

IsdBase

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REVISION HISTORY

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Chapter 1

IsdBase

1.1 IsdBase

IsdBase 1.0 - A Small CDID-based CD Database

Written by Leigh Dyer

This Program is FreeWare!

- I. **Introduction** About the program
- II. **Installation** How to get it running on your system
- III. **Features** What can it do?
- IV. **Using** How to use it!
- V. **Bugs** What's wrong with it?
- VI. **cdplay.library** Playing tracks and stuff
- VII. **Author** All about me
- VII. **ToDo List** Features in IsdBase 2.0 (maybe!)
- IX. **MUI** This program uses MUI
- X. **History** History of the program

1.2 Introduction

When I finally managed to buy a CD-ROM drive for my clunky old A3000, I started hurriedly tapping away at my keyboard, typing in ID files for all the CD's in my collection. However, when I'd finished, I found myself wanting a way to look at the ID files through a nice little GUI.

That's why this program was born. It's a small program that scans your Disks directory and presents all the CD's it finds there in a small GUI (using **MUI**).

It's my first **MUI** program, and one of my first C programs. This is only the first release, and I do have a few ideas to improve it. If you have any ideas at all, contact **me**, and I'll see what I can do.

1.3 Installation

To install lsdBase, simply double-click on the install icon. This will ask you for places to stick the program and the documentation, the path to your Disks drawer, your SCSI device name, and your CD-ROM drive unit. The Installer script will copy the program and documentation, and set up the tooltypes.

If, however, you want to install the program manually, just copy the program and documentation to wherever you want them. To get the program running properly on your system, you'll need to set these three tooltypes:

DISKS

The location of the directory holding your disk ID files. Defaults to PROGDIR:Disks/

Example: DISKS=Music:Disks/

DEVICE

The name of the SCSI device that controls your CD-ROM drive. NOTE: This is optional. If this isn't set, the cdplay.library isn't opened, and the track play and ID recognition features won't work.

Example: DEVICE=scsi.device

UNIT

The unit number of your CD-ROM drive on the SCSI bus.

Example: UNIT=2

This tooltype is only meant for more experienced users, and is optional:

EASYREQ

AmigaOS has a standard method of bringing up a message requester - the EasyRequest() function. MUI provides a replacement for this, which uses your MUI preferences and is better than the standard requester. However, there are a number of patch programs, such as Arq and RTPatch which patch the standard requester to make it much better - I myself run Arq. Because of this, I've put in this option. If you specify it, lsdBase uses EasyRequest() instead of it's MUI equivalent.

1.4 Features

Here is a quick list of lsdBase's features:

- Simple, easy to use and powerful multitasking **MUI** interface.
- Quick flicking through entries.
- High-speed Disc and Track searching.
- Plays a track just by double-clicking on it (assuming the CD's in the drive :-))
- Can automatically jump to the entry of the CD currently in the drive.

1.5 Using lsdBase

lsdBase's interface consists of three main windows: the Database window, the Disc Search window and the Track Search window. The Disc and Track search windows are opened by selecting them in the Database window's **Tools menu**.

Windows

Database

Disc Search

Track Search

The Database Window also has a few menus:

Project

Navigation

Tools

Settings

1.6 The Database Window's Menu

Project

About...

Open a window showing information the program.

Quit

Exit the program.

Navigation

This menu's items are the same as the navigation buttons in the Database window.

Tools

Read Current ID

This reads the ID of the CD currently in the CD-ROM drive, and checks it against the IDs in the database. If it finds the CD, it will be displayed in the Database window.

NOTE: This function needs the cdplay.library to work. If this library hasn't been opened, this item will be ghosted.

Disc Search...

Opens the **Disc Search** window.

Track Search...

Opens the **Track Search** window.

Settings

MUI...

Opens the MUI Prefs window for this program.

1.7 The Database Window

Database Window

This is the program's main window. It here that the actual CD information is displayed.

The window is made of three sections: the title and navigation section, the track lister, and the popup CD selector.

The title and navigation section displays the artist, title and ID of the current CD. It also has buttons for jumping to (from left to right) the first, previous, next and last CD.

The track lister lists all of the tracks on the current CD. If the program's set up properly, it can use cdplay.library to play tracks. Just double-click on the track you want to play, and (assuming the CD's in the drive), it will start playing.

The popup CD selector gives you another way to select the CD to look at. Clicking on the popup button along the bottom of the window will make a lister pop up, displaying the title and artist of each CD. Double-clicking on one of these will make the popup lister disappear, and will make that CD the current one.

1.8 The Disc Search Window

Disc Search Window

This window allows you to search for CD's that have titles and artists matching a pattern. Simply type the search patterns (standard AmigaDOS patterns) in and hit Search. The Database window will then display the first match it finds. To look for another, move forward one entry and search again.

1.9 The Track Search Window

Track Search Window

This is a search window like the Disc Search window, but this one lets you search for a track that matches the given pattern. Because track searches are slower than disc searches, the track search shows a progress meter.

1.10 Using cdplay.library to do nifty stuff

lzdBase is not a CD player program, and it probably never will be. However, it can use Patrick Hess' cdplay.library to play tracks and read the ID of the CD in the drive.

In order for this to work, you have to tell lzdBase what SCSI device your interface uses, and what unit the drive is on. This is done through the lzdBase icon's tooltips (see [Installation](#)). If you used the provided Installer script, these will already be set to the values you gave the installer.

NOTE: cdplay.library is not part of this package! It can be found on Aminet (util/libs).

1.11 Bugs

None known.

1.12 Author

Any queries about this program can be directed to me, the author:

Leigh Dyer R.M.B. 4240 Highlands Road Seymour, Victoria, 3660 Australia

This program was created on an:

Amiga 3000:

330Mb Hard drive

2Mb chip RAM

4Mb fast RAM

Kickstart 3.1

Retina Graphics Board

Sony Quad-Speed SCSI CD-ROM Drive

using SAS/C 6.2 and MUI 3.8.

[Click here to see a mug-shot of me!](#)

1.13 Features that might be in version 2.0 (if I write it!)

- Cursor key flicking between CD entries

I really wanted to do this in this release, but I haven't got a clue how to watch for RAWKEY events through MUI. If anyone out there can help me, I'd appreciate it!

- Switch to using a custom database format, instead of having to scan the CDIDs drawer at every startup.

I don't need this feature, because I only keep a small database of my on CDIDs. However, it would be very handy for people who use big CDID databases. If I did this, you'd only need to scan you CDID directory once, to produce the lsdBase database file. Once this is done, you'd only have to load this file, which would be a {u}lot{uu} faster than scanning the directory. New IDs could be added if you created them.

I do have to stress that I don't need this feature - if I implemented it, it would only be for those of you out there who want it. I'm happy to do it, but only if I know that it's going to benefit someone out there. If you want me to do it, just contact {"me" link "Author" 0} and tell me. If enough people do, I'll put it in for version 2.

- Localisation

Once again, this is one for v2 if people want it. One problem is that I only speak English and Indonesian, so if anyone can help out, please contact me.

If you've got any other suggestions to make, or just want to say hi!, please get in touch with {"me" link "Author" 0}.

NOTE: Hopefully I'll have an email address soon!

1.14 Magic User Interface

This application uses

MUI - MagicUserInterface

(c) Copyright 1993-96 by Stefan Stuntz

MUI is a system to generate and maintain graphical user interfaces. With the aid of a preferences program, the user of an application has the ability to customize the outfit according to his personal taste.

MUI is distributed as shareware. To obtain a complete package containing lots of examples and more information about registration please look for a file called "muiXXusr.lha" (XX means the latest version number) on your local bulletin boards or on public domain disks.

If you want to register directly, feel free to send

DM 30.- or US\$ 20.-

to

Stefan Stuntz

Eduard-Spranger-Straße 7

80935 München

GERMANY

Support and online registration is available at

<http://www.sasg.com/>

1.15 History

v1.00 Initial release.
