down version of the editor. The compiler has over 80 options, from the amount of debugging information to include, whether to optimise for speed or space or to invoke the linker. There is even a built in make utility. You also have the option for what processor of the 68000 range to generate code for and if it should make use of a maths coprocessor chip. This will be be of particular interest to Atari TT users, when it becomes available. (In fact HiSoft have tested the whole package and guarantees that it will work on a TT.) Since there are so many options, lowercase and uppercase characters have to be used in the command line. This poses a small problem for TOS 1.0 users, as it automatically converts the command line from the desktop to uppercase, but this had been foreseen and has been provided for. As you can see, the people at HiSoft have taken great care to iron out any potential problems the user might have with the software.

The Libraries The libraries are the most extensive I

have ever seen in any implementation of C or for any other programming language. Since it is designed to conform with the ANSI standard, the standard library files are included to make any new programs written compatible to other ANSI C compiler systems. Since there is a lot of older C code using the classic C and Unix functions, which have not been included in the new standard, a majority of

these have been implemented as well. There is the Lattice function library which offers routines to make use of ST specific system resources, like a maths coprocessor. Finally there are the ST specific functions in the operating system which may also be accessed. There are a couple of calls, particularly Unix functions which could not be implemented, but a suitable alternative has been devised to keep in the spirit of the original function. An example of this is Unix C's fork function, which makes a duplicate of the current process to run as a child process. The child is then usually made to copy a new program over itself and execute it, via one of the exec calls. In the Lattice C counterpart of the unix calls, there are several fork calls that simply combine the two. To save space and consequently



Review HiSoft Lattice C V5

time, the header files have been compressed into a non-readable format, which the compiler can still use. The uncompressed files are located on the tools disk and a compression utility has also been provided.

The Optimiser An interesting tool provided is the optimiser, which loads an intermediate file, produced by the compiler and changes it to make the final code run more efficiently. Unfortunately, it uses a lot of memory and won't run at all if you have less than 1M. Even with 1M, you can only use it, while in the environment with very small programs. Fortunately, the optimiser can be run via the command line interface with no problems. Features of the optimiser include elimination of code that never executes and sections of code, which need to be executed only once, are moved outside loops.

The Command Line Interface The command line interface is quite powerful as batch files and environment variables can be set up. If you only have 512K, then your best course of action would be to invoke the compiler using batch file and redirecting any error messages to a file and then run the editor with the original source and the redirected file. Of course the command line interface can be used by anyone prefering an more Unix-like environment.

The Resource Editor Included in the package is HiSoft's latest version of Wercs, one of the most powerful resource editors, which by itself retails at A\$64.95. It has all the usual features and the more advanced ones, like auto naming of objects and moving images into menus. An original feature is that you can test any resource you have created with the touch of a button, which also displays the number and name of the object clicked to exit.

The Debugger Another powerful tool is the debugger. Users of HiSoft's DevpacST 2 Assembler will be right at home here. It is a full 68000 object level debugger, which you can use to trace the instructions of any program. It sets up its own screen and screen driver so as not to interfere with the program being tested. The disadvantage of the debugger is, that it takes a good working knowledge of the 68000 instruction set to fully comprehend of what is going on. As a help, the debugger can also load the source code which can be viewed while debugging. According to the manual, a more useful C source level debugger is under development and may be available in later versions of the program.

The Assembler Also included is a stand-alone assembler. Although, it is not as powerful as DevpacST 2, it can assemble 68010/20/30 instructions. Fortunately, the directives are largely compatible between the two assemblers, making porting of working routines quite easy. Users of Devpac should note that the C compiler produces GST object files as an option, but defaults to the

Lattice C linkable object file type for efficiency. The assembler can only create Lattice C linkable files. The Disassembler The disassembler produces an assembly listing of an object file. This one has the option of interspersing lines of the original C source code into the listing where it is applicable. This makes the object code much more understandable and a printout of this is an invaluable guide when using the debugger.

Other tools There is also a Linker for GST object files to make this version of C compatible with DevpacST and a host of other languages. Also there is a object module librarian, which combines several object files into one. Other programs include a symbol strip utility, resource file converter, and a program that converts Degas and Neochrome pictures into resource files and compactor for header files.

The Documentation As mentioned above, there are three volumes of instructions and an installation guide. The first book are the instructions on how to use the environment, compiler and all the tools that are on the disks. The book is divided into easy to find sections. There are lots of summaries, like a list of all compiler options, the VT52 screen codes and the Atari ST ASCII table. Best of all, there is a list of all the major references on C and 68000 programming, algorithms and ST specific features. The other two books describe the vast array of function calls available. The first contains the Ansi, Lattice and Unix functions, the other the ST specific GEMDOS, BIOS, XBIOS, Line-A, VDI and AES calls. A page or more is devoted to a function, which describes its exact declaration, what to files include, related functions and any special problems associated with the call. It is also good to see a number of examples to try out. The installation guide gives some hints and tips how you should best set up the system and includes a list of contents of all the disks so any file can be found relatively quickly. The documentation is definitely first rate and so complete and up to date that additional references are hardly required.

Summary The Lattice C programming language is an excellent choice for programming projects of all sizes. With an astounding number of options and utilities, it comes together quite nicely. The whole package is very well organized and it is evident that a lot of work has gone into it. Of course, the higher the specification of the machine, the better it becomes. In general, Lattice C is a program that will grow with you and on you.

Reviewed by Arnd Hurlbrink for the Paragon Report February 1991



A Day in the life of The Paragon BBS

Message : 8405 [Open] 1-12-91 11:19pm

From : David Brook
To : Chris Parker (x)
Subject : #8384 Hardrive woes
Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

There is 1 reply

Is it possible to get an RLL controller then, to turn a 20Mb into a 30Mb, or alternatively since the ST225 appears to be an 80ms mechanism, can one get a 30 or 40 MFM mechanism with better access times?

Message : 8418 [Open] 1-14-91 9:59pm

From : Chris Parker
To : David Brook (x)
Subject : #8405 Hardrive woes
Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

There is 1 reply

Yes, you should be able to get an RLL controller, but I have no idea what it will cost you. The alternative, as you suggest, is to buy a faster MFM mechanism and stick to the existing controller. That's what I intend to do at some stage. I have a 20Meg mechanism and I want to get hold of a 40Meg mechanism.

Chris

Message : 8425 [Open] 1-15-91 11:06pm

From : Steve Quartly
To : Peter Smith
Subject : Winner

Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

HI Peter

Well you've done it again!

Yup you've won this months Trivology. Congratulations! If you see Phil at Paragon, he will give you your prize.

See ya,

Steve O.

Message : 8429 [Open] 1-16-91 5:13am

From : David Jewell
To : Mark Brinkworth (x)
Subject : #8406 Mega STe

Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

There is 1 reply

Thanks Mark, Pardon my ignorance on the terminology of TT. I also heard that it stood for thirty thirty which I think refers to the year that it will become available. Everyone says that Atari got something right by releasing it with a 32Mhz clock

instead of only 16MHz but it actually only has the slower bus rate so that the 32MHz rating on the whole machine is a bit of a furphy. Maybe their next version will be faster? Maybe that's the model we're all waiting for? Don't hold your breath though.

cheers David...

Message : 8431 [Open] 1-16-91 5:22am

From : David Jewell
To : Mark Brinkworth (x)
Subject : #8415 For Sale
Sig(s) : 10 (Market Place)

There is 1 reply

What's this!!! Someone trying to sell New Zealand for \$15. What a rip off. NZ's not worth that much, although it might be soon. I just heard that the Kiwis have just discovered 2 new uses for sheep....... Meat and Wool.

David...

Message : 8434 [Open] 1-17-91 1:47am

From : Mark Brinkworth
To : David Jewell (x)
Subject : #8429 Mega STe
Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

Umm, TT stands (really) for Thirty Two Thirty Two (as the ST stood for Sixteen Thirty Two). As I understand it, the bus rate is still 16 MHz, they only bumped the 68030 up.

Cheers, Mark

Message : 8436 [Open] 1-17-91 3:21pm

From : Robert Alley
To : Trevor Holland

Subject : STe

Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

There is 1 reply

I have tracked my hard drive problems down to the old STe hard drive bug. After hours of testing I have only ever got the problems to appear when using the STe, the old FM worked fine (No auto programs or accessories either). Can you still swap my dodgey model for a better one or will I have to chase Atari? Thanks, Rob.

Message : 8437 [Open] 1-17-91 3:40pm

From : Simon Haynes
To : Chris Parker (x)
Subject : #8383 ansi cont
Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

A Day in the life of The Paragon BBS

Yeah, doesn't seem like a huge task to build in ansi compatibility into terminal programs. You won't get the colour, but so what?

Simon

Message : 8439 [Open] 1-18-91 11:04am

From : Robert Alley
To : David Mccay (x)
Subject : #8433 GEMINIUK.LZH
Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

There is 1 reply

Well today I had to unarc this file again (Lovely harddrive problems) and it wouldnt unarc on my old FM, however it works fine on my STe, using FASTLZH 1.6. It seems that creating the folders doesnt work on the old TOS version for some reason and some of the other LZH formats just dont seem to be able to handle folders within archives. What version of TOS do you use? Since GEMINI only works on TOS versions 1.2 onwards.

Rob.

Message : 8440 [Open] 1-18-91 12:24pm

From : Trev Holland
To : Robert Alley (x)
Subject : #8436 STe
Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

There is 1 reply

Your Ste will be fixed under warranty, just bring it in, leave it and I'll do it (24hrs)

Irev

Message : 8441 [Open] 1-18-91 12:49pm

From : Robert Smith

To : All Subject : GFA

Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

Wanted,,, fellow Atari GFA programmers in Perth area interested in contacting another GFA learner. Contact Mick (no modem) on 527--3605. ASAP. Looking forward to your calls.... cheers Mick.

Message : 8443 [Open] 1-18-91 4:18pm

From : David Mccay
To : Robert Alley (x)

Subject: #8435 GEMINIUK.LZH

Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

There are 2 replies

Thanks Rob, I'll try again. I just keep getting "unable to open (folder\file) etc" But I can unarc the files not stored in folders it seems, although in the shell

program I have the "Include Subdirectories" option selected... HHmmnn back to the drawing board. Thanks again

Dmc

From : Phil Reeves
To : David Jewell (x)
Subject : #8431 For Sale
Sig(s) : 10 (Market Place)

Here's another,

What do Iraq and Hiroshima have in common ?????

Phil.

Message : 8459 [Open] 1-19-91 5:40pm

From : Adam Guerin

To : Mark Brinkworth (x)
Subject : #8414 BBS Software
Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

There is 1 reply

Umm, what specifically do you mean by 'PD' and 'Commercial', I'm new to this, sorry!

Adam

Message : 8463 [Open] 1-20-91 2:09am

From: Mark Brinkworth
To: Adam Guerin
Subject: #8459 BBS Software

Subject : #8459 BBS Softwar Sig(s) : 1 (Public Access)

Some BBS software is available from Public domain sources (even though some people have rather quaint ideas about what public domain actually means), and therefore can be obtained fairly cheaply.

Commercial software, from which people want to make a living (another quaint idea really) and therefore you have to pay for the software.

Anyway, have you any ideas what you want this BBS software to do. (i.e. what features?)

Cheers, Mark



The PARAGON BBS
It's FREE for all Atari ST Users
Call (09) 325 5160. 24hrs

New Products

Atari TT Specs

Architecture.

* CPU: Motorola 68030 running at 32Mhz.

* On-chip cacheand MMU.

* Bus: 64-bit memory; 32 bit data; 32 bit address. * FPU: MC68882 at 32Mhz.

* RAM: 2 MB expandable to 26 MB.

* ROM: 512 Kbyte internal; 128 Kbyte external plug in ROM.

Keyboard.

* Standard QWERTY keyboard format.

* Low profile, sculptured ergonomic design.

* 94 keys, 10 function keys.

* Separate numeric and cursor keypad.

* Keyboard processor to reduce CPU overhead.

Mouse.

* Supplied as standard.

* 2-button control.

* High precision, nonslip ball motion sensor.

* Removable ball for easy cleaning.

Operating System.

* TOS operating system implemented entirely in

* Hierarchical file system with subdirectories and pathnames.

Icon-based user interface, with self-explanatory command functions.

Interface includes icons, multiwindowing, window resizing/repositioning/closing, and pull down

* Interface can be customised by user.

Software.

* New Desktop with enhanced features such as installing custom icons onto the desktop to represent drives, program or files.

New Control Panel desk accessory with built in programs such as colour setup, sound setup, and the mouse accelerator.

Input/Output Ports.

* All ports built in.

* MIDI IN MIDI OUT

* Audio out; 2xRCA jacks for left and right channels.

* Connector for colour, momochrome, or high resolution monitor.

*2 x modem / RS232C serial ports.

* 1 x RS232 serial port capable of split baud rates.

* 1 x high speed DMA serial port or LAN port.

* Internal A24/D16 VME card slot.

* Parallel printer port (8 bit parallel).

* External floppy drive port.

* External DMA port for hard disk, CD ROM and laser printer.

* Cartridge port (128 Kbyte capacity)

* SCSI port with Direct Memory Access (DMA).

Graphics.

* TT high resolution: 1280 x 960 monochrome.

* TT medium resolution: 640 x 480 x 16 colours.

*TT low resolution: 320 x 480 x 256 colours.

ST high resolution: 640 x 400 x 2 colours user selectable.

* ST medium resolution: 640 x 200 x 4 colours.

* ST low resolution: 320 x 200 x 16 colours.

* Colour palette: 4096 colours.

* Text display: 80 column.

* Hardware horizontal and vertical scrolling on pixel

Sound and Music.

* 6 programmable sound channels.

* Frequency programmable to 25 Khz.

* Stereo DMA sound engine: built in 2 channel digital / analog converter (DAC); play back digitised samples at rates between 6 Khz and 59 Khz on 2 channels; programmable volume/tone, control/balance.

* Programmable sound generator (PSG); 3 tone generators; 2 noise generators; dynamic envelope

shaping; wave shaping.

* Includes Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI) for connection to music synthersisers, sequencers, drum boxes and other devices with MIDI interfaces.

Floppy Disk Drives.

* 3.5 inch, double sided, 720 Kbyte.

* MS DOS format compatibility.

SC4321 STE Stereo **Colour Monitor**

Features

* RGB analog connector DB15 female.

* L/R stereo channels with inbuilt speakers and volume control.

* Separate Luma and Chroma inputs for composite video input - connect your VCR.

* Sound output connector.

* Sound input connector - left and right channels.

* Input signal switch - green display, RGB, Video.

Contrast, brightness, intensity colour display controls.

* Tilt swivel base.

The flexible input and output connectors on the SC4321 enable the Atari unit to be used with other computers, ie, MS-DOS (CGA only); Commodore Amiga/C64 and as a remote monitor for connection to a VCR recorder