Introduction

Quick Timer is a Remote Access Time and Cost Monitoring program, designed primarily to monitor online time and costs.
Designed as a 32 bit, multi-threaded application, its functionality speaks for itself.

Just create a shortcut in you start-up folder of your start menu and Quick Timer will do the rest!
Quick Timer calculates online cost in real-time, which means you will know your online cost, online time, rate at which your cost is calculated and whom you're connected to at all times!
Minimise Quick Timer and your online time and cost will be displayed in your taskbar.
If you need to monitor your online costs don't forget to configure the RATES.

Quick Timer also provides monthly and daily totals for all your logged connections.
By just selecting a date in the log, quick timer will provide you with a custom month to month totals ending with the selected date. (e.g.   25 February 1997 back to 25 January 1997)

Quick Timer also provides some log maintenance functionality. (Clear log, Compact Periods, and Delete Entry Button's)

In Conclusion, Quick Timer provides the user with a User Friendly Interface, and yet still provides all the functionality a user will ever need!

Quick Timer is shareware (Totally FREE!), but a small donation to me the author will be greatly appreciated?
All Proceeds from Quick Timer will be used as sponsorship towards my Latin-American Competitive dancing. (Dancing is life itself!)

Any Donations can be sent to:
Mr J. Kisogloo
120 Main Street
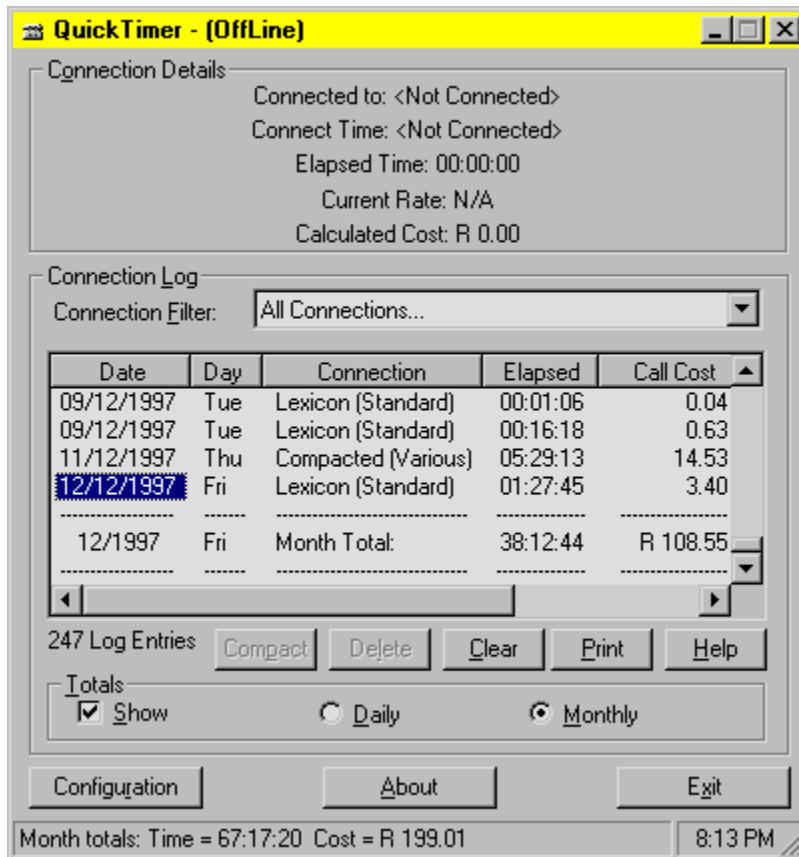Rosettenville
Gauteng
2197
South Africa

(Preferably in US Dollars, British Pounds or South African Rand)

Thanking you dearly
Jason Kisogloo

Email Address: jasonk@southafrica.co.za
                jason-champ@usa.net

Main Dialog

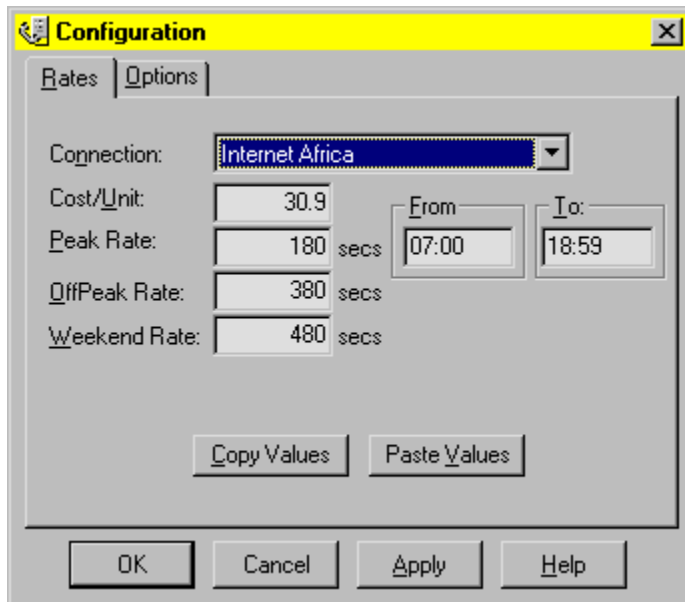Click on an item for more help.

This is the main window where all data can be viewed, and online time and costs can be monitored.
The Log is maintained and edited from this dialog.

Configuration Rates Tab

Click on an item for more help.

This tab is used to configure the call rates for each Remote Access Connection.
Once all rates are configured the online costs can be calculated and displayed by Quick Timers main dialog.
Call Rates are calculated in units, where one unit will be the cost (in 1/100th of your currency) of a specified number of seconds.
There are three different rate specifications provided for in quick timer, peak, off-peak, and Weekend.

Configuration Options Tab

Click on an item for more help.
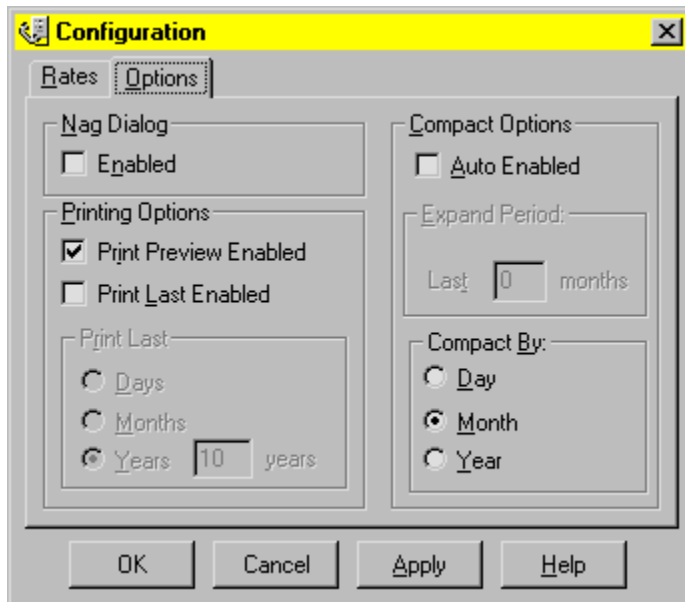
This tab is used to configure general program options such as print and compact options. You can also disable or enable the nag screen from here.
Print options are print preview enable or disable, print all or print last XXX days, months or years of log entries.
Compact options are enable or disable auto compact, and set compacting by day month or year.
(Expand Period is used with Auto Compacting, this period is the last XXX days, months or years that will remain expanded.)

Configuring Quick Timer

Before any costs can be calculated the rates for each available Remote Access Connection must be configured.
This can be done by using the Rates Configuration tab from the Configuration dialog.
The Rate Configuration Dialog can be accessed by clicking the `Configuration' button from the Main dialog
In order for quick timer to calculate online costs for each connection, make sure that all fields in the Rates Configuration tab have values for a connection!
Once all the rates are configured, Quick Timer is ready to calculate your costs!

The Options Configuration tab can be used to customise Quick Timer a little further.
From this tab the user is able turn the nag screen on or off, and set compacting and printing options.
These options have set default values, which means the program does not require any changes to these setting in order for it to function correctly. These settings do not directly influence the basic functionality of Quick Timer.

Credits

Click on me for more info!

**Quick Timer
Version 1.3**

**Designed by
Jason Kisogloo (Me)**

**Programmed by
Jason Kisogloo (Me)**

**Documented by
Jason Kisogloo (Me)**

**Tested by:
Jason Kisogloo (Me)
And
YOU**

**Distributed by:
Jason Kisogloo (Me)
By means of the INTERNET!**

System Requirements

Hardware Requirements

A 486DX2-50 processor or better

8 megabytes of ram or higher.

2 to 3 megabytes of available disk space

A modem connected to a serial or parallel port.

Software Requirements

Windows 95 / Windows NT

A Windows 95 /Windows NT Modem driver installed

A version of Microsoft Remote Access service fully installed

One or more configured Remote Access Connections.

Adding Quick Timer to the Start-up Folder

Step by step instructions:

First Method (Beginner):

1.   Right Click on the taskbar.
2.   Click Properties.
3.   Click the `Start Menu Programs' Tab.
4.   Click the `Add' button
5.   Type in the path and filename where quick timer is installed \ Click browse to select the Quick timer executable.
6.   Click the next button.
7.   In the list view select the `Startup' folder.
8.   Click the next button.
9.   Now type the shortcut name of the item you want to appear in your startup folder.
10.   Click finished

Second Method (Intermediate):

1.   Right Click on the taskbar.
2.   Click Properties.
3.   Click the `Start Menu Programs' Tab.
4.   Click the `Advanced' button
5.   Click the `Programs' expand button ((+) on the left)
6.   Click on the Startup Folder, and the contents of the startup folder will be displayed on the right.
7.   Right click just under the last item in the startup folder.
8.   Select new, then click shortcut.
9.   Type in the path and filename where quick timer is installed \ Click **browse** to select the Quick timer executable.
10.   Click the next button.
11.   Now type the shortcut name of the item you want to appear in your startup folder.
12.   Click finished.

Third Method (Advanced):

1.   Right Click on the taskbar.
2.   Click Properties.
3.   Click the `Start Menu Programs' Tab.
4.   Click the `Advanced' button
5.   Click the `Programs' expand button ((+) on the left)
6.   Click on the Startup Folder, and the contents of the startup folder will be displayed on the right.
7.   Open windows explorer or a `my computer' window in the Quick Timer Directory.
8.   Drag the Quick Timer executable onto the content side of the startup folder.

Changing the Shortcut Properties:
(**Minimising** Quick Timer at Start-up)
After one of the above methods have been followed continue with the following:

1.   Right Click on the Quick Timer Shortcut.

2.   Click Properties.
3.   Click the `Shortcut' Tab.
4.   From the `Run' dropdown combo select `**Minimised'.**
5.   Click the `OK' button.

Quick timer will now be started at startup in a minimised state!

Yes, this is **I**!
In appreciation for this program, please send a **donation** to the following address:

> **120 Main Street**
> **Rossettenville**
> **Johannesburg**
> **Gauteng**
> **2197**
> **South Africa**

Your donations will be greatly appreciated!
All **donations** will be used as **sponsorship** towards my competitive **dancing**!
IT'S FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

[From: Group Box](#) - The From: Group Box specifies the time at which peak rate starts in 24-hour format. (e.g. 22:15)
Valid times are 00:00 through 23:59.
Note he tab key does not move the cursor to the next item in the dialog when editing this edit box.

[To: Group Box](#) - The To: Group Box specifies the time at which peak rate ends in 24-hour format. (e.g. 23:30)
Valid times are 00:00 through 23:59.
Note he tab key does not move the cursor to the next item in the dialog when editing this edit box.

[Weekend Rate Edit Box](#) - The Weekend Rate Edit Box specifies the number of seconds in one unit of cost for the weekend.
(Saturdays and Sundays irrespectively of the time)
e.g. if the weekend rate value is 480 seconds and the cost/unit is 30.9 then the cost is 30.9 cents per 480 seconds of online time.

[Connection Combo-box](#) - The Connection combo-box lists all currently available Remote Access connections.
Selecting a connection from this list will display the rate configuration for that connection. Editing any of the rate parameters at that point will change the configuration for that connection.

[Cost / Unit Edit Box](#) - The Cost / Unit edit box specifies the value that one time unit will cost. This value is 1/100th of your currency unit. (e.g. 1 Dollar would be 100, 1 Rand would be 100 cents - 100)
e.g. if the weekend rate value is 480 seconds and the cost/unit is 30.9 then the cost is 30.9 cents per 480 seconds of online time.

[Off-peak Rate Edit Box](#) - The Off-peak Rate Edit Box specifies the number of seconds in one unit of cost for all times falling outside the peak and weekend boundaries. If the Peak time is from 07:00 to 18:59 then off-peak times would be from 00:00 to 06:59 and 19:00 to 23:59 respectively. (Saturdays and Sundays excluded.)
e.g. if the off-peak rate value is 480 seconds and the cost/unit is 30.9 then the cost is 30.9 cents per 480 seconds of online time.

[Peak Rate Edit Box](#) - The Peak Rate Edit Box specifies the number of seconds in one unit of cost for all times falling inside the peak time boundaries. If the Peak time is from 07:00 to 18:59 then peak times would be from 07:00 to 18:59 Monday to Friday. (e.g. if the peak rate value is 180 seconds and the cost/unit is 30.9 then the cost is 30.9 cents per 180 seconds of online time.)

[OK, Help, Apply & Cancel Buttons](#)

OK - Accepts all changes, saves the configuration and closes the dialog.

Apply - Accepts all changes, saves the configuration without closing the dialog (permanent change).

Cancel - Closes the dialog and disregards any changes.

Help - Displays help for the current dialog

[Copy   & Paste Buttons](#)
Copy - Copies the values from current edit boxes into memory.
Paste - Pastes the copied values from memory to the current edit boxes.
E.g. To copy values from an already defined connection say `Internet Africa', to a new connections say `Lexicon'.

[Nag Screen](#) Enable / Disable
If this check box is checked the nag screen will be enabled. The nag screen will appear every time Quick Timer is started.
The Default setting is enabled. (Feature was added for user convenience.)

<u>Print Preview Enable / Disable</u>
If this check box is checked, print preview will be enabled. When print preview is enabled, Quick Timer does not print automatically, the program associated with text files on your system opens the `log.txt file' generated by Quick Timer. Once opened the user must specify the print option in the associated program. (The preview program).
If print preview is disabled, Quick Timer Invokes and prints the `log.txt' file using the associated program. (The program remains hidden while in progress)

Print Last Enable / Disable

If this check box is checked print last is enabled. If print last is enabled, the print last group box will also be enabled. When print last is enabled, pushing the print button in the main dialog will not result in all log entries being printed but will result in the last XXX days, months or years being printed.

If Print Last is disabled, all log entries will be printed.

[Day, Month or Year option for Print Last](#)
The day, month and year option buttons specify what period type the Print Last edit box specifies.
E.g. 3 years, 3 months or 3 days.

[Print Last Edit Box](#)
The Print Last edit box is used to specify the last XXX (Numerical Value) days, months, or years that should printed.
E.g. 3 months, 1 month, 8 months...

[Auto Compact Enable / Disable](#)

If this check box is checked, auto compact is enabled and the `Expand Period' group box is enabled.

When auto compact is enabled, Quick Timer will compact all log entries except for the last XXX days, months or years depending on the current compacting setting. Compacting will take place according to the `Compact by:' setting. (In compacted groups of days, months or years). An auto compact event happens only after each dialup session.

When auto compact is disabled, compacting must be done manually because no compacting takes place automatically.

[Expand Last Edit Box](#)
Specifies the last number of days, months or years to leave expanded.
(Only available when auto compact is enabled)

[Compacting Period Options](#)
The day, month and year compact by option buttons are used to specify how log entries are manually and automatically compacted. Quick Timer can compact a whole day, month or year in one log entry depending on this setting.
The compact button and the auto compact functions both rely on this setting.

[Current Calculated Cost](#) - The running cost of the Remote Access session in progress. This cost is calculated in real-time and updated every time one unit of time passes. The Cost is calculated according to the rate configuration of the current connection.

[Status Bar Totals](#) - These are custom date month totals. Totals displayed are the months cost, and the months elapsed time.
When selecting a valid date this will calculated month totals from the previous month's same day date to the selected date.
e.g. If the selected date is 10/10/1997 then the totals will be calculated from 10/09/1997 to the 10/10/1997.

Compact - Compacts the selected entry by day, month or year depending on the setting in the configuration [options tab](#) into one log entry. This button is only enabled when no filters or totals are selected. (Raw Log Mode)

Delete - Deletes a log entry. This button is only enabled when no filters or totals are selected. (Raw Log Mode)

Clear - Deletes all log entries.

Print - Prints log entries using the specified options from the configuration-[options tab](#). Quick timer uses the program associated with a standard text file on your system to print and preview the log.

(The file log.txt is created in the programs working directory, and finally is printed. The file remains there till the next print operation)

Help - Displays the help screens for this dialog.

[Exit Button](#) - The exit button is used to exit the program.
If a current Remote Access session is in progress, this button is disabled.
Exiting the program during a Remote Access Session will not save the session in progress.

[Log Entry Counter](#) - The Log Entry Counter counts the amount of logged Remote Access sessions. (The number of log entries)

<u>Log Totals</u> - The log totals are either monthly or daily totals.
Total lines consist of a total date, total type description, elapsed time total, and a cost total.
(The start and finish time fields are filled by two *'s.)

[Current Connection Start Time](#) - The time that the current Remote Access Session in progress started at, in 12 hour format.

[Status Bar Clock](#) - The Status clock is a real-time system clock, displaying the local time in 12-hour format.
This feature was added for convenience.

[Log Selections](#) - A selection in a log can be used to delete a log entry or it can be used to calculate a custom monthly cost.
For more details see [Status Bar Totals.](#)

[Connection Filter](#) - The Connection Filter is used to display the Remote Access sessions for a specific connection only.
If totalling is enabled all totals will be calculated for the selected connection only.
The custom month total selection will only calculate the totals for the selected connection.

[Current Elapsed Time](#) - The Elapsed time since the start of the current Remote Access Session in progress.

[About Button](#) - The About button displays the About Dialog.
The About Dialog displays the program credits, version numbers and the author's details.

[Current Rate](#) - The Rate at which the cost is being calculated for the Remote Access session in progress.
e.g. 30.9 cents for every 480 seconds of online time.

[Current Connection Name](#) - The Remote Access Connection Name of the Remote Access Session in progress.

Configuration Button - Displays the Configuration Dialog, which consists of a Rates Tab and an Options Tab.
The Rates Tab can be used to configure the rates for all Remote Access connections.
The Options Tab can be used to customise Quick Timers extra functionality.

[Title Bar](#) - The Title Bar displays the current Remote Access status.
When the Quick Timer is minimised and there is a Remote Access session in progress, the current time and cost values will be displayed in the title bar.
The title bar icon changes according to the Remote Access status.

[Totals Group Box](#)

Show Tick Box - When ticked the log will be refreshed in Totals mode and the current total option will be displayed.

Daily Radio Button - When selected the log will display the daily time and cost totals.

Month Radio Button - When selected the log will display the monthly time and cost totals.

[Log Entries](#) - The Logged Remote Access sessions.
Each log entry consists of the starting Date, the Connection Name, the Elapsed time, the Cost, the Starting time, and the Finishing time of a previous session.