

DOCUMENTATION FOR INITS KEYTRANSPATCH AND SAFEKEYS

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These utilities are freely distributed as a complement to my shareware application KeyEd . You can copy and use them , as long as you include the present documentation .

If you have any comments , please contact me at the following address :

Fabien SAMUEL
2 , Rue Nollet
75017 - PARIS
FRANCE

I . KeytransPatch

Since System 4.x appeared along with the Mac SE and Mac II , the handling of keyboard typing is made through a new trap called keyTrans . Unfortunately , the behaviour of double strike keys with this new version is not the same as what the older systems had implemented .

To give an example : "**Option n Option n c**" should generate the sequence " ~c " , whereas it now generates " ~~c " . This can cause trouble to typists who have gotten used to the older systems .

KeytransPatch is an INIT that solves the problem by installing a 72 bytes patch to the KeyTrans trap - It is aware of the fact that KeyTrans was already patched by Apple , and doesn't interfere with that existing patch .

To activate the patch , just put KeyTransPatch in your system folder and reboot . To deactivate , remove it from the system folder and reboot.

If there is enough demand , an enhanced version could allow activation and deactivation of the patch to be made immediate through the Control Panel . Just let me know your feelings about it really being useful .

III . SafeKeys Init

If you happen to have a hard-disk protection program that asks you for a password before launching the Finder , and you use various keyboard configurations in your system , the following could happen to you : you changed the keyboard configuration through the control panel , and forgot to set it back to normal before rebooting , or maybe just bombing . Dialog Box : "Enter your password ? " ... Unless you happen to know perfectly your different keyboards , you are in for a bad surprise !

SafeKeys Init offers a solution to this problem by allowing you to choose your keyboard configuration at system startup . To activate it , it must be in your system folder , and you have to press the option key to launch it . A dialog box appears that lets you choose your configuration , which will become active when all INITS have been executed .

System 4.x has a problem at INIT time , especially for foreign users : the keyboard is then initialized to the default KCHR 0 US configuration , even if the user wants another configuration to be active . There doesn't seem to be any completely satisfying solution to this problem , unless Apple releases a corrected version of the System . For those who might need it , SafeKeys allows you immediate access to the needed configuration , by checking the "immediate

activation" box in the dialog . However , this only provides a partial fix , double strike keys not being operational : only normal strike keys are correctly mapped . In any case , SafeKeys must run before you need the configuration : to provide for this , you can just modify the first character of its name , remembering that INIT files in the system folder are executed according to their alphabetical order .