

**004f0158-0**

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**COLLABORATORS**

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<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
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**REVISION HISTORY**

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# Chapter 1

## 004f0158-0

### 1.1 Wirenet Dashboard

#### Dashboard

The Wirenet Dashboard is designed to provide a friendly interface to your internet connection. It consists of a number of buttons to start various functions, some of these buttons have cycle gadgets alongside them to select options for the function. All of the buttons have keyboard shortcuts, indicated by the underlined letters.

The buttons are:

```
~Wirenet~Dashboard~  
  
~Connect~  
  
~Disconnect~  
  
~Get~  
  
~World~Wide~Web~  
  
~File~Transfer~  
  
~Browse~News~  
  
~Read~Mail~&~News~  
  
~Exit~  
  
~Quit~  
  
~Configuration~  
  
~What's~New~  
Wirenet Dashboard is (c) 1996 by  
~Neil~Bothwick~
```

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## 1.2 About

About Dashboard

This brings up some program information with an option for online help.

## 1.3 Connect

Connect

Dials into U-Net and puts you online. It has five options, selected from the cycle gadget:

Open	Go online and send any outstanding news or mail
Mail	As Open, plus fetches any mail in your mailbox
News	As Mail, but also gets all new News
AutoMail	As Mail and then automatically disconnects
AutoNews	As News and then automatically disconnects

## 1.4 Disconnect

Disconnect

Breaks your connection. After taking you offline, it processes any mail and news you may have received, ready to be viewed in Thor. It has two options

Now	Breaks the connection immediately
Wait	Waits until all sending/receiving of news/mail has finished before disconnecting

## 1.5 Get

Get

Fetches mail and/or news. The options are

Mail	Fetches new mail
News	Fetches new news
All	Fetches new mail and news

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## 1.6 World Wide Web

### World Wide Web

This starts up the AWeb browser.

For documentation on AWeb, just start it up and press the help key.

## 1.7 File Transfer

### File Transfer

This starts the AmiFTP program. Full documentation is in AmiFTP.guide. This is in the doc drawer of the Internet drawer, on the drive you selected for installation.

## 1.8 Browse News

### Browse News

This starts the ConnectThor program, to browse news just click on the Browse button.

You can then look through newsgroups online, downloading the headers and selecting which articles you want to fetch. This is of course much slower than automatically getting news, so it is probably best if you only use it in those newsgroups that contain large binary postings.

## 1.9 Read Mail & News

### Read Mail & News

Starts the Thor news and mail program.

You can then read your mail and news offline, without worrying about your phone bill. Any replies or postings you write will automatically be sent next time you connect.

For more information read the docs in the Thor drawer, or press the Help key when Thor is active.

## 1.10 Configuration

### User Configurable Settings

The dashboard software is much more configurable now, both in terms of the actions carried out from the Dashboard window, and the basic connection

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parameters.

#### User Buttons

The two buttons labelled A and B are for your own use.

The first button executes the commands in Internet/db/User-Function.A (or B), see the enclosed file for details.

The text of the button is defined in Internet/db/User-Button.A (or B), once again see the enclosed files. The hotkey is defined by preceding that letter by a '''. Make sure you use do not a letter that is used elsewhere.

#### Automatic Actions

In the Internet/db drawer, you will find a number of files called User-... These can contain lists of commands to be executed at various point of the connection process.

**IMPORTANT:** since the script waits for each command to finish before going onto the next or exiting and allowing Dashboard to continue, you must precede some commands with Run >NIL: This only applies when you do not wish the connection process to stop and wait for those commands.

The files are

User-Startnet	Run when Dashboard starts
User-PreConnect	Run when you press connect
User-PostConnect	Run when connection is made
User-PreDisconnect	Run immediately before disconnecting
User-PostDisconnect	Run after disconnecting
User-Stopnet	Run when Dashboard quits

#### Connection Parameters

These are now controlled by environment variables in ENV:Wirenet. most of the time you shouldn't need to bother with these, but sometimes you may need to change one or two of them. Remember that changes made in ENV: are lost when rebooting, this is useful for trying new options without messing with your permanent configuration. To make changes permanent, copy the changes from ENV: to ENVARC:

If you are not sure of the meaning of these options, then you should really leave them set as they are.

If you wish to experiment with using Miami instead of AmiTCP, then setenv Wirenet/UseMiami to any value. If the variable exists, Dashboard will use Miami, otherwise it will default to AmiTCP.

## 1.11 Exit

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Exit

This ends the dashboard program.

If you are online at the time, your internet connection won't be affected.

## 1.12 Quit

Quit

This shuts down AmiTCP and then exits.

AmiTCP is the main interface between your Amiga and the Internet and is automatically started when you start Dashboard.

Selecting Quit while online will break your connection and stop some programs. You shouldn't do this, instead Disconnect normally and then select Quit, otherwise you risk losing any information being transferred at the time.

## 1.13 Author

About Dashboard

Dashboard, and its accompanying scripts, were written by Neil Bothwick.

Dashboard was specifically created as a front end for Wirenet subscribers to access the Internet. Please send any comments or suggestions for improvements, bug reports etc to:

Neil Bothwick neil@wirenet.u-net.com

Dashboard is (c) 1996 Neil Bothwick

The following programs were used in the creation of Dashboard, and I thank their authors for them

Varexx by Andy Cook  
GadToolsBox by Jan van den Baard  
GoldED by Dietmar Eilert  
Heddley by Edd Dumbill