

ControlPanel

Martin C. Hunt

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COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> ControlPanel		
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Chapter 1

ControlPanel

1.1 Control Panel Guide

Control Panel V3.1

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Introduction Introduction To Control Panel

Installation How To Install Control Panel

Initial Menu About The Initial Menu

Main Menu About The Main Menu

Recommended Programs Getting The Most From Control Panel

The Future Improvements I Intend To Make

Copyrights Legal Stuff

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Thanks! Acknowledgements

1.2 Control Panel Guide

Introduction

Control Panel is an Arexx program which allows control of the basic AmiTCP functions through an easy to use GUI requester.

The Control Panel package also allows various applications to be run by clicking on the relevant button. Various GUI frontends for AmiTCP utilities have been produced by myself and included with this package.

Control Panel also allows a choice of news readers to be run. Control Panel also includes a newsgroup editor to allow easy adding and deleting of newsgroups so you no longer need to use a text editor.

Control Panel itself was written as a utility so that I could easily start and stop AmiTCP without having to resort to typing commands at the shell or having to set up a menu on my toolbar.

The front ends were written as I was tired at looking at GUI frontends for Mac utilities in .net. The Amiga is a multitasking GUI computer so all utilities should be able to be used in this way.

Various other parts of the package were written as I found a need for them, i.e. the scripts for posting news from GRn.

The auto function was a last minute thing I thought about adding, as someone had mentioned in a newsgroup that they would like a program to do this.

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Installation

Double click on the ControlPanel installation icon and let the script do all the hard work. You have to enter a few details but their is nothing too brain taxing.

If you use a newsreader other than Grn, Tin or Spot, you will have to delete the file amitcp:bin/othernews.run and replace it with a script file called the same but including details on how to run your news program. This script file will have to include any necessary parameters your newsreader requires.

All additional programs such as Mosaic should be placed on a path i.e. if you type Amosaic in a shell it will load. I suggest that all your apps go into Amitcp:bin.

The exception to this is amigate, and this can be placed in any directory as long as you assign Amigate: to the correct directory.

Another point that I need to make is that AMosaic needs to be called Amosaic and not Amosaic-AmiTCP.

Installing Control Panel Manually

This is all you should need to know about installation, if not E-Mail Me!

1.4 Control Panel Guide

Installing Control Panel Manually

If you are attempting this, which I do not recommend, I presume you have a fairly good knowledge of AmigaDos etc.

Firstly you must copy the contents of CP_Mainprog into wherever you wish C.P. to be installed.

Then copy the contents of bin to Amitcp:bin, libs to LIBS: and docs to wherever you keep your docs (I recommend that you keep all your AmiTCP related docs together as this will enable links from controlpanel.guide to other related docs).

You will then have to set the environment variable amitcpdir, to the directory where Amitcp: is stored.

All the above procedures are handled by the installer script.

1.5 Control Panel Guide

Initial Menu

If AmiTCP has not yest been started you will be faced with this menu when you start Control Panel

Start AmiTCP Starting AmiTCP

Quit Quitting AmiTCP

1.6 Control Panel Guide

Main Menu

The following options are available from the main control panel requester.

Start Starting AmiTCP

Stop Stopping AmiTCP

Connect Connecting To Server

Disconnect Disconnecting From Server

Change User Changing User Details

Applications Launching Applications

Auto Automatic Program Starting

Quit Quitting Control Panel

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Start

This option starts AmiTCP by running `Amitcp:bin/startnet`.

It is advisable that AmiTCP is always running.

1.8 Control Panel Guide

Stop

This option stops AmiTCP by running `Amitcp:bin/stopnet`.

You may need to run this in order to free some memory, for use with non AmiTCP applications.

If you do stop AmiTCP you must remember to restart it by using **Start**, before running any program that requires AmiTCP.

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Connect

This requester will depend on whether you are using the standard **link** command or whether you are using **Plink**

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Connect - Link

Do You Want To Collect News

Yes - Connects to host computer and collects news.

No - Connects to host computer, does not collect news.

Cancel - Does Not Connect

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Connect - Plink

NoNews - Connects to host but doesn't get news.

News - Connects to host and collects news.

News+Disconnect - Connects to host collects news and then disconnects.

Cancel - Does Not Connect

Batch Option - To use Plink's batch file transfer option, just type the name of the file into the string requester. If the file doesn't exist workbenches 'ed' editor will be started up so that you can create the file.

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Disconnect

Disconnects from host computer.

1.13 Control Panel Guide

Change User

Allows the user name and realname of the current user to be changed. Changes can be saved permanently by using the save option or changed just for that session by using the use option. A final requester makes sure that the changes are correct.

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Applications

This menu option brings up another menu which allows various applications to be run.

E-Mail Reading Electronic Mail

News Reading Usenet Postings

FTP Getting Files

WWW World Wide Web Browsing

IRC Internet Relay Chat

Archie Archie - File Finder

Telnet Telnet

More More Applications

Cancel Getting Back To Main Menu

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E-Mail

Runs the mail program which is included with AmiTCP-Dis or any mail program which is called Mail and placed in the AmiTCP:bin directory.

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News

Shows requester asking which news program you wish to run, the choices being Grn,tin or Other.

If you choose Other the script Amitcp:bin/othernews.run will be run, this script initially contains the instructions to run **SPOT**.

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File Transfer Protocol

This runs GUI-FTP, a graphical FTP client.

See GUI-FTP.Guide for more details

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World Wide Web

This runs the World Wide Web browser, Amosaic. AMosaic must be called AMosaic and not Amosiac-Amitcp.

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Internet Relay Chat

Runs Grapevine, a graphical IRC client.

See Grapevine.guide for more details

1.20 Control Panel Guide

Archie

Runs my graphical front end for Archie. See included Archie_GUI.Guide for more details.

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Telnet

Runs my graphical front end for telnet.

Enter the telnet address into the string requester next to the words TELNET ADDRESS, then press return.

Enter the port number if applicable next to the string requester next to the words PORT NUMBER, then press return.

Then finally press TELNET to start telnet, or press cancel.

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Applications Pt2

Back Return To First Set Of Applications

Finger Fingering by GUI

Ping Pinging by GUI

Traceroute Traceroute by Gui

Gui-Arc Unarchiving by GUI

UUXT UUDecoding by GUI

NewsEd Editing Your UULib:Newsgroups file

Cancel Getting Back To Main Menu

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Finger

To use finger.

Firstly enter the user name (e.g. Martin) of who you want to finger into the string requester by the side of the words User Name and then press return.

Then enter the name of their host (e.g. mchunt.demon.co.uk) into the string requester by the side of the word Host and then press return.

Finally press click on Finger to Finger or Cancel to Cancel.

The default finger address will check for any E-Mails you may have on Demons post server, non Demon users will obviously find this default useless!

Ed will then load up and show you the output of the finger command, I have used Ed as I know that everybody has this and it will allow you to view the file, and save it.

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Ping

To ping a computer just type the hostname (e.g. very.big.co.uk) into the requester and click either OK or Cancel.

If you selected OK ping will present the results in the ping output window.

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Traceroute

To traceroute just type the hostname (e.g. extremely.large.co.uk) into the requester and click either OK or Cancel.

Ed will then load up and show you the results of the traceroute.

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Gui-Arc

Gui-Arc is a graphical front end for various archivers such as LHA, this program is available on Aminet.

Please read its document for further information.

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UUXT

UUXT is a utility which changes binary files which have been sent via Usenet or E-Mail into programs that can be run.

This option requires the program UUxT-GUI to run.

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News Editor

This runs my newsgroup editing program, allowing easier adding and deleting of newsgroups.

NewsEd Instructions

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Cancel

Returns to [main menu](#)

1.30 Control Panel Guide

Auto

Allows a program or script to be run at a particular time. Just enter the time you want to run the program, press return and then select the program you wish to run, finally enter any parameters that program may require. Your program will then run at the desired time.

This option may be chosen several times, to allow several programs to be run automatically.

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Quit

This option quits Control Panel.

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Programs Required to Fully Utilise Control Panel

From ftp.demon.co.uk

The AmiTCP package

`/pub/amiga/amitcp/installer/AmiTCP-DISr10.lha`

`/pub/amiga/amitcp/installer/R10-Update1.lha`

This particular package contains all the basics such as mail, tin, gopher, archie, telnet etc.

Newsreader - Grn

`/pub/amiga/news/GRn-2.1.lha`

A graphical news reader, not brilliant but easy to use.

World Wide Web Browser - Amosaic

`/pub/amiga/mosaic/Mosaic_1.2_AmiTCP.lha`

Currently the only Amiga WWW browser, version 1.3b is available from Mosaic's home.

This directory `/pub/amiga/mosaic` also contains various utilities which you may need to get mosaic working.

File Transfer - Gui-FTP

`/pub/amiga/amitcp/utills/Gui-FTP.lha`

This is a graphical FTP client, a new version is about to be released.

Internet Relay Chat - Grapevine

`/pub/amiga/amitcp/extras/grapevine-1_33.lha`

This is a graphical IRC client, It is quite good although I rarely use IRC myself.

From src.doc.ic.ac.uk

UUxT - GUI

/pub/aminet/util/arc/uuxt30b.lha

UUencoder with full GUI front end.

Archiver - GuiArc

/pub/aminet/util/arc/GuiArc.lha

A graphical front end for the LHA archiver, very useful.

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The Future Of Control Panel

I intend to make control panel more configurable in the future i.e. you will have more control on what mail and news programs you can use.

The basic layout will stay the same but the installer will be more comprehensive and require more details about your setup to be entered.

NewsgroupEditor and Archie_GUI are to undertake some major improvements, these being detailed in their respective guides.

I will also try to add any suggestions for improvements that are sent to me, or that I think of.

Several of the improvements in this release (such as displaying user name) have been suggested by the betatesters.

1.34 disclaimer

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About the Author

Martin Hunt (DOB: 20/03/74) is currently studying for a B.Ed. (Hons.) Primary Mathematics degree. He originally comes from Leicester, England and managed to achieve 2.5 A Levels (Maths, Computer Science & AS Business Studies).

Since then he has had a rough ride living on a tiny student grant and loans.

Any offers of jobs (with included accommodation unless in Plymouth or Leicester) for summer 95 and/or 96 would be gratefully appreciated. So would donations towards my living costs, after all I have written this program and let you all use it for free.

May Freeware live forever!

This program copyright (1995) Martin Hunt

Documentation Completed 2/2/95

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Thanks

I thank all the people who have beta tested this product and ask them to keep up their good work. They managed to spot several serious bugs which could have spoiled your enjoyment of this product.

I also thank everybody that have developed or are developing AmiTCP products for the Amiga.

Finally I thank everybody whose arexx scripts have helped me to get to grips with this particular language.

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Spot

I have included limited support for spot with this release. To start Spot click on other when asked what newsreader you wish to use.

This will run the othernew.run script.

This script firstly runs a small arexx script to copy UULIB:newsgroups to spot.areas and amigate:amigate.areas.

The script also runs amigate (gateemail & gateneeds) and requires an assign (Amigate:) to be setup to show where amigate is stored, if you haven't assigned amigate it will not work.

Finally Spot is run.

When you exit Spot, amigate is called again to send anything.

This has been included at the last moment, and I hope that it will help someone.
