

**MS-QWiK\_doc**

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	<i>TITLE :</i> MS-QWiK_doc		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY		August 2, 2022	

**REVISION HISTORY**

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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# Chapter 1

## MS-QWiK\_doc

### 1.1 MS-QWiK user guide

MS-QWiK OS2 v4.5 - The logical choice in QWK readers!

About MS-QWiK/Registration

Configuration Menu

Messages Menu

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Messages Menu  
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### 1.4 Project

Project Menu  
-----

Open  
Close  
Quit  
About  
Packet Info

---

## 1.5 General

### General Configuration

---

This is MS-QWiK's general configuration section.

Editor

Console

Processing

QWK Packets

Replies

Screen/Text Font

Gad/Win Font

Status Font

## 1.6 Archivers

### Archivers

---

This is where you configure the packer types that you want MS-QWiK to support.

Packers

Name

Pack Command

Unpack Command

Pattern

Stack

## 1.7 About MS-QWiK

---

## About MS-QWiK

-----

MS-QWiK is a full-featured  
QWK  
handling package.

MS-QWiK allows the BBS user to read and reply to Bulletin Board System messages offline, providing the BBS software supports the QWK format.

Registration  
of MS-QWiK will entitle you to the latest  
updates and bug-fixes until the next MAJOR release (ie. v5.0, v6.0 ..)

Updates and bug-fixes can be downloaded from the MetalSoft support BBS,

The Metal Shoppe BBS  
(519)256-0278 - 2400-19200 Baud Dual Standard HST  
(519)255-7378 - 1200-2400 Baud SupraModem 2400

## 1.8 QWK

### QWK

---

QWK (pronounced 'quick') delivers a method for users to download online messages so that they may read, and - depending on the software - reply to them offline. After the user downloads his 'packet' he/she uploads the file, generated by the packet, to the

BBS

that the original packet  
was downloaded from. The BBS software then takes care of placing the user's replies in the proper conference/area.

## 1.9 D3

BBS

---

QWK is only possible if the BBS you are calling supports the QWK format. Ask your sysop about this, it provides a GREAT timesaving and efficient method of reducing your online time and, allows you to read and reply to messages at your leisure. Most CNet Amiga BBS systems support QWK.

## 1.10 Registration Info

## Registration

-----

Registration of this software is optional. However, if you find it useful and use it often, then please register it with  
MetalSoft  
.

To register for updates and bug-fixes, send the following amount to the specified address:

Amount: \$25.00 U.S. funds

Address: Ray Akey  
411 Bridge Ave.  
Windsor, Ontario  
CANADA N9B 2M3

## 1.11 D5

## MetalSoft

-----

MetalSoft (AKA Metal Software) has been in operation since 1991, supplying C-Net AMIGA sysops with the best and most efficient Sysop Utilities.

In that same year, we branched out into the general Amiga Developer market by releasing a few small CLI/SHELL programs, some of which are listed below:

FList

MS-Move

Append

Two years later we presented MS-QWiK v3.0, which was first released  
sometime in 1992. (I've a bad memory for dates unless they're written down)  
We're back in 1994 with

\*\*\*\* MS-QWiK OS2 v4.5 \*\*\*\*

As long as there is an AMIGA market and users that are willing to support it, METALSOFT will be here.

## 1.12 D6

FList

-----

FList is a MetalSoft file listing program created as a replacement for (what else?) the AmigaDOS LIST command.

Sample output:

Directory: udbasel:metalsoftdos

Filename	Size	Comment
-----	----	-----
FHCI-Out2.lha	12565	FIDO_MCI-Out v2.0 - for C-Net networkin
MS-QWiK22_FIX.lha	155263	Fixes the IBM packet crashes..
MSQuotes.LHA	107037	Pig-Iron Quotes - CLI form
SubCom.lha	5862	SubCom v0.93 -> Comments UseNet message

### 1.13 D7

MS-Move

-----

MS-Move is a replacement/companion for the AmigaDOS COPY command. Move does exactly what it implies, allowing to to copy a file to another location, deleting the original copy in the process.

### 1.14 D8

Append

-----

Append is a program similar to the AmigaDOS join command. It simply takes one file and appends up to 98 other files to the end. GREAT FOR JOINING TEXT FILES together.

### 1.15 D9

Palette

-----

MS-QWiK's color palette is now adjusted using MetalSoft's own Palette requester.

The palette from the last saved configuration can be loaded by using the "Last Saved" gadget.

Also available is the option to use the current Workbench palette, using the "GET WB" gadget.

## 1.16 D10

Editor

-----

This is the name that MS-QWiK will use to invoke an external editor that you will use to edit the messages you author. MS-QWiK is designed to work with a wide variety of editors but has been positively tested only with Commodores "Ed", "Edit" and ASDG's "CygnusEd" by CygnusSoft.

MS-QWiK OS2 now creates the temp filename internally. The following change must be noted:

Most, if not all, text editors provide a method of passing a filename that you wish to edit/create. The {TMP} symbol MUST be included in your EDITOR command as the name of the file to edit/create.

```
eg1. CED {TMP} -keepio      (if you use CygnusEd)
eg2.  ED {TMP}              (if you use Commodore's "Ed" or
                             CygnusED's "ED" replacement)
```

Some editors may be "Workbench oriented" such as Commodore's "Ed". These type of editors will appear on the workbench screen. For these editors, simply make sure that the

```
WBToFront
gadget is selected.
```

## 1.17 D12

WBToFront

-----

This gadget, when selected, assures that the WorkBench is brought to the front when the editor is invoked. This is REQUIRED by "Ed" and any other editor that opens on the WorkBench screen. ASDG's CygnusEd only requires this option if you are using it to shanghai or open on the Workbench screen.

## 1.18 D13

Console

-----

This is the string describing the console window that MS-QWiK uses to display it's archiver/packer progress.

The following string is what I use successfully:

```
con:12/101/609/65/MS-QWiK Output/SCREEN{PUB}
```

NOTE: The "/SCREEN{PUB}" combination is to allow the progress window to

open on MS-QWiK's public screen. If this is omitted, you will not be able to see the packer output unless you do some screen shuffling.

You can also skip the console window and place a filename here that the archiver output will be stored in. However, one or the other must exist.

## 1.19 D14

Processing

-----

This is simply the name of a directory (full path) that MS-QWiK will use for it's temporary QWK file storage after decompression and while compressing.

ie. RAM:

Default = Current Directory

## 1.20 D15

QWK Packets

-----

This string gadget holds the full path to the directory where your downloaded QWK packets are kept. (default = Current directory).

## 1.21 D16

Replies

-----

This is where your UPLOADABLE replies (with an .REP extension) will be placed. Don't forget to delete them after you upload them. Sysops can get mighty irate when you upload the same packet two or three times.

This is also where your temporary replies (\*.MQK) will be placed.

## 1.22 D18

Screen/Text Font

-----

This is the name and size of the font that MS-QWiK will use for text in all places other than the status window and window gadgets.

---

The 8 point barrier has been broken. Any font can now be used here, as long as it is a fixed-width font.

Note: Ridiculously large fonts MAY cause a problem with gadget and text overlapping. try to use a font of reasonable size.

## 1.23 D19

Gad/Win Font  
-----

This is the name and size of the font that MS-QWiK will use for it's window gadgets. Font insensitivity has been achieved within reason but some VERY large fonts may cause the gadgets to overlap one another width-wise (horizontally).

## 1.24 D20

Status Font  
-----

This is the name and size of the font that MS-QWiK will use for the status display where the Subject, From, To, Dates, and conference of the current message or reply are displayed.

## 1.25 D21

The "Listview"  
-----

This is the packer display where MS-QWiK displays all the packers you have configured into the program. Simply click on one to edit it and then click on "ADD" to update the list. No changes are saved until you select "OK".

## 1.26 D22

Name  
-----

This is the string that holds the name of the packer that you wish for the currently edited packer type. This is for your identification of the packer types only. It has absolutely nil to do with program operation.

---

## 1.27 D23

Pack Command

-----

This is the string that MS-QWiK uses to compress your prepared reply packet. It may also include a redirection string of >"{CON}". Some example strings follow:

```
LHA >"{CON}" a {PF1} {PF2}
ZIP >"{CON}"  {PF1} {PF2}
```

```
^^^ ^^^^^^^ ^ ^^^^^^^
```

```
|      |      |      |
|      |      |      |      required for internal operation
|      |      |
|      |      |      the argument to tell your packer to ADD to an archive.
|      |
|      |      the MS-QWiK console REDIRECTION token (OPTIONAL)
|
the full command (including path if not in your C: directory) MS-QWiK
should use to invoke this packer type.
```

## 1.28 D24

Unpack Command

-----

This is the string that MS-QWiK uses to de-compress the QWK packet you downloaded. It may include a redirection string of >"{CON}". Some example strings follow:

```
LHA >"{CON}" x {PF1}
```

```
^^^ ^^^^^^^ ^ ^^^^^
```

```
|      |      |      |
|      |      |      |      required for internal operation
|      |      |
|      |      |      the argument to tell your packer to ADD to an archive.
|      |
|      |      the MS-QWiK REDIRECTION specifier (OPTIONAL!)
|
the full command (including path if not in your C: directory) MS-QWiK
should use to invoke this packer type.
```

Amiga ZIP is different in that no argument is required to tell UNZIP to decompress:

```
UNZIP >"{CON}" {PF1}
```

```
^^^^ ^^^^^^^ ^^^^^
```

```
|      |      |
|      |      |      required for internal operation
|      |
|      |      the MS-QWiK REDIRECTION specifier (OPTIONAL!)
```

|  
the full command (including path if not in your C: directory) MS-QWiK  
should use to invoke this packer type.

## 1.29 D25

Pattern  
-----

This is how MS-QWiK identifies what packer/unpacker type to use on a packet. This string holds a pattern that is found in the first 9 bytes of your QWK file. Two of the most popular types used in BBS packets are LHA and ZIP. Here are the typical patterns for those types:

LHA: ??-lh?-  
ZIP: PK

NOTE: The question mark matches ANY character. The actual first nine bytes of an LHA archive may contain jK-Lh5-bu or #r-LH2-gR ...

## 1.30 D54

Stack  
-----

This is the stack setting that the currently edited archiver requires. Values less than 5000 are invalid and not accepted.

Most archivers require a minimal stack of 5k or less. However, UnZip by S.H Smith requires a stack of at least 30k. You may have SOME problems with LARGE packets due to a stack problem with this new UnZip by S.H Smith. This is NOT MS-QWiK's fault (nor is it Q-Blue's or other QWK readers..) This Zip bug causes your system to totally lock up after decompressing and scanning a packet. Increasing the stack to a ridiculously large size, such as 100000, for Zip/UnZip usually cures this problem.

If you get a guru/software failure while the packing/unpacking process is in operation, then increase the stack setting for that archiver type.

NOTE: A bug WAS found - and fixed - that was imminent with LARGE (greater than 300k) packets. My apologies to S.H. Smith. Also note that his "Freely Distributable" UnZip v5.1d beta has been included in this package. This new Zip addresses MANY of the problems that were apparent with the previous release.

## 1.31 D26

Taglines  
-----

---

Tag-lines are just a sort of sign-off string that will be appended to each and every message you write, if so configured.

This is where you edit the taglines that you want MS-QWiK to use. You may specify specific taglines for specific

BBSID's

.

Addendum: If you wish to use a pre-edited text file as a signature, make (v3.02) sure to put the full path + filename in the string gadget and toggle the state of the "FILE" gadget on the far right of each tagline so that it is on (depressed).

Addendum: A new "Rand" button has been added for each tagline. Check this (OS2 V1) box if you wish the tagline to be a random tagline. Random taglines are only appended to replies for BBS's which have no tagline defined.

If you wish for your replies to a certain BBS to have NO TAGLINES at all, simply put that system's BBSID in a tag location where a tagline exists that contains only a SPACE.

A bug has also been fixed - by implementing a ListView gadget to hold TagLines - that once caused this window to open only when in LACE mode.

## 1.32 D27

BBSID's

-----

Every packet you download from a BBS contains a BBSID. MS-QWiK uses this as an advantage to let the user specify a tagline to be used for each BBSID. The BBSID of a packet may be determined by using the

Packet Info  
command in MS-QWiK's  
PROJECT  
menu.

Each BBS tagline may have a specific tagline to accompany it. If you download and reply to a packet that has no tagline specified for it, a random tagline will be chosen, if there are any random taglines available.

## 1.33 D29

Save Config

-----

This menu option saves the current MS-QWiK configuration as s:MSQWIK.CFG

### 1.34 D30

List

-----

This menu option/gadget tells MS-QWiK to list all messages in the current area/conference allowing you to choose one for reading and replying

.

### 1.35 D31

Reply

-----

This option/gadget allows you to reply to the current message. You can choose from the following options in the reply window that is opened:

FROM

TO

SUBJECT

PRIVATE

QUOTE Original

QUOTE TYPE

### 1.36 D32

From

-----

This is usually filled with the name/handle of the user that the packet was prepared for. It is, however, editable in case a friend gives you a packet and you wish to also reply to that packet. Great for long distance callers, group and Real<->Alias Name use.

### 1.37 D33

To

--

This is the name/handle of the user to whom you are replying.

---

### 1.38 D34

Subject  
-----

This string contains that contains the title/subject of the current message. It shouldn't ever be changed since some software uses this field to decide which thread the reply will be "attached" to, but the option exists anyway.

### 1.39 D35

Private  
-----

Select this gadget if you wish your reply to be a private message, to be read only by the user it is addressed to (it is up to the BBS software to also support this option).

### 1.40 D36

Quote Original  
-----

Select this gadget if you wish to quote text from the message you are replying to.

### 1.41 D37

Quote Type  
-----

Click this gadget to toggle between the three possible quoting types. Quoting types describe the prefix that is added to each quoted line. Possible are the following types:

- > generic quote symbol
  - x> first letter of the user's name/handle
  - xx> first two letters of the user's name/handle OR the user's initials if his handle/name is more than one word
  - monogram creates a quote prefix (terminated with a '>') from each component (word) in the handle/name of the user to whom you are replying. (ie "MTM>" for "Ming The Merciless")
-

## 1.42 D38

Post  
----

This menu option/gadget allows you to post a new message in the current area. This option is once again, 100% implemented.

## 1.43 D39

Previous  
-----

This menu choice displays the message previous to, or before, the current message.

## 1.44 D40

Next  
----

This menu choice displays the next valid message in the current packet. This choice also displays the first message in a packet if no current message is in view (eg. a freshly opened packet where both area and message choice was aborted via the ESC key)

## 1.45 D41

Search  
-----

This option allows you to search through the packet comparing the FROM , TO , and SUBJECT fields until a message, matching the pattern you enter, is found.

Addendum: Multiple search patterns are now implemented as well as allowing (OS2 V1) separate FROM, TO and SUBJ settings for each and every pattern you enter. This allows you to, for example, find only messages with "QWK" in their SUBJECT field by checking the SUBJ button plus all messages addressed to "Ray" by using the "TO" button.

---

## 1.46 D42

Export  
-----

Allows saving of the current message, for future reference, as an ASCII text file which you may name appropriately via the ASL file requester. If the filename chosen/entered already exists on your system, the current message will be appended to the end of that file.

## 1.47 D43

Prev Area  
-----

This option displays the first message in the previous area. If there are no messages in the previous area, areas are scanned, backwards, until an area containing messages is found or until the first area is reached.

## 1.48 D44

Next Area  
-----

This option displays the first message in the next area. If there are no messages in the next area, areas are scanned forward until an area containing messages is found or until the last area is reached.

## 1.49 D45

Open  
-----

Brings up a requester so that you may choose a QWK packet to view/open.

## 1.50 D46

Close  
-----

Closes the currently open QWK packet, allowing you to pack your replies for uploading to the BBS you downloaded the packet from. You are also prompted whether or not to delete/rename the packet you are closing, from your system.

---

## 1.51 D47

Packing Replies  
-----

When you choose to pack your replies, you are requested whether or not to use C-NET or STRICT QWK format. You will most often be using STRICT unless you are replying to a packet generated by C-NET Amiga. The reason for the difference is because C-Net is much more versatile and forgiving in the reply packets it expects. Most other BBS's are VERY picky and require certain attributes of the packet to be non-variable. To go further indepth is beyond the scope of this doc file.

NOTE: If STRICT format is selected and a reply packet already exists for the current BBS (ie. BBSID.REP) from a previous sitting, that reply packet will be decompressed and any new replies will be added to it, and then the file is, once again, re-compressed as BBSID.REP.

If CNET format is selected then the reply packets will be named BBSID1.REP, BBSID2.REP, etc,...

## 1.52 D48

Quit  
-----

Closes any packet currently open, first asking if you wish to pack any existing replies. After packing, you are requested whether you wish to delete the packet you are closing and then the program exits.

## 1.53 D49

About  
-----

Displays information  
About MS-QWiK  
.

## 1.54 D50

Packet Info  
-----

Tells you the attributes of the packet currently open. This is where you find the

BBSID  
that is required in other areas of the

---

program.

## 1.55 D51

### Bug Reports

-----

Bug reports should be mailed/uploaded/forwarded (respectively) to:

MetalSoft  
c/o Ray Akey  
411 Bridge Ave.  
Windsor, Ontario  
CANADA N9B 2M3

BBS:           The Metal Shoppe BBS  
                  519/256-0278 (2400-19200 baud)  
                  519/255-7378 (1200-2400 baud)

C-LINK:        Heavy Metal @911:6510/0  
                  OR  
                  Ray Akey @911:6510/0

FidoNet:       Ray Akey @1:246/74

## 1.56 D52

### Special (HOT) Keys/Shortcuts

-----

There are a number of special keys that won't be so obvious, but you will heavily use once you know of them. Some of the ones not apparent in menus are:

ESC ->        Cancels the current operation.  
                  Usually this closes the current window, cancelling the  
                  command that invoked the window/operation.

V    ->        If you reply to a message, this key allows you to switch  
                  between REPLY VIEW MODE and normal MESSAGE VIEW MODE. It is  
                  a shortcut to listing the areas and choosing the "YOUR  
                  MESSAGES" area/conference.  
                  Once in REPLY VIEW MODE, press "V" again to return to MESSAGE  
                  VIEW MODE.

RIGHT SHIFT-> Displays the next message, if existent, in an area.

+  
CRSR RIGHT    If no next message is existent, then the next area with  
                  existing messages is entered and the first message in that

---

area is displayed.

If you are in REPLY VIEW MODE, CRSR RIGHT displays the next reply you made to the current message (multiple replies to an item are possible).

If you are in the YOUR MESSAGES area/conference, the next existent reply is displayed.

LEFT SHIFT-> Finds the first message in the next area/conference and  
+ displays it.  
CRSR RIGHT

RIGHT SHIFT-> Displays the previous message, if existent, in an area.  
+ If no previous message is existent, then the previous area  
CRSR LEFT with existing messages is entered and the last message in  
that area is displayed.

If you are in REPLY VIEW MODE, CRSR LEFT displays the previous reply you made to the current message.

If you are in the YOUR MESSAGES area/conference, the previous existent reply is displayed.

LEFT SHIFT -> Finds the first message in the previous area/conference and  
+ displays it.  
CRSR LEFT

CRSR UP -> Scrolls upward through the current message/reply.

SHIFT-CRSR UP-> Scrolls up one page (messages text ONLY).

CRSR DOWN -> Scrolls downward through the current message/reply.

SHIFT CRSR-> Scrolls down one page (message text ONLY).  
DOWN

HOME (KEYPD) Go to top of message.

END (KEYPD) Go to bottom of message.

PG DN(KEYPD) Scroll message down one page.

PG UP(KEYPD) Scroll up one page.

ENTER -> When in the LIST windows, selects the currently selected (highlighted) message, area or reply.

...OTHER HOT KEYS are listed in MS-QWiK menus or underlined in gadgets as per C= Amiga RKM Style guidelines.

## 1.57 D53

StatWin

-----

This menu choice simply toggles the message header/status display off/on.

## 1.58 D55

Changes

-----

There are so many changes to the program that this selection may not be entirely exhaustive but, I will attempt to point out some of the most recent and important changes in MS-QWiK v4.5 and previous versions.

NOTE: Provided no bugs are found or reported (and there should be FEW, if any), v4.51 will be an ALL-NEW FEATURES release sporting a full "old/new message database". GET ANY AND ALL BUG REPORTS FOR v4.5 IN ASAP so that implementation of major new features can be started!

\* 4.6 -

- "Steal Tagline" feature implemented. Messages that have a tagline beginning with "... " (no quotes) are valid for TagLine stealing. The hotkey for this is RIGHT-AMIGA-T and the menu command is located under the "Messages" menu.

NOTE: "Stolen" taglines have the "{N}{TIN}" SL tokens automatically added to the beginning. See below for more information on new SL tokens. "IsRand" is also toggled to the ON/SELECTED state for stolen taglines. All of these defaults are editable in the Tagline configuration window/section.

- Fixed REP date format which was causing some IBM QWK doors to not recognize MS-QWiK \*.REP packets.
- Fixed a small visual bug with the tagline window's Listview gadget that kept it from scrolling when an arrow gadget was depressed.
- Fixed an internal bug that caused MS-QWiK to display an "Unknown compression type" message for (some) valid packets.
- Message taglines are now displayed in a different color (Palette color 5) than regular and quoted text.
- MS-QWiK tags that are NOT marked as "IsFile" tags are now parsed for SL Tokens. Taglines that are kept in a file are not parsed. The following new tokens have been added to enhance tagline support:

{N} = Add a newline character.

{TIN} = Tag Inducer (most QWK readers add this BEFORE the tagline)  
Consists of the characters "... " (without the quotes)

```
**      EXAMPLE TAGLINE      : {N}{TIN}this is my tagline.
**      EXPANDS INTERNALLY TO: \n... this is my tagline
**
**                               ^
**                               |
**      the \n character is a newline character
```

- PS. Thanks to the many Fidonet users who helped me find these bugs and aided me in fixing them. Most of them were pre 4.0 bugs that were not reported (or not reported properly). Cheers to you all.

\* 4.5 -

- Screenmode support now checks for proper version of asl.library and notifies pre-asl.library v38.36 users that they need the newer library. ASL.LIBRARY v38.36 is included with MS-QWiK versions 4.4f-4.5. Future versions will no longer contain this library in the dist. archive. (it may, however, be downloaded from our support BBS)
- internal re-organization of Window code.
- sleepy pointer implemented so that you will know when MS-QWiK is busy.
- Path for printing device is now located in General Config. You may specify a DEVICE (default is PRT:) or a filename.
- "Exporting as.." status requester fixed so that filename is now fully visible.
- Fixed bug that caused ALERT 01000009 (Free memory twice) after quitting.
- ScreenMode requester forced to limit screen colors at a maximum of 64.
- a database of names from EVERY message is now kept. If you hit <HELP> while posting or replying with the TO: gadget active, you will be prompted with a list of users to choose from. If you already have a partial name typed, this function operates as NAME COMPLETION..

ie. "John" exists in the TO: gadget  
 Hitting the HELP key while this gadget is activated will bring up a list of matching names such as:

```
Johnathan Guidry
John James
etc,...
```

if only ONE match exists, that name will be entered in the TO: gadget and you will not get the name requester.

- Name DataBase is configurable in CUSTOMIZE.
  - DISABLE = No name database/Name completion off.
  - SLOW = Search list of names from DISK.
  - FAST = keep name database in RAM for fast, efficient name completion

\* 4.4f -

- mostly internal bug fixes.
- hotkey/shortcut added for the one requester, ("don't forget to upload packet to xx BBS," that required a mouse click. [RETURN], [Y] and [N] keys now satisfy this requester.
- YOUR MESSAGES area added so that messages addressed to the packet owner area bundled together in a single area for faster access.

\* 4.4 -

- Bug fixed - Bulletins have been re-worked and are now scrollable from all areas.
- Bug fixed - some packet formats were not being properly identified. This resulted in some LHA (and other) packets not being recognized.
- Bug fixed - filename was passed improperly to packer when a packet was selected from a drawer other than your inbound packet dir.
- Bug fixed - Previous message (when list window was disabled) gadget and

- shortkey did not work properly
- capability to close packets and/or quit MS-QWiK from any sub-section.
  - Headers of saved replies are now available for editing.
  - "Area Change" implemented in REPLY HEADER EDIT window.
  - RETURN key now functions as the "NEXT MESSAGE" key. A SHIFT-RETURN combination serves as the "PREVIOUS MESSAGE" key. Cursor (Arrow) keys also retain their functions as next/previous message keys.
  - PRINT option now implemented for printing the current message viewed. (with or without header - see "Customize" menu to turn headers on/off although "print header on/off" may not be implemented yet)
  - Pattern (Twit) Filter implemented. Its menu item appears under the MESSAGES menu. (see the CUSTOMIZE section of MS-QWiK to enable).
  - If you have "Use SHOW Patterns only" selected in CUSTOMIZE, only items matching those which have the SHOW flag set, in your FILTERS, will be available for reading/selection. All others will be hidden.
  - Capable of SHOWING or HIDING text which matches patterns in the following fields:

- a) Subject
- b) FROM
- c) TO

Patterns matching those which have SHOW selected over-ride those that don't have SHOW selected.

- ie. If you have a SUBJECT pattern "type" with it's SHOW flag set, and another pattern "me" with it's SHOW flag not set and, a message appears in a packet having a Subject title of "TYPE ME PLEASE", It will appear regardless of the HIDE setting.

#### \* 4.3 -

- Customize menu added.
- implementation of more SL-Tokens as follows:

```
{BLE} = Buffer display leftedge   {BTE} = buffer display topedge
{BRT} = Buffer display rightedge  {BBT} = Buffer display bottom edge
{BWI} = Buffer display width      {BHI} = Buffer display height
{FRM} = current message's FROM:  {TOU} = current Msg's TO:
{SBJ} = current message's SUBJ:  {DAT} = current Msg's DATE:
{TIM} = current msg's TIME:      {MYN} = your name/handle (see below)
```

{MYN} is actually uses the name of the person to whom the current packet is addressed. (see the Packet Info

All buffer display tokens refer to the "message text window" where the current message/bulletin is displayed. These are added to allow adding these sizes to the console window spec so that, when opened, they may fit perfectly inside the display.

- Quote wrapping and truncating options added to re-format or chop quoted text when replying to a message.
- Wrap/Chop length made fully configurable.
- Capability to turn "Choose Area" window off so that it is not displayed when a new conference/area is entered.
- Sorting of messages by user's choice. Currently, sorting by Subject, FROM, TO or Date is possible.

- choose whether to write a "reply header" - containing the current message's Subject, From, To, Date and Time - to your replies.
- option to turn on/off the scrollbars that encompass the message display.
- toggle ANSI filter on/off for exported (saved ANSI/ASCII text) messages.
- toggle ANSI filter on/off for quoted text in your replies.
- choice to list ALL conferences or only those containing messages.
- Now, configure your own "Pre-Quote text" that is written immediately above quoted text. You may use MetalSoft SL-TOKENS here also. Here is an example of the use of SL-Tokens for your PRE-QUOTE TEXT:

Quoting {FRM} to {TOU} on {DAT} at {TIM}

\*See the section on SL-TOKENS for explanation of what each token is expanded to or, stands for.

- Choose your own character(s) to be placed before each quoted line. ie. Replace the '>' character if you wish..
- Set your own tab interpretation size. ie. Set TABS to 8, and each tab is converted to 8 spaces.
- option to toggle display of the currently selected message, behind the message list ("Choose message") window.

\* 4.2f -

- Minor internal bug fixes..

\* 4.2 -

- Fixed the problem that caused DLG and a few other BBS programs to not accept MS-QWiK reply packets.
- MS-QWiK package now includes a script for the C= INSTALL utility to ease installation.
- Added message Header information to text pre-buffers so that this information may be seen if the Status Window is closed.
- Powerful MetalSoft "SL" token interpreter added. No more "%s" needed in configuration strings. The following symbols are valid at present and available for use in configurable strings such as EDITOR, PACKER COMMAND, UNPACKER COMMAND and CONSOLE:

{TMP} = QWKTemp filename	{IND} = Inbound directory name
{PUB} = Public screen name	{OTD} = Outbound pkts dir
{CON} = Console string	{PRD} = Processing directory
{PF1} = Passed Filename 1	{PF2} = Passed Filename 2

NOTE: PF1 and PF2 are for Packers only! PF1 expands internally to the filename currently being added to or extracted and PF2 expands internally to the filename(s) being added or extracted to/from the archive.

ie. LHA - the command for UNPACKING would be: LHA >"{CON}" e {PF1}  
 while the command for packing would be: LHA >"{CON}" e {PF1} {PF2}

>{CON}" may now be left out since our new SL token interpreter was added BUT if >"{CON}" is omitted, you will not see packer output.

MetalSoft "SL" Will be used in the future for scripting and also for our planned MS-QWiK ARexx support.

- \* 4.1 -
- ASL.library v38.36 is now included with MS-QWiK. It is this library version that promotes SCREENMODE and FONT selection.
- Bug fixed that caused certain random packets to be read incorrectly.
- TAGLINE selection can now be made in the REPLY/POST EDIT window. Selection of a tag here will over-ride the default setting in TAGS config. The default will be reinstated when you make another reply/post.
- Mainly bug fixes with old reply packet addition.
- Bug fix with BBS' having more than 255 areas/conferences.
  
- \* 4.00 -
- ANSI "COLOR" is now supported
- now supports PAL, OVERSCAN and Virtual (scrolling) screens/windows
- Multiple (simultaneous) copies of MS-QWiK can now be booted.
- MS-QWiK's screen(s) now opens as a public screen.
- Multiple SEARCH patterns are now implemented. Search for as many different TO, FROM, SUBJECT strings as you like!
- Packer progress (output) windows now open on MS-QWiK's screen.
- font insensitivity (for the most part) has been achieved.
- Many more hotkeys/shortcut-keys have been added.
- Some windows have decreased in size by the implementation of "ListView" gadgets (most noticeably the TAGLINES/TEXT window).
- Large (HUMONGOUS) packets no longer cause a problem as long as you have enough ram to handle the pointers to be created for that packet.. (tested 100% with a \*\* 2.5 MEGABYTE UNCOMPRESSED \*\* packet)
- More efficient handling of tagline support (UNLIMITED TAGLINES!)
- Configuration directories have been reduced to 3. (inbound packets, outbound (reply) packets and Processing)
- Replies previously saved for a specific BBS can be viewed/edited/deleted when a packet from that same BBS is opened.
- Reply editing, deleting and undeleting are implemented.
- .MQK files are now scanned when a corresponding BBSID packet is opened. This cures the bug which causes your replies are lost if your computer does the Hari-Krishna :) (otherwise known as the Guru Meditation!)
- Added an "Ignore" gadget, allowing previous reply packets to be left untouched, to the "Old Replies found" requester.
- messages are now marked "READ" when read.

## 1.59 D56

Priority  
-----

This choice brings up an integer requester which allows you to change the priority in which MS-QWiK operates. When you choose the "Save Config" menuitem, this priority is also saved.

## 1.60 D57

## Screen Mode

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This brings up the ASL ScreenMode requester allowing you to choose a mode from the screen modes possible on your system. Overscan, scrolling and PAL screens/windows are now FULLY supported.

Users with a version of the ASL library lower than V38, get a somewhat crude, custom Screenmode requester which I designed. If you want C='s ASL screenmode support, get ASL.library v38.36.

## 1.61 D58

### Troubleshooting

-----

Most users who first experience QWK will have problems. First, due to the concept of offline reading, and secondly, due to QWK reader peculiarities. This section will attempt to address potential trouble spots.

- 1) I get the message "control.dat" not found after my packet is decompressed.
  - i. Your "Unpacker Command" string is incomplete/wrong. See the Archivers Unpack Command section.
  - ii. Your console definition is incomplete/wrong. See the "General Configuration Console" section.
- 2) When I try to edit a reply/post, I get the system requester "Stack must be at least xxx bytes" message.
  - i. MS-QWiK must be ran from a CLI/Shell that has a stack equal to, or higher than that which your external editor requires.
    - ie. CED requires a stack of at least 4096 bytes.
- 3) I can't edit replies that were made in a previous session.
  - i. The reply packet you wish to re-open must be named BBSID.REP where BBSID is the string of characters found in the PktInfo window of MS-QWiK.
  - ii. MS-QWiK can't find your .REP packet. The reply packet must be located in your designated Replies directory.
  - iii. There may not be enough memory, currently, to invoke the external editor.
- 4) I get strange results when I choose anything greater than a 64 color ScreenMode.
  - i. This is a known MS-QWiK bug that I am in the process of

fixing but I wanted to get a working release out NOW so watch for a fix soon.

## 1.62 D59

### Future Plans

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There are still MANY, MANY features that MS-QWiK needs but I have intended, with this release, to include as many of the important ones that have been requested for this release. Some of the features that haven't made it into this version, but WILL indeed be added in the near future are:

- 1) Message marking for the following functions:
  - a) ASCII export of multiple messages - MS-QWiK is already 100% capable of exporting single messages.
  - b) Packing of "Read" pointers when quitting a session so that packets previously opened can be re-opened and available for resuming from your last-read/marked message.
  - c) Printing of multiple marked messages (see #5).
- 2) AREXX & DOS script support.
- 3) More configuration options such as FULL configuration of colors for text, gadgets, headers, etc, ..
- 4) Full printing capabilities of single/multiple (see #1) messages.

## 1.63 D62

### SL language

-----

SL is MS-QWiK's internal token interpreter. This interpreter was added because of the confusion created by the %s's during configuration. The following tokens are currently recognized and can be used in EDITOR, PACKER COMMAND, UNPACKER COMMAND and CONSOLE strings:

{TMP} = QWKTemp filename	{IND} = Inbound directory name
{PUB} = Public screen name	{OTD} = Outbound pkts dir
{CON} = Console string	{PRD} = Processing directory
{PF1} = Passed Filename 1	{PF2} = Passed Filename 2
{BLE} = Buffer display leftedge	{BTE} = buffer display topedge
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{BWI} = Buffer display width	{BHI} = Buffer display height
{FRM} = current message's FROM:	{TOU} = current Msg's TO:
{SBJ} = current message's SUBJ:	{DAT} = current Msg's DATE:
{TIM} = current msg's TIME:	{MYN} = your name/handle (see below)
{TIN} = Tagline inducer (... )	{N} = newline

---

{MYN} is actually uses the name of the person to whom the current packet is addressed. (see the Packet Info

NOTE: PF1 and PF2 are for Packers only! PF1 expands internally to the filename currently being added to or extracted and PF2 expands internally to the filename(s) being added or extracted to/from the archive.

ie. LHA - the command for UNPACKING would be: LHA >"{CON}" e {PF1}  
while the command for packing would be: LHA >"{CON}" e {PF1} {PF2}

">{CON}" may now be left out since our new SL token interpreter was added BUT if ">{CON}" is omitted, you will not see packer output.

MetalSoft "SL" Will be used in the future for scripting and also for our planned MS-QWiK ARexx support.

## 1.64 D60

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