LhADir.dopus

Edmund Vermeulen

COLLABORATORS

	TITLE : LhADir.dopus		
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REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Chapter 1

LhADir.dopus

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 Copyrights   Legal credits.

This is the AmigaGuide® documentation for:

LhADir.dopus 1.7

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Author: Edmund Vermeulen
  Primulastraat 2
  3202 RN Spijkenisse
  Holland
  Tel. 01880-13925

Fidonet: 2:280/20 (Edmund Vermeulen)
Internet: edmundv@neabbs.uucp

Please report all bugs, problems and suggestions to the address above.

Hey, if you use LhADir.dopus let me now! I would also appreciate it if
someone with Internet ftp access would upload it there for me!

1.2 description

Description

LhADir.dopus is an ARexx script for Directory Opus that allows you to show
the contents of LhA archives in a DOpus window and operate on the files and
directories inside an archive as if it was a normal directory.

With LhADir.dopus you can:

 - browse through the directory structure of an archive file
 - read/play/show/etc. files from an archive
 - delete files and directories with the Delete button
 - extract/add files and directories with the Copy or Move button

LhADir.dopus has been tested with Directory Opus 4.12 and LhA 1.50r.

Other features

These are the features that set it apart from other DOpus LhA interfaces.

 - needs only one extra user interface button (GetDir/Browse)
 - works with more than one copy of Directory Opus running
 - view an archive in an archive by extracting it from it's mother archive
   to 'T:' or the current destination directory
 - show a file's internal version string in the title bar
 - deletes strange filenames like '#?' without a problem
 - using it is safe (I use nearly every day myself)
 - create new (empty) LhA archives with the MakeDir button
 - copy/move between two archives (via T:)
 - date stamps, attributes and comments are listed and preserved correctly

1.3   installation

Installation

Before you can use LhADir.dopus from Directory Opus you will have to copy
the file 'LhADir.dopus' to your 'REXX:' directory first. Please make sure
that the script bit of 'LhADir.dopus' is set if you want double clicking on
LhA archives to work. And of course LhADir.dopus won't work without ARexx
activated. You can activate ARexx by double clicking the 'RexxMast' icon in
the 'System' drawer. If you would like ARexx activated every time you boot
you can place the 'RexxMast' icon in the 'WBStartup' drawer or enter the
line 'RexxMast >NIL:' in 'S:User-Startup'.

Before changing your own personal DOpus config you may first try out
LhADir.dopus by using the supplied example config. You can open this config
file, called 'LhADir.CFG', from the Configuration main screen in Directory
Opus. Just choose 'Open...' from the menu.

When changing your own config you may examine the Buttons, Filetypes and
Menus parts of the supplied example config.

In short this is how to call LhADir.dopus:

– For Buttons and Menus set the cycle gadget to 'ARexx' and choose
  'LhADir.dopus' from the filerequester. Add one of the supported commands
  as an argument to the command line (e.g. 'LhADir.dopus Copy' for the Copy
  button).

– In Filetypes set the cycle gadget to 'AmigaDOS' and enter
  'REXX:LhADir.dopus GetDir {p} {o}' for Double-click. For Click-m-click
  the 'GetDir' command should be replaced by 'Browse'. In the flags area
  you must switch on 'Run asynchronously'. All other flags should be
  switched off.

1.4 commands

Supported commands

LhADir.dopus supports the following commands:

 GETDIR, BROWSE, PARENT, ROOT, DELETE, COPY, MOVE, MAKEDIR, GETSIZES,
 READ, ANSIREAD, HEXREAD, SHOW, PLAY, LOOPPLAY, PRINT, ICONINFO, RUN,
 VERSION, MULTIVIEW, AMIGAGUIDE, VIEWTEK, RETINADISPLAY.

When calling LhADir.dopus one of these commands must be passed along as an
argument. They are not case sensitive.

Note that all of LhADir.dopus' functions work equally well on listed
archives as on normal directory listings. This means that you don't have to
define two buttons for one function. Instead you can change the existing
buttons to call LhADir.dopus.

GETDIR

 Lists the contents of the selected directory or LhA archive file in the
 same window.
 If nothing is selected, the current directory or archive will be rescanned.
 The default keyboard shortcut for GETDIR is RAmiga-G.
 Note that within a listed archive you cannot double click a directory to
 list it. If you do so by mistake, use the GETDIR button to list the
 directory anyway.

BROWSE

 Works identical to the GETDIR command, but instead uses the opposite window
 for listing the files and directories. The default keyboard shortcut for
 BROWSE is RAmiga-B.

PARENT

 Lists the contents of the parent directory.
 Within a subdir of a listed archive you cannot use the window's border as a
 parent button. If you do so by mistake, use the GETDIR button to list the
 directory anyway.

ROOT

Lists the contents of the root directory.
With a listed archive this function will show the root directory within the
archive. If you are already in the archive's root directory then the root
directory of the archive's path is listed.

DELETE

 Deletes all selected files and directories.
 Please note that when deleting from an archive there is no way to get the
 deleted files back, so be careful! LhADir.dopus will honour the config
 setting about asking before commencing deletion.

COPY

 Copies all selected files and directories to the destination specified in
 the opposite window. Both source and destination window can be either a
 normal directory or a listed archive.
 Note that when copying between two archives the 'T:' directory will be used
 as an intermediate. This means that there must be enough memory available.
 Also note that when copying files to a subdir within an archive all files
 will also be placed in the 'T:' directory first before they can be added.
 Further note that when extracting directories within a subdirectory, all
 selected entries are first extracted to a special directory named 'LhADirX'
 and afterwards moved to the correct destination. So don't be alarmed when
 you see the move operations in the title bar.

MOVE

 Identical to COPY, except that the selected files and directories are
 deleted after they have been copied successfully.

MAKEDIR

 Creates an empty directory.
 With MAKEDIR it's also possible to create a new (empty) LhA archive file.
 Just enter the archive's name (ending in '.lha').

GETSIZES

 Calculates the size of all selected directories by adding up the size of
 the files they contain.
 With listed archives a directory's date and time will also be set in
 accordance to the newest file it contains.

READ, ANSIREAD, HEXREAD

 These are asynchronous internal Directory Opus commands.
 If the active window is a listed archive then only the first selected file
 will be temporarily extracted to 'T:' and viewed.

SHOW, PLAY, LOOPPLAY, PRINT, ICONINFO, RUN

 These are normal internal Directory Opus commands.
 When the active window is a listed archive then the selected files will be
 extracted one by one to 'T:' so that they can be showed, played or
 whatever. Afterwards viewing a file it is removed from 'T:' immediately.
 Note, that when working on multiple files it's always possible to abort by

pressing both mouse buttons in the DOpus window.

VERSION

 Searches the first selected file for it's internal version string, which is
 then shown in the title bar.
 It accomplishes this by calling the AmigaDOS 'Version' command.
 When the active window is a listed archive the file will be extracted to
 'T:' first and removed afterwards. If nothing is selected the version in
 'REXX:LhADir.dopus' is shown.

MULTIVIEW, AMIGAGUIDE, VIEWTEK, RETINADISPLAY

 These are external programs that are called from within LhADir.dopus.
 All selected files will be passed along to the external program one by one.
 With listed archives the files are extracted as needed. Note, that when
 working on multiple files it's always possible to abort by pressing both
 mouse buttons in the DOpus window.
 If you haven't got these external programs or keep them in a different
 directory path than I do, these commands won't work. You may edit the path
 yourself if you wish. You can also add support for other external programs
 by editing the ARexx script yourself. This isn't very difficult to do.

1.5 tips

Some tips

The following measures help speed up the operation of LhADir.dopus and stop
disk access when using it's functions:

 – Copy 'LhADir.dopus' to 'RAM:' and make a multiple assignment for 'REXX:'
   with 'RAM:' as the first one. For example: 'Assign REXX: RAM: S:' for the
   standard setup. This way the ram disk is searched first but the rest of
   your ARexx scripts are still accessible.

 – Make 'LhA' resident with the following command: 'Resident C:LhA'.

1.6 problems

Known problems

LhADir.dopus fools Directory Opus into thinking listed archives are regular
directories. This has several advantages, but also some disadvantages:

 – Double clicking on files or directories won't work.

 – Using the window's border as a parent button within a subdir won't work.

 – The config setting 'Re-read changed buffers' must be switched off,
   otherwise DOpus will try to re-read listed archive windows; which it
   can't.

– Using the normal 'Arc Ext' button by mistake with a listed archive in the destination window results in all the files being extracted to Directory Opus' current directory. Quite a mess!

1.7 history

Revision history

Version 1.0 released 21-07-1993

Version 1.1 released 16-08-1993

– Fixed several problems regarding filenames containing wildcard characters like '[]()#~%|*'. For example it was not possible to read such a file.

– Delete stopped when it ran into a file containing spaces. (I forgot the quotation marks.)

– Added ICONINFO and RETINADISPLAY commands.

– Fixed problem with internal deletes on delete protected files.

– It's now possible to copy over existing files in an archive.

– Doesn't relist the archive's contents anymore after deleting from it.

– Cleaned up code. Size is now smaller!

Version 1.2 released 30-09-1993

– Added AMIGAGUIDE command (external program) for pre KS3.0 users.

– Added GETSIZES command and removed the automatic dir size calculation. Listing archives with lots of files in dirs is now up to 40% faster.

– Both internal and external commands will now work on all selected files instead of just the first selected.

– It's not possible anymore to compile LhADir.dopus with the Rexx Plus Compiler due to the use of the interpret command. If anybody cares about this please contact me for a change.

– Documentation is now in AmigaGuide format.

– Example config is now in Directory Opus 4.1 format.

Version 1.3 released 25-11-1993

– Asynchronous internal DOpus commands (READ, ANSIREAD and HEXREAD) now only act on the first selected file.

– Added the possibility to abort when viewing/playing/etc multiple files by pressing both mouse buttons in the DOpus window.

– MultiView now opens it's window on the DOpus public screen.

Thanks to Andrew de Jong for reporting the next 3 problems:

– Fixed problems with file- and dirnames with leading blanks.

– MakeDir didn't work with dirnames containing spaces. (I forgot the
  quotation marks again.)

– Fixed problem with some PC generated .lzh files with strange date fields.

Version 1.4 released 6-1-1994

– Fixed all problems with filenames containing pattern matching tokens like
  '#?|%()[]*~'. It is now safe to delete files with names like '#?' or '*'.

– Now generates an error when trying to read/play/etc. directories from a
  listed archive.

– An archive in an archive can now alternatively be extracted to the
  current destination window instead of 'T:'. Just select 'Cancel' the
  first time.

– Doesn't leave icons lying about anymore when only the setting 'Create
  icon with directories' is active.

– Cleaned up code. Size is now smaller than ever.

Version 1.5 released 18-1-1994

– Cleaned up code. Smaller again.

– MakeDir in archives now handles all names containing pattern matching
  tokens.

Thanks to Jan Lieben for reporting the following problem:

– Fixed problems with file and directory names containing "'" character.

Version 1.6 released 7-4-1994

– File and dir names containing a '"' character are now skipped altogether.
  They were causing problems because it's not possible to 'addfile' them
  with Directory Opus.

– Now handles file comments that contain linefeeds. Before, execution would
  halt with a syntax error. Such comments are only shown up to the first
  linefeed.

– VERSION will now always show the file's version string, even when a
  different version of that file is already in memory. This was
  particularly a problem with libraries.

– With Directory Opus 4.12 MultiView and AmigaGuide will open their windows
  on the correct screen when DOpus is not running on it's own screen but
  on another public screen like Workbench.

– Deselecting in listed archives now reflects how the files and directories
  are actually processed: all at once. It's also faster this way.

– Removed progress indicator when copying/moving internal.

– Improved error handling.

By request from Andrew the Jong:

– Added MOVE command. It's identical to COPY, except that the selected
  files and directories are deleted after they have been copied
  successfully.

– Added RUN command (as an internal DOpus command) for directly running
  executable files from archives.

Version 1.7 released 6-5-1994

– Made work-around for bug in Directory Opus 4.12 'GetSelected...'
  functions. This bug was causing strange effects on the config; like
  switching the help function on.

Thanks to Peter Horsmeyer for reporting the following problem:

– Fixed problem with ViewTek 2.1. The file requester popped up instead of
  showing the picture.

1.8   copyrights

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