MultiStar

Oliver Tennie

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Chapter 1

MultiStar

1.1 MultiStar V2.00s

***** ****MULTISTAR V2.00 s***** *This program is (c)'94-'95 by O. Tennie* ******This program is SHAREWARE ****** This program was written using: -AmosPro V2.00 & AmosPro Compiler (c) by euroPress -AMIPS V1.04 (c) by The Software Society -ReqTools.library (c) Nico Francois Contents: DISCLAIMER Read it ! IMPORTANT ! COPYRIGHTS Copyrights, Distribution, ... SHAREWARE! Shareware-informations ! INSTALLATION How to install it ! HOW TO USE ! This is the documentation ! INFORMATIONS Other programs, history, ... !

1.2 DISCLAIMER ... Read it ! IMPORTANT !

THE AUTHOR CAN NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGES CAUSED BY THE PROGRAM !!! THE PROGRAM HAS BEEN TESTED AND IT WORKS FINE BUT IT MAY CAUSE TROUBLE WITH YOUR SYSTEM !!! YOU USE THIS PROGRAM AT YOUR OWN RISK !!!!

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1.3 COPYRIGHTS ... Copyrights, Distribution, ...

Copyrights The program (MULTISTAR), the documentation (MULTISTAR.GUIDE), the installation-script (INSTALL MULTISTAR), the registration-form (REGISTER.TXT), the example startup-sequence (STARTUP-SEQ) and the icons (INSTALL_MULTISTAR.INFO, MULTISTAR.GUIDE.INFO, REGISTER.TXT.INFO and MULTISTAR2_00S.INFO) are copyright (c) '94-'95 by Oliver Tennie. ReqTools.library is copyright (c) by Nico Francois. Amiga is a registered trademark of Amiga Technologies. Amiga Technologies is a subsidiary of ESCOM. Distribution The unregistered version of MultiStar may be freely distributed as long as the following conditions are kept: * all files are copied (including the documentation) * no changes are made to any of the files * the copy-costs do not exceed 10DM (about 7US\$) for a disc * the copy-costs do not exceed 30DM (about 22US\$) for a CD-ROM

It may be included in PublicDomain librarys, it may be uploaded to BBS's and it may be archived on CD-ROMs.

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1.4 SHAREWARE! ... Shareware-informations !

This program is SHAREWARE. If you think it's worth using, then it should be worth buying the registered version, too. You may try the unregistered version for 14 days afterwards you'll have to pay the Shareware-fee to: Oliver Tennie Efeuweg 9 22299 Hamburg GERMANY or you are not allowed to use the program any longer !

The						
Shareware	9	US\$		DM	U.H	K.£
-fee is						
	= # # =		=+=		=+===	===+
	113	30,	- :	35,-	- 20,	,

You will get the full working version of MultiStar ! The unregistered version is limited in its functionality. A delay-window pops up every time MultiStar is started and nearly all functions (except from 'new') of the SETUP-menu are disabled as well as each list is limited to 4 (four) entries.

To register MultiStar just print out the registration-form (REGISTER.TXT) fill it in and send it (together with the registration fee) to me !

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1.5 INSTALLATION ... How to install it !

Installation couldn't be easier ! Just boot up your Amiga (from Harddisk) and wait until the Workbench appears. Then insert the disk into any drive and click twice on the installation-icon. The installation-script will do all necessary things and on next bootup, you may activate MultiStar by pressing the fire-button (see section

HOW TO USE !).

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1.6 HOW TO USE ! ... This is the documentation !

MultiStar should usually be one of the first commands of your S:STARTUP-SEQUENCE. This is normally done by the install-script (see

INSTALLATION

for further details). MultiStar needs the ReqTools.library ((c) Nico Francois) to be installed in your LIBS:-directory. If it does not exist, MultiStar will tell you and exit ! Usage: MultiStar <Option> where Option is one of the following: ALWAYS - The window to select a script-file appears ALWAYS CHOICE - The program will check whether the joystick-firebutton was pressed (or not) and the window will appear (or not) NEVER - The window will NEVER appear even if the button was pressed ! If no option is specified, MultiStar will use NEVER-option as default ! The window: The window is devided in four zones. The upper left is a list of games which can be started. The upper right is a list of tools. The lower Button will continue with your original startup-sequence (S:MultiStar/Startup-Sequence2). Clicking the close-gadget will quit the program without doing anything (a requester will ask you, if you are sure you want to quit). This can be useful for a save shutdown (as normally no resident program should be loaded at that time). You may select a game or a tool from the lists at the top of the window (if the list is too long, you may scroll with the buttons at the lower right side of each list). To start a program just click once on it, to continue with your normal startup-sequence, click on the button: »»CONTINUE WITH NORMAL STARTUP-SEQUENCE«« The fourth zone of the window is the menu. The menu: The menu looks like the following: +----+ +---+ |Project| |Setup| +=====+ +======+++======+++ NOTE: |About (A)?| |New entry (A)N| (A) |-----| |Kill entry (A)K| is your |Quit (A)Q| |-----| right +----+ |Change entry (A)C| Amiga-Key |----| !!! |Activate entry (A)A| |Deactivate entry (A)D| +----+ - About This shows the ABOUT-Requester - Quit This will quit the program (same as if you click on the windows close-gadget) - New entry This option creates a new entry (see below) - Kill entry This will remove an entry (see below) - Change entry This calls the workbench-editor (C:ED) and you can edit an entry (see below) - (De-)Activate entry ... This (De-)Activates an entry (see below)

NOTE: All changes first take effect when you start MultiStar again.

If you select an option from the SETUP-Menu first of all, MultiStar will ask you on which topic you want to work, this can be either GAMES or TOOLS. After that a fileselector will pop up (note: this is only valid for the options 'kill', 'change', 'activate' and 'deactivate' but NOT for the option 'new' which will be explained later on) which asks you to select the script you want to work with. You can either click ONCE on the entry and confirm your selection with the >OK<-button or you can click twice on the entry. - If you selected Activate entry or Deactivate entry from the menu, MultiStar will work a moment on your harddisk and inform you that the entry has been (de-)activated.

- If you selected Change entry from the menu, your editor (C:ED) will appear and you can alter the script.
 NOTE1: Do not change or delete the FIRST line of the script !
 NOTE2: See your Commodore-manuals for more informations on how to use the editor
- If you selected Kill entry, MultiStar will ask you if you are sure you want to delete the script. If you select >YES<, then it will be removed from your harddisk.

Creating the scripts:

NOTE: Scripts from earlier versions of MultiStar are still 100% compatible with version 2.00.

To create a script select the option New Entry from the Setup-Menu. A requester will appear and ask you if you want to create a script for the GAMES- or the TOOLS-list. Afterwards you'll be asked to give a name for the script. Enter the name of the program or whatever you want there and press <Return> or click on the >OK<-button. MultiStar will open a fileselector where you can select the keymap you want to use. Click twice on the keymap or once on it and confirm wit >OK< if you want MultiStar to set a spezial keymap for the program or click on >Abort< if you do not want MultiStar to set a spezial keymap. Then MultiStar will ask you if you want to degrade your system. This can be useful for example if you have a fast processor (68020, 030 or whatever) and an old game. In that case you can for example slow down your system using the program CPU which comes along with Workbench 3.0 or SetCPU (which is (c) Dave Haynie). Anyway, click on >YES< if you want to degrade your system or on >NO< if you do not want to degrade it. If you click on yes, a fileselector will ask you to select the program which will degrade your computer, as always, click twice on it or once on it and confirm with the >OK<-button. Then MultiStar asks you for the CLI-options it'll use with the program, read the documentation of the program which you use to degrade your system for more informations (NOTE: The options for CPU or SetCPU to slow down your machine are NOCACHE NOBURST).

Then MultiStar will ask you to give names to assign to your programdirectory. You can enter up to 20 names, if you have finished, just give an empty string. Assigns are useful if, for example, you copied a program from floppy-discs into a directory on your harddisc. If the program needs to be 'cheated' (if it looks for its files on a disc which has a spezial name) you can assign the name of the disc to the directory. (Example: If the program you copied onto your harddisk came on two disks labeled Disc1: and Disc2: and you copied them onto your harddisc into the directory GAME you can assign Disc1: and Disc2: to your directory GAME. If the program now tries to read a file from the disc named Disc1: or Disc2:, your Amiga will look for it in the directory GAME on your harddrive, and that's it, so you have to tell MultiStar the names Disc1: and Disc2: when it asks for the names to assign to the program-directory.) For more informations about assigns read your Amiga-manual ! Next thing you have to do is to select the program-directory. A directoryselector appears and you can select the directory where your program can be found. Click on >OK< when finished. Then the last fileselector will appear. MultiStar shows you all files in you program-directory and you can select the execcutable or the batch to run. Make your selection by either clicking twice on the file or by clicking once on it and then confirm it with the >OK<-button. Last but not least MultiStar will ask you if the file you selected is a batch or an executable (Note: a batch is a file which consists of AmigaDOS-commands, an executable is a program which can be run 'normally').

Then MultiStar will create the entry for your program. It might be a good idea to restart your computer and check if the entry works. If not, check/change the entry using the option Change entry and read the manual of your program to get help.

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1.7 INFORMATIONS ... Other informations (other programs,..) !

Requirements:

In order to use MultiStar you need:

- AmigaOS 2.04 (or higher)
- A harddisk (not necessary, but recommended)
- A joystick in port 2 (or you'll have to use the ALWAYS-option)
- ReqTools.library installed in your LIBS:-directory

Other programs by O.Tennie:

Name at	Short description	Status	Can be found on/ ↔
+	+	+	++ (
DMS-GUI	An interface for DMS	Shareware	Time 336 ↔
PROGRAM-CONTROLER 	A tool to start/stop programs easily	Shareware	Time 336 ↔
Prometheus-TOOLS Network	Some tools for the Prometheus-BBS	Shareware	$ Prometheus- \leftrightarrow$
TPC !!!!	A catalogue for pictures	Shareware	not yet released \leftrightarrow
SimpleTerm !!!!	A very easy to handle terminal-prg.	Shareware	not yet released \leftrightarrow

History:

- V0.01 first internal ß-version
- V1.00 first public version
 - * many bugs from V0.01 removed
 - * some new features
 - * documentation added
 - * installation-script added

V2.00 - second public version

- * menus added
- * creating the scripts is *MUCH* simpler now (this is now done by the program, you had to create the scripts by yourself in version 1.00)
- * script-managing added
 - > scripts can be deleted
 - > scripts can be (de-)activated
- * now uses ReqTools.library ((c) Nico Francois) instead of the standard Commodore/Amiga requesters
- * Quit-ask-requester added

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