RetinaTitlePic

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Chapter 1

RetinaTitlePic

1.1 RetinaTitlePic v1.1 - A nicer startup for Retina-equipped Amigas

Created 10-Sep-1993 by Martin Kaim (gwardar@studbox.uni-stuttgart ↔ .de) Last updated: 05-Feb-1994

Martin Kaim ·
'RetinaTitlePic'
' CyberGlove '

1.2 : Martin Kaim - Author of this AmigaGuide®-database

- - SMALL BINARY FILES may be transmitted, but MUST BE UUENCODED, otherwise the 8th bit is truncated, which destroys all data sent in the particular file!
 - PLEASE, if you send binary files, send them only in '.lha'/ '.gz' archive format that has been UUencoded afterwards, to allocate as small a quota of my disk space as possible, and to ensure data integrity.
 - And, just to make sure you know where I am standing:
 NO ILLEGAL, PIRATED OR THIRD PARTY COPYRIGHTED STUFF YOU WILL REGRET IT. Thanks a lot.)
- Fido-Net: thought for a long while I was going to join RSN alas, from what I see is going on there, it is less likely than ever that I'm REALLY still THAT interested...

<babble> &%Bò <flame> #?@\$..\$& <insult>^3 % -ö¤\textdegree{}Ç -CARRIER LOST- ... -CONNECTION TERMINATED-

(guess you might know what I mean)

- DOB: april 1971
- Electrical/Computer Engineering student at the University of Stuttgart, south-west Germany
 (with an emphasis in the design of automated (manufacturing) systems and related software development; although still a far shot from done)
- · Dedicated owner of an Amiga since ancient days (1987)
- Current system configuration :) (Yep, it's still the good ol' 2000) A2000B PAL - AmigaOS 2.1 - 2MB Chip/4MB Fast - GVP G-Force 040/33MHz/4MB accelerator board w/ integrated high-speed SCSI, par.&ser. ports -Quantum LPS240 & LPS52 - MacroSystem 'Retina' 24bit graphics card/4MB - A1084 monitor (cum on folks- once, it was a fine monitor...)

Coming soon...er - or even later :(Eizo F560i-W 17" monitor - sound sampler - high-speed modem (19k2 bps) -AmigaOS 3.x (thanx to C= for the soon-to-be public release (1997 ?))

(... hear anybody say "lunatic"? - Nope, just hooked to Amiga.)

- All technical data subject to change with or without further notice :) (That is, with one exception: my date of birth is unlikely to change. -Is it?!)
- "There are three universal truths:i) Amiga rules. ii) The answer is 42. iii) Life is ... a mystery."

1.3 : 'CyberGlove' by Martin Kaim - Abstract. NOTE: PROGRAMMERS WANTED!

```
****
Ŷ
                                                                           2
8
   At the moment I am working on a piece of CyberSpace software based on
                                                                           0
8
   a hardware/software project published in the German computer (print)
                                                                           8
   magazine "c't", vol. 09-12/1992. ("Virtuality Now! Rechner-Interface
%
                                                                           °
   für den Nintendo PowerGlove")
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8
                                                                           ÷
   It uses a Mattel 'PowerGlove' (a low cost ultra-sonic data glove
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                                                                           8
%
   designed for the Nintendo console), linked through a MCU-based
                                                                           °
   interface to the RS232 serial port, to control any device or machine
%
                                                                           8
   that has an interface to a Centronics parallel port (e.g. a complex
8
                                                                           8
8
   robot with 5 degrees of freedom, or something like that).
                                                                           8
00
                                                                           2
% > NOTE: Don't send flames stating 'The PowerGlove Is Dead And Buried'
                                                                           8
   or any such statements - I know, and honestly, I don't care much.
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                                                                           8
   I own one that is still functional (it's new, to be exact) and I'm
8
                                                                           8
%
   going to use it. Full stop.
                                                                           °
%
                                                                           %
8
   With the '040 installed in my system, there should be enough power for
                                                                           8
   3D-solid visualization routines (in real time) to be implemented.
                                                                           8
8
%
                                                                           Ŷ
% > The project is still in an early stage (the PowerGlove related parts
                                                                           Ŷ
   are up and running, though) and I would be grateful to find people who
8
                                                                           8
8
   · like what I'm intending to do and want to become part of it
                                                                           8
    • know what the 'PowerGlove' is all about (have read the "c't" articles)
8
                                                                           %
%
   • are experienced C or asm programmers (the software shall comply to
                                                                           8
     the "Amiga User Interface Style Guide" and be 2.x/3.x compatible)
8
                                                                           8
   • know the Amiga hardware's ins and outs (parallel/serial ports; gfx)
8
                                                                           8
   · don't want to draw profit from their work for the project (this is,
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                                                                           8
     for the time being, non-profit; public releases through AmiNet might
                                                                           8
8
     follow, if there is any demand - then probably as shareware)
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                                                                           8
   · have an InterNet account for exchanging sources and notes fast
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                                                                           8
   • own any 2.x/3.x Amiga so that they can run and debug resulting
00
                                                                           0
8
     executables (C or Asm (O.M.A.)).
                                                                           %
8
                                                                           %
    • furthermore, it would be ideal - though not necessary- if you spoke
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                                                                           %
     German (it would be easier to communicate) and owned a similar Amiga
8
                                                                           %
     configuration (to reduce technical problems)
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                                                                           8
8
                                                                           8
% > If it is YOU who matches the requirements - please DO contact me. I am
                                                                           Ŷ
   not going any further if I have to do it all alone.
                                                                           %
8
8
                                                                           °
   Finally, I will be collecting your replies until end of may '94 and will %
8
%
   just send a "received and acknowledded" note - due to the winter exams.
                                                                           8
8
   Development will in no case continue until these are over. You will
                                                                           8
   hear from me again immediately afterwards.
8
                                                                           %
```

1.4 : RetinaTitlePic - what is it all about?

- For owners of a Retina 24bit-Gfx board, there is more and more software coming up on Aminet making use of the sophisticated gfx power of this board. With its stable WB emulation the Retina board integrates nearly flawlessly into everyday work at your favourite computer.
- Now wouldn't it be nice to be greeted with a title picture the first time you switch on the machine every day? The tools are all there they were included in the Retina v1.4 software package it's just a question of how to do it.
- Here is my solution: it is all a matter of shell batch files no AREXX, no further programming. Quick but not dirty.
- » Installation: (you are supposed to know the inner workings of the system startup - anyway, if you installed a Retina board, you should know at least as much that you can do this installation without problems.)
 - 0) Backup your 'S:startup-sequence' and 'S:user-startup' files.
 - Apply to the original files 'S:startup-sequence' and 'S:user-startup' the changes that you can see from the '#?.fragment' files in this distribution.

While doing so, adjust the paths to the picture file and the commands to your personal system setup.

- 2) Create an empty directory 'ENVARC:Custom'
- 3) Create a directory 'S:Batch' and copy the supplied directory 's/batch' there. Include 'S:Batch' in your path. (in 'S:user-startup')
- 4) Copy the supplied files from directory 's' to 'S:'
- Having completed this, your setup is ready to be tested. Behaviour from now on should be as follows:
- + When turning on your Amiga, system boots without showing anything on the monitor in the beginning.

If ALock is installed: after login, a motto of the day is displayed; just press return. The 'S:motd' file will now be deleted.

- + A blank WB screen shows. The workbench is loaded from S:user-startup.
- + Then, it happens: 'RetinaDisplay' shows a title picture (the supplied one was created from a two colour picture distributed on Aminet a while ago sorry for not mentioning the original artist - I don't know who it is, as I only have the picture, not the complete distribution archive. Anyway, I changed it a little to make it look a BIT more colourful, i.e. push it from 2^1 to 2^24 colours.)
- + The picture is shown for some seconds, while WB loading of WBStartup files continues in the background. Then, when WB has finished - whoops, the picture is gone. Try out the delay time here to suit your configuration.

- + When you warm reboot the machine or switch it off and on again, neither ALock's 'S:motd' file will be shown nor the title picture. (The flag files 'ColdBoot' respectively 'CoolBoot' were created in 'ENVARC:Custom' at last boot-time.)
- + To reset this to first-time bootup behaviour, start the script 'S:Batch/Shutdown.' from a shell. It deletes the flag files and restores 'S:motd' (this file may be edited by you, as long as it hasn't more lines than the one supplied. Don't forget to copy the modified 'motd' to 'motd.bak' or your changes will be lost during the next boot procedure!)
- » You should ALWAYS run 'S:Batch/Shutdown.' before powering down your Amiga. In this way, the file S:LogFile will contain (in pairs of two lines each) the date and time of your work at the computer (first line: start, second line: end work). See the example 'S/LogFile' supplied in the archive.

You see, no magic. Nevertheless, results are nice. (If the pic is nice...)

• Now, good luck with the installation.

The author would like to hear from you if you like/dislike this neat little enhancement to WB operation under 'RetinaEmu'.

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THIS INCLUDES POSSIBLE DAMAGE TO THE COMMODORE STARTUP FILES. MAKE A BACKUP OF THEM BEFORE YOU BEGIN, SO THAT YOU CAN RESTORE THE STATE OF THESE FILES BEFORE MODIFICATION, IF THINGS DON'T WORK OUT PROPERLY.

- DON'T - CHANGE YOUR ORIGINAL WORKBENCH SET OF DISKS. APPLY ANY CHANGES TO YOUR WORK COPY OF THESE DISKS / TO YOUR HARD DISK WB SETUP.

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The 'Retina' software package is copyright © MacroSystem, 1993/94. None of this packages' files were included, as every Retina owner has them already.

• History:

RetinaTitlePic v1.1 - 05-Feb-1994

First public release. (Oh my, what a big word. Decide for yourself whether it was worth it...)

• Bugs:

As everyone who really customises his workbench setup almost for certain tampers around with S:startup-sequence (although C= doesn't want you to), it is up to every single user how to modify this file and where to put the additional lines.

Shouldn't be a real problem, though.

• To do:

So far, nothing. It works, and that's fine.

Of course, you might as well use a 'cron' program to perform the suggested welcome ceremonial. Then again, you might not...