

## *LocalTime version 1.0*

The LocalTime suite allows a Macintosh network administrator to ensure that all Macintoshes in a zone have their clocks set correctly.

LocalTime Client should be dropped onto the System Folder of any Macintosh that requires its clock to be coordinated.

LocalTime Server should be dropped onto the System Folder of a single Macintosh in the same zone as the clients. This Macintosh should be one that has an accurate clock, and that remains on for long periods of time. A file server is usually a good choice.

The LocalTime Client uses the network to set the Macintosh's clock as the Macintosh starts up. To do this, the client Macintosh must be connected to the network, have AppleTalk enabled, and a LocalTime Server must be present on the network. If LocalTime fails to operate successfully it will display its normal startup icon with a large cross drawn through it. This means that LocalTime was unable to set the time.

### *Other Features*

LocalTime clients can be operated in zones that do not have a LocalTime Server. To do this, resource 'STR' ID#128 of the client should be edited to contain the zone name of the server. If the resource is edited to contain the text '\*', the client will only search its local zone.

### *Compatibility*

This package has *not* been exhaustively tested with all possible varieties of System software, hardware models, INITs, DRVRs, and application software. As such no set of hardware and software can be guaranteed to work with LocalTime. Currently there appears to be a problem with Moiré and its shutdown screensaver.

### *Limitations*

LocalTime makes a "best effort" attempt at network communications. It was felt that the benefits of simplicity and ease-of-implementation outweighed the need for a guaranteed service. This will mean that

occasionally, a Macintosh will not have its clock reset due to heavy load on the LocalTime server. This is not serious.

LocalTime Clients do not search all zones present on the AppleTalk network. This means that if there is *no* server on the local zone, and if the clients have *not* had their zone string modified, the client will not be able to set its time from the network.

### *Praise and Brickbats*

If you have any comments, want to report incompatibilities, or would like to get the good bits of the source code, I'd love to hear from you. The Internet contact address is *comrade@uniwa.uwa.edu.au*.

### *People Who Made It Possible*

Jager and Quinn for the lost lunchtimes of successful low-level debugging, John for the total lack of moral support as well as the wonderful aphorism "remember to lock your handles, set your ports, and never ever call the system from an interrupt", and especially Pete for making sure that it all stayed minimalist (or is that feature-free?).

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