07ef6fe8-0

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Chapter 1

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1.1   MUI Aminet Download Tool

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                                  MUIAdt v1.3
              by Jem Atahan (atahanc@cs.curtin.edu.au)

      This program is Public Domain. Do with it as you will.



              What is MUIAdt?

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```

1.2   What is MUIAdt?

```
          For many years now, Amiga users worldwide have used adt, by Urban  ←
              D. Mueller,
from their UNIX accounts, to access Aminet. Although this was quite neat, and
a damn sight better than FTP, you still had to get the files you adt'd from
your UNIX account, to your Amiga.

Recently, the forces of nature, and a few hard working individuals, conspired
to produce two glittering new pieces of software,
              AmiTCP
               and
```

                    MUI
                     . After
revelling in the wonder of these creations for a while, it occured to me to
harness their forces and create a program to interface with the endless bounty
that is Aminet, from the homely comfort that is your Amiga. That program was
MUIAdt, and this is its story.

1.3 Requirements

              To use MUIAdt, you will need to have installed:

              AmiTCP
               V2.0+

              MUI
               V2.0+
      A UNIX
              uncompress
               command of some sort.
      Some sort of TCP/IP network connection.

Memory:
     The amount of memory MUIAdt uses varies depending on your usage. To use
the Recent and New view modes (last 14 days of uploads) you will need about
300 K free, but to view the complete listing, you will need about 1.2 megs.
Its a big list :-), and its growing all the time. If you don't have enough
memory to view a list, it will be truncated.

1.4 Installation

If you previously ran MUIAdt v1.0, you should delete the env:MUIAdt.prefs
file, otherwise no hosts will show up.

MUIAdt itself requires no installation, simply copy it to where you want.

Before you can use MUIAdt, however, you must have your uncompress command of
choise somewhere in its path. If you are starting MUIAdt from Workbench, it
will only inherit the Workbench path, which won't notice any "path add"'s
after 'loadwb'. You can, of course, simply specify the entire path to the
uncompress command in the Uncompress Command: configuration option.

1.5 Usage

              When you start MUIAdt, you should get a window that looks a bit ←
               like this:

              _____
      |_|_____|_|_|_|
      | _____ _ |

```
        | |  Name    Dir Size       Description       || ||
        | |                                           || ||
        | |                                           || ||
        | |                                           || ||
        | |                                           || ||
        | |                                           || ||
        | |                                           || ||
        | |                                           || ||
        | |                                           || ||
        | |_____||_||
        |                                                 |
        |
              Sort

              View

              Readme

              Name

              Download

              Host

              Config

              Quit
               |
     |_____|
```

The listview in this window is a regular MUI listview that allows
multiselection. By default you must press <shift> between selections, but you
can of course change this behavior with the MUI prefs program.

1.6 Sort

This cycle gadget allows you to chose the method the filelist will be sorted
by. There are three options, Name, Age and Dir.

```
    Name - sort alphabetically by file name.
    Age  - sort by file age (newest to oldest).
    Dir  - sort alphabetically by file directory.
```

1.7 View

This cycle gadget allows you to chose the filelist to view. The four options
are:

```
    New    - view new files since your last login.
    Recent - view the entire RECENT list (last 14 days).
    All    - view the complete file list.
```

        Tagged - view the files you have tagged.

Each of these options represents a new listview object in MUI. This is
normally transparent, however, when switching between viewing modes, tagged
files will only remain tagged if they are present in the new listview. For
example, if you are viewing the complete list, and change the view mode to
Recent, any files you have tagged on the complete list that are not present
on the Recent list will be untagged if you go back to the complete list.

The Tagged view mode is a special case. Selecting Tagged view mode will show
you all the files you have tagged. You can then select files in the tagged
listview, and view their readmes or download them, but if you change view
mode back to New, Recent or All, all the files in the Tagged listview will be
selected, not just the ones you selected in the Tagged listview. Er, just try
it :-)

1.8   Readme

Selecting the Readme gadget will download the readme for each file selected
and display it. There are two buttons available, Next and Cancel. Next will
get and show the next selected readme, or return you to the filelist if there
is none, and Cancel will return you directly to the filelist.

1.9   Name

The Name, or name search gadget will open a popup window with a string gadget
and two buttons in it. To search for a file, enter a substring in the string
gadget and press return, or click on Next. If the string is found, the
listview will move to the matching file which will be highlighted by the
cursor. Press Next to search again, or Cancel to close the popup.

1.10   Download

To download the files you have selected, press the Download gadget. The
window will change to hold a listview showing the files yet to be downloaded,
a gauge indicating how much of the current file has been downloaded, and an
Abort button. The download will start immediately, and will continue until all
the files have been transfered, or you press the Abort button. Any files
which wheren't successfully downloaded will remain selected.

1.11   Host

The host button will open a window containing a list of hosts you can connect
to and a number of buttons. To connect to a host, double click on it, or
select it and press the Connect button. The Cancel button will close the
hosts window, but will not abort a connection attempt.

You may add and delete hosts to the list using the Add and Delete buttons.
The Add button will open a window with three string gadgets. You can put
anything in the first, labeled Country, a description, whatever you want, but
the Site and Directory gadgets should hold a valid hostname or IP address and
a correct directory if you want the connection to work. The Directory string
should be the path to the Aminet archive, eg. pub/aminet.

1.12   Config

The Config button opens a window which allows your to change the basic
configuration of MUIAdt. It contains the following gadgets :

   (The first two options don't apply immediately, they are saved in the
config file for next time.)

    Default Sort by – chose the default sort mode.

    Default View by – chose the default view mode. If this
                     is All, the initial filelist
                     downloaded on connection will be the
                     complete listing (big)!

    Download Directory   – where to put the downloaded
                       files.

    Temporary Direectory – where to put the temporary
                     files. These can take up quite
                     a bit of space, so I recomend
                     putting them on disk somewhere.

    Uncompress Command   – the command to prepend to a file
                     to be uncompressed (can include
                     switches).
                     eg. "uncompress" or "gzip -d"

    Done   – close the config window.

1.13   Quit

Quitting MUIAdt will save the current preferences and last file downloaded in
the config file MUIAdt.prefs. It will be written to env: and envarc: so it
will stick around.

1.14   Bugs

There are a couple of problems with MUIAdt as it stands.

The FTP login code seems to be particularaly sensitive to net lag. Errors
like "Remote protocol error, startup message wrong" and even "Error
downloading RECENT list" seem to occur in quantity. If errors like this occur,

try again, and again, as the second or third try will usually work.

Some of the calls to AmiTCP can take quite a while to complete, during which
time, MUIAdt seems to have hung. The only solution I see is to do all the
AmiTCP stuff in a seperate process...

Also, the thing with the selected files not being maintained between view
modes bugs me. The only solutions I can think of are kludgy and susceptable
to stuff ups, or damned expensive in terms of memory and processing.

If you have anything to add, please feel free to contact me and really make
my day :-)

1.15 Future Plans

- adt v2 stuff

- local archiving and updating of the LONG list

- Localisation

- Client/server mode for non TCP people (suckers ;-))

- Built in fish

1.16 Errors - What do they mean?

OK, I think I have made the errors a bit more understandable, but here's a
bit of an explination.

"Error downloading RECENT list" :
    There was some problem getting the info/adt/RECENT.adt.Z
    file. Either it didn't exist or the transfer was killed
    somehow.

"Error downloading LONG list" :
    Ditto, except for the info/adt/SHORT.adt.Z.

"Error: Uncompress failed" :
    After a file list is downloaded, it is uncompressed
    using the uncompress command entered in the config
    window thusly: "<uncompress command> <file.Z>". If,
    after this returns, there isn't a file called <file>,
    ie. without the .Z extension, then something has gone
    wrong and this error is displayed. This may happen
    as a result of two things. Either a) the uncompress
    command wasn't found and executed, or b) the received
    file wasn't properly compressed. Situation a) can be
    fixed by putting the uncompress command somewhere in
    the path of MUIAdt, ie. c:, and situation b) can't be
    fixed. The site you have connected to hasn't currently
    got a valid file list. Try again tomorrow :-)

```
"FTP can't connect : Unknown Host" :
   The site you have tried to connect to is unreachable
   from your site, or perhaps it is off line.

"Remote protocol error, startup message wrong" :
   This means MUIAdt didn't get an appropriate response
   from the site it was trying to connect to. This seems
   to happen on some sites sometimes. I am almost sure
   its nothing to do with MUIAdt.

"Connection refused" :
   The site refused an anonymous ftp connection. It was
   probably full.

"Could not CD to directory <somepath>"
   The path for this host specified in the hosts window
   doesn't exist. If its one you entered, you got it wrong,
   but if its one of the default ones, this site is sick.
```

Any other messages are direct from AmiTCP and probably have something to do
with the site, or your network setup.

1.17   Thanks to...

Thanks to the following people:

```
   Urban D. Mueller   : for graciously allowing me to use
                         the tricky bits of UNIX adt.

   Beta Testers :

         Andreas Schildbach
         Dan Elvey
         Andrew Howell
```


1.18   Magic User Interface

```
                  This application uses


                  MUI - MagicUserInterface

            (c) Copyright 1993/94 by Stefan Stuntz
```

MUI is a system to generate and maintain graphical user interfaces. With the
aid of a preferences program, the user of an application has the ability to
customize the outfit according to his personal taste.

MUI is distributed as shareware. To obtain a complete package containing lots
of examples and more information about registration please look for a file

called "muiXXusr.lha" (XX means the latest version number) on your local
bulletin boards or on public domain disks.

        If you want to register directly, feel free to send

                            DM 30.- or US$ 20.-

                                  to

                            Stefan Stuntz
                        Eduard-Spranger-Straße 7
                            80935 München
                                GERMANY

1.19   AmiTCP

What Is AmiTCP/IP

The Programming Project is a software engineering course here at Helsinki
University of Technology. A group of 3---4 students designs, implements and
tests a complete working software system during this course.
    Our purpose was to provide a free TCP/IP implementation for all Amiga
users.   Lack of a standard networking interface was an irritating
shortcoming of the Amiga systems.
    AmiTCP/IP is a protocol stack implementing basic Internet protocols on top
of any SANA-II network device driver (for Ethernet, SLIP, etc.). The protocol
stack offers the standard Berkeley Socket application program interface (API)
to the TCP/IP protocols implemented as an Amiga shared library.
    Using AmiTCP/IP and appropriate client program you can connect to any
services available on your TCP/IP network.

1.20   Uncompress?

Compress is a compression standard used widely on UNIX, and other systems. It
is the one with the .Z extension. An Amiga version of compress is on aminet
as "util/pack/compress-4.0.lzh". This package contains a program, named
"compress". To get it to uncompress you seem to have to rename it
"uncompress" after which it works fine with MUIAdt.