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Chapter 1

is

1.1 Markus Illenseer

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Story:

Since 1987 I am working, programming and gambling with the Amiga. At first it was an A2000 which I gradually extended and finally, when I came across its capabilities (some know that machine as the legendary 'beaver') replaced with an A3000. This machine is known by the name of 'tiger' and, as it seems, will be my last Amiga.

The A3000 is equipped with quite usual hardware: 16MB RAM, a Picasso II graphic board, an A2065 Ethernet board, A2060 Arcnet board. Connected to it are a 400MB Fujitsu, two 1 GB Conner and a 4 GB Conner harddisk and a Sony CD-ROM CDU300, a Toshiba quadruple speed CD-ROM and a HP DAT streamer.

The phrase "usual" refers to Unix environments – regarding that area, you might even consider calling my machine "weakly equipped".

I am working with NetBSD-Amiga since it started existing. That was back in March 1993 when Markus Wild for the first time managed to port NetBSD 0.9 to the Amiga (which was a real adventure by then). At that time I only had the A2000 and happened to be the only reference for NetBSD on an A2000 (until soon after that Hubert Feyrer joined us).

As an achievement for NetBSD-Amiga I am responsible for successfully contacting people and doing a bit of coordination work here and there. For instance, I tried to avoid the chaos with the Cirrus Logic driver

for NetBSD-Amiga by collecting and coordinating all patches and changes made to that driver. I didn't program very much.

What the future is going to bring – I don't yet know. Right now there is no platform that really catches my eye. On the other hand used workstations have become quite cheap... also, the new PowerPCs sound quite interesting.

Before the Amiga I already had an Altair (borrowed). At that time (1981) it was already out-dated, but it was my first computer. It was followed by a Laser 2000 from Sanyo (a computer compatible with nothing; I used it to learn Z80 assembler), after that a PET2000 (great machine at that time) and a C64.

This might sound like I am a veteran in computer means – but if you look at today's kids, they also start hacking at the age of 13 (although they have vastly faster machines now). Recently I received a fan letter. Its writer was a 78 years old pensioner with enormous computer knowledge which I really admire. He has by and by become a hidden idol for me. Why did he write me a letter? He said thanks for an article in an Amiga magazine in which I had explained NetBSD for the Amiga.

In my spare time I do a lot of things – as long as I find the time for it. I am a passionate Softball player (Baseball for everyone), my position is pitcher or right wing. I also like juggling with balls – from 2 to 4 balls. For one year now I am trying to learning juggling with 5 balls which is pretty hard if you don't have the time to exercise it.
Even more than that I like mountain-biking, bungee-jumping and climbing around in the french alps. This year I'm going to ascend my second 4000m mountain.

My current profession is industrial electro-technician (product manager evaluation). I won't name my employer – that would be advertising. I only state that my company is the fifth biggest computer manufacturer, ahead of Apple. As a second profession I am a freelance writer for some computer magazines.

I hope you'll have a lot of fun with this CD (which once again I enjoyed putting together).