

NEWJUG 99ER'S NEWS

DECEMBER 1992

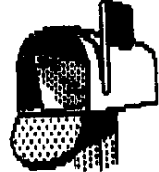


ORDER ONLY 01250

Highlights:

BBS SCENE	02
Joke of the Month	0200
MOOS SOURCE AVAILAELE	0200
BACKUP MISER	02

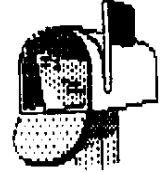
The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the officers or members. Articles printed in this newsletter may be copied or reproduced with the proper credit to the author and the newsletter.



NEWJUG 99ER'S UG
P.O. BOX 1463
SAVREVILLE, N.J.
08871-1463

POSTAGE GOES HERE

FROM:



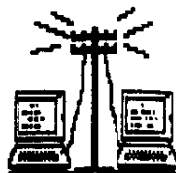
NEWJUG 99ER'S UG
P.O. BOX 1463
SAVREVILLE, N.J.
08871-1463

TO:

AFFIX MAILING LABEL
HERE



BBS SCENE



BY DAN GAZSV

Before I commence with this column, let me first say that I have and haven't missed putting this column together. I did miss the number of pages that it filled. I did miss seeing excerpts of this column appear in other newsletters. What I didn't miss was the amount of time spent reviewing log files. What I didn't miss was the inordinate amount of time this column takes to put together, compared to the rest of the newsletter. What I didn't miss was how much time this column took away from my programming time. During my 3-4 month hiatus, I was able to dedicate some to my programming projects. This never would have been possible had I continued with this column.

The majority of the material in this column is gleaned from the DELPAI network. For those of you who had been pondering whether this service is of any use to the average TI user, consider it in earnest. Whenever I have problems with hardware or software, this is the first place I turn for answers. The material in this column may seem a bit dated for a December newsletter, but I've had 3 months of messages to go through for this month's column.

EXEC

It looks as though Barry Boone is contemplating an update to EXEC for batch files and his choice of implementation appears to be just what the user could use.

34337 16-SEP 09:26 General Information
RE: PrEditor (Re: Msg 34336)
From: BBOONE To: JPLESIE

Look for a version of EXEC which will allow returns to batch files soon... (or I may fix it from the MDOS side... hmmm...) if EXEC were modified to allow returns to batch files, some programs would not run under it... (Maybe I'll add a software switch to it... say EXEC FILE /B to return to a batch file... you would just leave off the /B for software that becomes incompatible)

XB LOADER

Some of us are always searching for the ultimate XB loader that will load just about ANYTHING. While I can't say that this is EUPHORIA, it might be close.

35058 9-OCT 06:00 General Information
RE: INPUT error (Re: Msg 35004)
From: TOMSFREE To: E6ERKEN

OK, boys and girls, here is the "definitive" load program for xb which will run a variable as a program. It can be edited, resequenced, placed in any part of the program, smashed, crunched, merged, whatever you want to do. I have used "unusual" variable names so as not to interfere with any you are using. All the lines are self-contained subs except line 100 which is the line your program must eventually wind up in, with FN\$ being the name of the program you want to run (device name first).

How does it work? address -31954 (>032E) contains a pointer to the CURRENT line in the line number table, i.e. a pointer to the pointer. By the middle of subroutine 120 we have gotten to the actual tokenized line. Line 120 finds the "RUN" token (of line 100) and advances to the length byte of the quoted string. The rest is like the previous versions, with a byte by byte replacement of the original string by the one you want, then a return to the line that does it.

BTW, if you are using TI's XB, you need a CALL INIT too.
Enjoy, Tom Freeman

```
100 CALL PEEK(-31954,PP,QQ):: GOSUB 110 :: RUN
"1234567890123456789012345678901234567890"
```

```
110 GOSUB 140 :: CALL PEEK(RR,PP,QQ):: GOSUB 140 :: GOSUB
120 :: GOSUB 130 :: RETURN
```

```
120 CALL PEEK(RR,PP):: RR=RR+1 :: IF PP=169 THEN RR=RR+1 ::
RETURN ELSE 120
```

```
130 FN$=FN$&CHR$(B):: PP=LEN(FN$):: CALL LOAD(RR,PP-1)::
FOR QQ=1 TO PP :: QQ$=S EG$(FN$,QQ,1):: CALL
LOAD(RR+QQ,ASC(QQ$)):: NEXT QQ :: RETURN
```

```
110 RR=256*PP+QQ-55536 :: RETURN
```

ANALOG RGB

Some of us are still contemplating getting an 80 column device. Depending on your choice of 80 column device, it may also be necessary to pick up an analog RGB monitor. The following messages are provided to help you with this choice.

33743 18-AUG 23:22 9640 GENEVE
RE: monitor for Geneve (Re: Msg
33736)
From: LMCCLURE To: BRADSNYDER

A .42mm dot pitch would be adequate for the Geneve. I have seen this monitor in use on computers with a 640-pixel wide screen, with an 80-column display, and saw no fault in it. (Granted, it did not look as smooth as a .31mm multisync). As the Geneve only uses 512 horizontal pixels for its 80-column screen, it should be very satisfactory. About the only problem I have heard with Magavox monitors

is a problem with often having cold solder joints on the flyback transformer. However, given the fact the monitors have a 2 year warranty, and that even out of warranty the problem is easily fixed (just reflow the joints with a soldering iron), I give them a 'thumbs up'.

33754 19-AUG 21:41 9640 GENEVE
 RE: monitor for Geneve (Re: Msg
 33752)
 From: LMCCLURE To: BRADSNYDER

I've actually used a 14" VGA monitor with a pitch as bad as .52mm, and not gone blind, but I am rather nearsighted so everything beyond a foot or so looks fuzzy anyway! <grin> My roommate's 386SX has a VGA monitor with a dot pitch of .39mm (not far off from the Magnavox), and is not bad...likely about the same results you would see on the Geneve, with it's slightly lower horizontal res (512 vs. 640), with the larger .42mm dot pitch. Your idea about going to RS to look at a .42mm pitch VGA monitor to size up how things will look is a good move. Smart thinking!

33760 20-AUG 19:56 9640 GENEVE
 RE: monitor for Geneve (Re: Msg
 33736)
 From: JERRYVC To: BRADSNYDER

The 10M135 is a later version of the 515 model that I am using and mine is excellent on the 9640. The only complaint I have ever had is that it uses the traditional medium speed phosphors which make high-res interlace pics "vibrate". But then slow-phosphor monitors are very rare. The only difference between the old and new models is the new SVHS circuitry in the 135 (the 515 only has the standard RCA plugs for NTSC TV (VCR) signals).

[Editor's comment]

In my humble opinion, I have to agree with both recommendations of the 10M135 model monitor from Magnavox. I have one attached to my TIM device and its been all that I had hoped.

BACKUP MISER

While I know this issue also contains a product release announcement of Backup Miser, it's nice to know some of the typical problems encountered and the level of support from the author. Hopefully after reading the following messages, you can avoid their pitfalls if you choose to buy the product.

34890 2-OCT 23:42 9640 GENEVE
 Backup Miser
 From: GREGRPH To: ABEARD

Q1. Got my copy of Backup Miser yesterday. Thanks! I have experienced a problem initiating a backup. I think it may have to do with how I'm running the program. Since I don't have GenBench Shell yet (order went in the mail today), I

tried running it from mdos by typing in at the prompt: HDS1.UTIL.HDBACKUP I was able to set my preferences but when it save them, it saved the file to my floppy drive #1 instead of HDS1.UTIL. subdirectory. I then started to do the backup with pre-formatted disks (5 boxes full, didn't want to take any chances!). After reading the first disk, got kicked out to the A> prompt. Next time, I re-booted, re-formatted the floppy, load the MOUSE driver first, then HDS1.UTIL.HDBACKUP but no arrow came up. Does it work with the Regard mouse? If not, I'll have to peruse the message base for Myarc mouse compatible info. Thanks. Greg

34913 3-OCT 17:12 9640 GENEVE
 RE: Backup Miser (Re: Msg 34898)
 From: ABEARD To: GREGRPH

Simple problem, set your default to HDS1.UTIL.HDBACKUP, and then type in HDBACKUP. The problem is that the subtask SFBACKUP must get loaded, and HDBACKUP must be able to find it in the search path. Sorry about that. HDBACKUP is designed to work with Bruce Rellstrom's mouse driver (the one that came with 9640 Windows). Beery Miller can provide a copy (I believe for \$2.50) if you don't have one, but it only works with a MVARC mouse to the best of my knowledge (I use an Amiga mouse, which works much better than the MVARC mouse). Let me know how it works.

34965 5-OCT 11:27 9640 GENEVE
 RE: Backup Miser (Re: Msg 34913)
 From: GREGRPH To: ABEARD

A1. Where do I set the default to HDS1.UTIL.HDBACKUP ? I don't see anyplace in the Pref's section? Anyway, I tried using it again and can't get it to work. I keep getting Kicked to the A> prompt.

35042 8-OCT 20:42 9640 GENEVE
 miser
 From: ROVCAMP To: ABEARD

Q1 can backupmiser restore a directory? I need to back-up my hard drive and reformat it. When I first did it I used a setting of 8 and its very slow. I need to know if your program can reinstall all my files after I reformat or will I have to create my directories and subs before I reload?

35048 8-OCT 21:16 9640 GENEVE
 RE: miser (Re: Msg 35042)
 From: ABEARD To: ROVCAMP

While you can't set backup miser to restore just a subdirectory (e.g. search the disks for all files in a certain subdirectory), it can restore entire save disks or the entire backup, or all files matching a particular wildcard. Backup Miser has two ways files can be restored back to the original location when they were saved, or forced to a certain directory. Backup Miser will properly create all directories and subdirectories as you go along.

35059 9-OCT 10:24 9640 GENEVE
 RE: Backup Miser (Re: Msg 35043)
 From: JSVZDEK To: ABEARD

A1.

I ran a full backup on my hard drive- sort of a minimum configuration after "restoring" it manually after my problems and reformat. Some questions came to mind about the workings of "Backup Miser".

1. Do you really need to start on a fresh disk if you go back to do a backup by date? The last disk may have a lot of free space on it, it might save disk space to be able to continue.

2. If you do a full restoration, it would appear the files are restored in the alphabetical order they are saved on the disk. Since files from several directories reside there, the files don't necessarily get restored in contiguous sectors on the hard drive. This could slow down program loading. (Yeah, I'm getting really picky here, <grin>)

Anyway, Backup Miser looks like it does the job. It'll be real handy to have next time the disk "crashes".

35068 9-OCT 23:49 9640 GENEVE
 RE: Backup Miser (Re: Msg 35059)
 From: ABEARD To: JSVZDEK

1) If you don't select the "reformat" or "sweep" options (e.g. you use already formatted disks), then, yes, you can start your backups on the last disk of the last incremental backup. Hadn't thought of this, the "sweep" and "don't format" options were suggested I believe by Clint in the latter stages of Backup Miser development.
 2) Yes, the files are restored in alphabetical order.
 Sorry.

35079 10-OCT 22:26 9640 GENEVE
 RE: Backup Miser (Re: Msg 35074)
 From: ABEARD To: JSVZDEK

Joe,
 1) There shouldn't be any problem when the disk fills up. Backup Miser assumes if it has an error writing to the disk, that the disk is full and asks for another floppy mount.

2) The preference options you mention should have been saved (e.g. it is unintentional). I'll check this.
 3) Why would the date/time be better than restoring them alphabetically? I haven't noticed any slowdown on the hard

four times.

35087 11-OCT 11:03 9640 GENEVE
 RE: Backup Miser (Re: Msg 35079)
 From: CAL47 To: ABEARD

A1, I too initially had the problem with Miser not saving the Preferences as Joe mentions. I had all files in a subdirectory at the time. Later I copied all files to the root directory and had no further problems. It I think

that the preferences will only load and save to the root. Will checkk this out further. I also had to put the help file in the root as they wouldn't load from the sub.

35088 11-OCT 11:28 9640 GENEVE
 RE: Backup Miser (Re: Msg 35087)
 From: CAL47 To: ABEARD

OHAI I went back and reread the thread and discovered that I missed the Keyword <CD>. I was booting Miser from the CLI as such: HD51.BU.HOBACKUP so naturally Miser was trying to load the help files and save the PREF files to that directory. Plain as mud on my face!

PAGE COMPOSER

During the summer months, Asgard Software released this product. The following messages reflect some of dialogue that has appeared since the product was released.
 [Editor's Note]: I've seen the program and it does have the look and feel of Mac or Windows software. I only wish it could do all this nifty stuff with Page files instead of Picture files. It would save an awful lot of space.

33835 25-AUG 22:14 General Information
 Page Composer Updated!
 From: C-BOBBITT To: ALL

NOTICE

PAGE COMPOSER version 1.01 is now shipping! This new version features support for the Myarc mouse and other 9938-based mice. To select the Myarc mouse simply select the option in the Setup utility, and from that point on your Myarc Mouse works as the Asgard Mouse does. Current owners of Page Composer will receive the update free when they return their warranty cards if they note they want this update - and owners who have already returned the warranty card can still receive the update free by dropping us a postcard to the same effect. PAGE COMPOSER is available for \$14.95 plus \$3.00 S&H. To order send a check or money order to ASGARD SOFTWARE, BOX 10306, ROCKVILLE, MD 20849-0306. Thank you.

33852 26-AUG 22:58 General Information
 RE: Page Composer Updated! (Re: Msg

33843)
 From: C-BOBBITT To: SSLICER (NR)

Well, yes. The Keyboard driver was removed, however. I only had room for 3 device drivers, and the Keyboard was by far the worst (no autorepeating keys in Fortran 99). Non-mouse users will be stuck with the Joystick driver. Did I forge something? ---Chris

33930 31-AUG 20:54 General Information
 RE: Page Composer Updated! (Re: Msg

33920)

From: C-BOBBITT To: SSLICER

Ugh - I don't know how you STAND the keyboard driver! Fortran 99 doesn't allow interrupts, so it isn't auto-repeating (except on the Geneve for some reason). I guess I'm just too used to the mouse though (tends to spoil me, particular when using a mouse oriented program). Thanks for the complement on the GUI (blush). As I said before, I had a lot of things in it that I had to pull out at one time or another to make space. It even had "balloon help" ala the Mac where you point to something and press the middle mouse button and a little help message would pop up explaining it. The file loading window also looked very Mac like. Someday I will rewrite this thing in assembly and get all of that stuff back. As for Page Pro v2.0 - I refuse to step into the trap of overestimating. Could get myself in all sorts of trouble later. Sorry ---Chris

34290 14-SEP 20:42 99/4A

PPPC
From: BDOORNEOS To: C-BOBBITT

Chris, I just received your program PPPC. I love the program and its graphics. I have one question though. I need to know how to configure it to print on a Gemini 10X printer. Every time I print something, I get a little gap between each print. I tried adding LF at the end of PIO.CR but that doesn't seem to work. Please help.

34295 14-SEP 21:19 99/4A

RE: PPPC (Re: Msg 34290)
From: C-BOBBITT To: BDOORNEOS

Wow.. I tested the program on a few Epsoms and a Star 10X-1000 but not the 10X - sorry. It sounds like a line spacing problem. I'm pretty sure you can correct the "venetian blind effect" with a dip switch. Let me go back to the printer manual and see if there is some way to send a printer command to set the line width without fouling up the Epson, otherwise you may be getting a custom version. Buddy. :-)

SCSI (SCUZZY)

The following messages (though quite lengthy) provide some interesting dialogue concerning the SCSI interface, some of the devices which can connect to it, and it's ability to make clones more user friendly to our lowly TI's.

33966 2-SEP 01:43 Hardware

SCSI ctrlr
From: JPLESLIE To: DONEIL

A question was raised locally about your upcoming SCSI controller. The ability to read PC disks. Will that be just to transfer an ASCII file to/from the PC disk like PC-Transfer or can we read it directly into a WP on the 4A

Page 08

or 9540 and vice versa, save the ASCII file directly from 4A/9540 WP directly onto the PC disk?

34005 4-SEP 03:41 Hardware
RE: SCSI ctrlr (Re: Msg 33998)
From: JHWHITE To: JPLESLIE

Jonathan: Well, you want a simpler answer than what I gave. Yes, the ability to use PC text files by reading and writing directly to the PC disk will be there. How this is accomplished is not decided, but the SCSI DSR might just treat non-TI files on PC disks as DF128 files so that standard DSR calls can use them. This would mean that the application program would need to know how to handle ASCII DF128 files. Another option would be to allow the non-TI files on a PC disk to be opened as any type file, with the DSR responsible for converting automatically -- the complexity of this method of operation is something I am trying not to think about right now. Or the DSR might be written to simply convert PC ASCII files to DV80 while "inside" an application and automatically convert them back to PC ASCII when writing back to disk. Note that PC-Transfer is told by the user what type file is being converted. The SCSI DSR might not have this luxury. Let me explain. A text editor or word processor or BASIC program can attempt to open an existing file without knowing its file-type. In assembly language, this would be a routine to get file attributes (or those things that PaulJ passed in the TI Header of his XModem routine). Most editors are expecting a file to be DV80 (or maybe DF80). If the DSR call that tries to open a PC ASCII file returns DF128 as file attributes, many editors will refuse to understand. (Wayne Stith's "Sen-Tri" will understand DF128, I believe. Maybe I'll find my copy and start using it.)

Easy way around the problem for text editors is to have the DSR report back that any PC file is DV80, and let the DSR convert back and forth for reads and writes. Sounds good, until you realize that RLE, MAC-paint, and GIF files are handled as DF128 files by the 99/4A and Geneve. Of course, I have thought of possible ways around these problems. But giving you a definite answer on how things will work is beyond my powers. Bringing up 4A Memex and the possibility of a port of MDOS for the 99/4A was meant to be analogous to the questions about SCSI. Yes, these things can be done and some will be done. But saying how they will be done or when they will be done cannot be done at this time. Just because you have a 9540 does not necessarily mean that 4A Memex won't affect you. Compatibility of 4A Memex with the 99/4A will be certain. However, compatibility with the Geneve has not been ruled out, especially now that MDOS source code is available to those who contributed to its acquisition. Jeff White
P.s. pretty dry reading, huh?

34743 27-SEP 20:06 Hardware

RE: randisk (Re: Msg 34732)
From: JHWHITE To: MCCLURE

Lonnie: A very good reason why you have not seen a 1.44 Me

PAGE 09

floppy controller for the 99/4A is because of the peripheral bus. Since none of the TI, Corcomp, or MVARC floppy[only] controllers support DMA transfers, it is quite a feat just to get double density out of the latter two on the 99/4A. The TI FDC will never support double density without extensive hard-, firm-, and software modifications. [This last sentence an attempt to dispel any old rumors still out there.] Without DMA, the standard 99/4A can support close to 60,000 bytes/sec transfers across the P-box bus. I have calculated the exact number, and that value of 60,000 is too high, but is sufficient for purposes here. To give the exact value requires details of where and how the code executes, which means that there is no really, really exact value. The value of 60,000 bytes/sec is easy to remember. Let's just work on the assumption that I have calculated the theoretical maximum because I spend inordinate (undue?) time with assembly code optimization. Now that we are agreed that 99/4A console can transfer about 60,000 bytes/sec across the P-box bus, I can move on in our discussion of floppy controllers. The floppy controllers as designed present data to the console as bytes at nominal transfer speeds. The nominal transfer speeds of single, double, and high density are as follows:

Density	Nominal Transfer Speed
Single	15,625 bytes/sec
Double	31,250 bytes/sec
High	62,500 bytes/sec

Before anyone starts complaining about that table, I will say that I am very much aware that single density 8" floppies transfer at 31,250 bytes/sec. It is also quite an incomplete picture to not delve into the intricacies of FM versus MFM recording and disk rotation speed. Also, lumping quad density as defined by MVARC for the 99/4A and Geneve into the double density portion of that table should be inferred. Nevertheless, to support current 1.44 Meg floppy format standards, the bus transfer speed from the floppy controller to memory must be 62,500 bytes/sec. This means that the 99/4A console, with its theoretical maximum close to 60,000 bytes/sec, cannot handle high density by adopting the basic design of the other floppy controllers. To support high density, a DMA (direct memory access) controller must be used. The MVARC HFDC controller has DMA capability (which is obviously necessitated by the need to support 5 Mbyte/sec hard disk transfers) which is used for all floppy access. The ESD IDE and standard floppy interface includes a DMA controller chip on the board. (When ESD might yet release their interfaces is undetermined.) The WHT SCSI host adaptor does not require a DMA controller, since DMA capabilities are included on all SCSI devices.

Again, we are discussing floppy controllers here. The MVARC HFDC does have the hardware to support 1.44 Meg floppy drives. WHT SCSI will support 1.44 Meg SCSI floppy drives (and nearly any SCSI device available with active termination) in hardware. There is no such thing as an IDE floppy drive, so ESD has plans to include a standard floppy controller interface as an option which will support 1.44

Meg (and possibly larger) floppy drives. I suppose a TI Community Inquisition Committee would find that I am "in the loop" in regards to the HFDC, IDE, and SCSI interfaces. What exactly "in the loop" means in the case of each is variable. For 1.44 Meg support with the MVARC HFDC, you might contact Boony Miller (9940NEWS) with your inquiries. For questions about ESD's offerings, Barry Boone (BBOONE) is our best Delphi source. And of course, Don O'Neil (DONEIL) is who can tell you the latest about SCSI. BTW, at Fest West 1992, Shane Truffer of ESD released a flyer which said that ESD would offer a floppy-only controller that supports up to 2.88 Meg floppy drives. How that plan might have changed since then is a questionable.

Jeff White

34796 29-SEP 22:33 Hardware
RE: ramdisk (Re: Msg 34746)
From: LMCCLURE To: JPLESIE

Well, if it supports floptical drives, support of the Syquest would not be a large leap, so it is likely. Flopticals are nice, but I'm waiting for the price of the drive and media to come down. At present, the bare floptical mechanisms sell for more than what one can buy a bare Syquest mech for, and the Floptical disks sell for \$25 for 20 meg vs. as low as \$65 for a Syquest 44meg platter. The big plus of the Syquest of course, is speed. However, on a TI, that might be less of an issue, at least regarding raw transfer rate. (The faster access time of a Syquest would still be a plus, however). Of course, my real reason for interest in Syquest support is that I will be buying one to share between my Amiga and ST. If the SCSI card for the TI supported it, the purchase of another platter could give it an 'instant' 44meg hard drive for less than \$70! <grin>

34806 30-SEP 00:31 Hardware
RE: ramdisk (Re: Msg 34797)
From: DONEIL To: LMCCLURE
(NR)

The SCSI card will most likely support ANY SCSI hard disk, which includes Bernoulli and Syquest SCSI drives. If the Syquest you are buying is SCSI, then you will be in luck! As for the Floptical, the performance is actually REALLY GOOD. They have an average seek time of 65ms, similar to many of the HD's being used on the TI today. The media is actually cheaper per megabyte than any bernoulli or syquest media I've seen, even your example points that out. Flopticals are actually 21.2 MB per disk, which is more than adequate for most TI'ers. I'd guess that the floptical mechanism will cost around \$300-\$350 since prices are dropping pretty rapidly. A system with a single floptical and single 5.25 SCSI Floppy all in the P-Box would be perfect for 99% of anybody's needs.

34889 2-OCT 23:05 Hardware
RE: ramdisk (Re: Msg 34886)
From: LMCCLURE To: DONEIL

Very good. I know on at least one system (the Tandy Color Computer), that the SCSI host adapters available require drives capable of handling 256-byte sectors (apparently Seagate is about the only company that makes hard drives that can, and many of their N-series prior to 1989 cannot). Of course, given that Syquest drives only handle 512-byte sectors, that means you will not see a Syquest on a CoCo until someone comes up with a software fix for the problem. I am glad your SCSI card for the TI will not have such limitations.

I knew flopticals were somewhat larger than 20 meg (one drive I saw advertised pegged it at 20.8 meg, another at 21). Likely capacities will vary on different systems due to directory structures, etc. As an example, I understand that a 44meg Syquest cart (which I have also seen referred to as 45 megs in some cases), formats to something closer to 42 megs on a Mac, while PC and ST users get closer to the 'normal' capacity. No argument here that Floptical media is lower in cost per megabyte (and a lot packs in a lot more per cubic inch than even the 80meg Syquest carts, much less the 44's). In fact, I would not be suprised to see floptical media at less than half it's current price by the end of 1993.

Given that, and the throughput on the TI, I expect most TI users would go for the floptical. However, when you consider how many own second systems, the equation may change. If that second system is a PC, the odds of them owning a Syquest goes up. If that second machine is a ST or Amiga, the percentage goes up even more (especially with the ST). In fact, I wouldn't be suprised if you got an inquiry or two on whether a magneto-optical drive would work on it <grin>. After all, if someone already has one for their other machine, they might use it on the TI to at least do backup. (Hey, if you got it, use it). As to floptical mechanism prices, PMC is having a promotion for a floptical for the ST, for \$399. This not only includes a power supply and case, but an ICD Link (SCSI-to-DMA adapter) that normally sells for around \$100. While they admit to losing money on each unit, I cannot imagine they are losing 100 much, so this points out the mechanism prices must already be lower than those I have seen in Computer Shopper (which are about 3 months old when the issue hits the stands).

MDOS BUYOUT

MDOS has been quite a "newsy" topic the past few months. However, it encompasses more than just the buyout from Myarc. To present this topic in some sort of non-chaotic order, I've broken the info into 3 categories. The first topic covers the MDOS buyout (what was purchased, what was fixed, distribution of source, etc.).

33755 19-AUG 22:36 Development Area
RE: MDOS BUYOUT (Re: Msg 33657)
From: 9640NEWS To: JMWHITE

Jeff, you already know it, but i'll post it here anyways. MDOS/P5/STEM/ABASIC were successful in the purchase and I

have working copies with expected code. I've only seen one program that doesn't run, that is WINDOWS 9640 as WINCOWS was hardcoded to run w. th MDOS at "specific" places. I've already made some of the mods, but haven't caught the last of them yet to resolve it. As far as code, GPL 2x routines were received, but are in the same state as what Paul received them from Lou. As far as Paul's "fast HFDC" code, that is in my hands and Barry Boone has already ran some speed tests. One will be able to drop their Interlace on the hard drive to 8 (maybe more, as I spoke with Lou today and he gave some additional info with a 50 to 60x increase in hfdc access. Copies to Al Beard, Clint Pulley, and Jeff White will be mailed as disks are already copied. "Notes" that I took comprise 15 pages just to set the system up for assembly. Requires Hard drive for assembly due to 18,000 sectors of source code. Requires GenPROG for assembly due to Paul's use of MAKE that creates a batch file to run all the necessary utilities dependent upon what changes have take n place to the source code. (it is very smart and intended to reduce assembly time). Paul was VERY VERY Cooperative in the MDOS code. Contrary to all other people and their thoughts, Paul "freely" gave info and I am in a position to gather more info from Paul if necessary. Also, the code I came back with supports the P5/STEM (which I also received) and some or all of the necessary libraries with it. It supports Volumes on the hard drive and includes utilities to make volumes on the hard drive. I'll be posting a note on here, TI-ECHO, and Gerie by Sunday night on what is necessary to obtain the source from me. It is going to take a couple of nights to prepare "masters" of disks for DS/SD and DS/DD to know the volumes of disks that will be necessary. As is, I have around 20 DS/DD disks worth of source code. Also, the source will not be available on Genie, Delphi, or any BBS. Only final compiled versions. That's the only way to "control" distribution to contributors to MDOS. Also, I learned that I underestimated the number of Geneva's sold per Paul (Paul says he was paid 2200 Geneva's worth of royalties per his contract). With that result instead of the 800 I originally estimated, to complete Lou's portion of the contract (of which I am still in the red), I am about \$1500 to \$2000 short as to Buy Lou's portion of the code. It was not in immediate \$\$\$, but as making the final mailing to all registered owners. Contributions are still more than welcome (PLEASE) to reserve your rights to the source code as I am still short. I'll be back on the network this weekend as this week is catch-up.

RE: MDOS Source Available (Re: Msg
33663)
From: JSVZDEK To: 9640NEWS

Beery,
I mailed out my order for MDOS / ABASIC / GPL / PCODE source code today. What revision of MDOS source will you send out? I'd like to get the equivalent of .97H (or better). You mentioned that Paul had made some changes to the code that eliminated the hook to the CLI. I mainly want

the source for reference right now, but am also interested in getting a copy when your team has "finalized" it.
I ordered the 3.5" disk versions. Are the files archived? I saw DCOFY mentioned in last night's conference... will that be required to restore the source files. Doesn't make sense if the files are going to reside on a hard drive.

33927 31-AUG 19:30 Development Area
RE: MDOS Source Available (Re: Msg 33926)
From: 9640NEWS To: JSVZDEK

You will get a version that can compile successfully a "intact" A version of DOS if you have GenPROG utilities. The source for the "final" version should be available when completed, but until then, no "interim" source releases will be available as just getting the disks ready for one version takes quite a few hours.
Also, only archiver will be required to restore the floppies. After the problems Barry and I had sending a dcopy/arch'd version last week, straight ARCHIVER is the preferred method. Later

33960 2-SEP 00:11 Development Area
RE: MDOS booting (Re: Msg 33948)
From: JPLESLIE To: 9640NEWS

Beery, had some inquiries re: the MDOS buyout.
1. Was there any dealing with MDMS? Some want to know if that will be upgraded
2. Won't there be problems with Pecan re: the P-System source code being distributed?

33975 2-SEP 19:16 Development Area
RE: MDOS booting (Re: Msg 33960)
From: 9640NEWS To: JPLESLIE

Nothing was discussed re MDMS. If the HFDC support is properly set up, I hope no mods will be necessary to MDMS. Secondly, PECAN does not own anything or have anything to do with the source. IF they still existed in the U.S., then the 0"libraries" would available for the to sell. You would only have the runtime file, not anything to work with it. As far as I know, PECAN has filed chapter 11 in the US and is only operating out of Europe. Later

33976 2-SEP 19:16 Development Area
RE: MDOS booting (Re: Msg 33960)
From: JERRYVC To: JPLESLIE

I can comment on the P-system question. The runtime module was written by Paul C (actually rewritten after an earlier attempt by another programmer did not run). PECAN had a version for the 9900-based minicomputers I think, but the Geneve version was written to spec for Lou. The standard system files still have lots of copyright notices in them.

34020 5-SEP 00:40 Development Area
RE: MDOS booting (Re: Msg 34001)
From: JERRYVC To: JPLESLIE

PECAN was not able to provide tech support when the TI version wouldn't run since all their programmers were familiar with only Intel and Motorola CPUs. Paul saved the day by figuring out the problem with NO help from PECAN. The flap predated Paul's attack on the problem. Jerry

34111 8-SEP 00:41 Development Area
RE: MDOS booting (Re: Msg 34035)
From: JERRYVC To: JPLESLIE

Good question. I think all the copyrights except PECANs have been transferred PECAN. The next question is whether PECAN "abandoned" their TI copyrights two years ago when I confronted MUSUS with the issue. I uploaded a highly modified TI SYSTEM.LIBRARY that I got from Sweden, and after several months, MUSUS released it. Since the President of PECAN was on the board of MUSUS at the time, this effectively released the TI sys.lib into the PD. The Pascal-based system files are another question. I assume that they are still under copyright and have taken pains to sell only software that I have purchased (in some cases this meant fixing bad copies -- it is very easy to zap a P-system disk if you don't know what you are doing). The newer version used by Myarc raises other questions. I am sure PECAN's license to Myarc included some provision for PECAN to supply the system files that make the license runtime and library (99xx - specific) fully marketable. Now PECAN can't honor that commitment, which means it may be in their interest to abandon their copyright (i.e., not seek to enforce it) in this instance. On the other hand, this version is not very old and I don't know whether they could let it go without compromising their rights on some other CPU. The only way to determine if a copyright is abandoned is to hire an attorney to check it out or take a chance and see if they defend their copyright (then you don't have to pay an attorney UNLESS they sue, but you may have to pay damages). I do know one group of Tiers who successfully claimed an abandoned copyright after the original owners went belly-up.
A long-winded answer - but you can see it is not a simple situation.

MDOS Bugs & Booting

The second topic of discussion are the bugs reported, problems booting MDOS, etc.

33601 16-AUG 19:07 9640 GENEVE
mdos bug
From: FDOS To: ALL

MDOS Bug Report (from FDOS on August 16, 1992)

The following "Bugs" or enhancements are not really hardware related, except that one part is specific to MDOS .97H, meaning that an HFDC and harddisk is in use. In all cases I only use MDOS .97H with the latest PATCH97 downloaded from DELPHI.
I won't include any Video XOP 6 problems here, as I believe these will all be rewritten anyway, and that the Video

ables will be corrected, and that we'll get better documentation for sprits functions. I believe that it was a mistake for "H" versions to attempt "Boot up" from a Ramdisk first, then the harddisk, and then finally from floppy.

In the event of a failure on the harddisk that prevents "Boot up" we are forced to tear our system down and reconfigure it hardwarewise. I can only guess that the harddisk folks get a second chance from the harddisk, but I don't have a battery backed Ramdisk, so I don't really know if that works or not. Of course, those folks with separate power supplies for their harddisk systems can simply power them down, and then should be able to boot from floppy. In anycase, I think the "Boot up" sequence should change to floppy first. That way, if no "LOAD/SVS" file is found on the floppy or no diskette is in drive A1, the search could then go to Ramdisk and then finally to harddisk. Another mistake can be found in the COPY routine. Copying a file from one device to another or from one directory to another, causes the file UPDATE stamp of the new copy to be given the current date and time, in spite of the fact that it is just an identical copy and that no changes have occurred. I find myself UPDATEing files unnecessarily due to this mistake.

I also believe that MDOS should validate device and directories before executing the specific MDOS command, such as, CHDIR, or COPY to/from invalid device or directories. It's a real bitch, after COPYing in over 1 MB of files to get the error message "bad output device". I have learned to be more careful, but after all I am still human, and still known to make a mistake or two from time to time.

The most important item totally missing from MDOS is a user installable ISR. I mean in native MDOS mode, as it is available from GPL. So, I deem this one to be an absolute requirement, as the only way I know around it is by a "polling" routine, which can be very wasteful in some situations.

I am hopeful, that someone out there will be able to speed up the disk access portion of MDOS, as it sure seems to me that in that area we are much slower than most any MS-DOS machine I have used over the years. Otherwise, my Geneve compares favorably with the slower 386 machines that I have used (I have the 8 wait state 2 MB Memex to thank for that).

33938 1-SEP 00:05 Development Area
RE: MDOS booting (Re: Msg 33938)
From: FDOS To: 9640NEWS

Beery, I am pretty sure that LOAD/SVS already forces MDOS to boot from the device where LOAD/SVS was found. Only the HFDC does not ever go to floppy to look for it. If you have a floppy controller besides the HFDC, then it will work. However, this does not solve the problem when the LOAD/SVS file on the hard drive is ok, but SVSYSTEM/SVS on the hard drive has gone bad (for whatever reason), or a new non-working SVSYSTEM/SVS was just installed. I have no way to protest if I can't force it to boot from floppy without a teardown.

Dan Eicher in MSG #33902 has come up with an alternate

solution that would probably be acceptable to most everyone, myself included. It still requires that the boot EPROM be modified. Does anyone have source code for it? Thanks for the assistance, Bill.

33948 1-SEP 19:15 Development Area
RE: MDOS booting (Re: Msg 33938)
From: 9640NEWS To: FDOS

Bill, unfortunately I don't have the source for the Eprom. What I do have that will be released (and is available with the MDOS source in the MDOS-ROOT files), is a program that can load any SVSYSTEM/SVS type file (doesn't matter the name), from anywhere your current version of MDOS allows you to access. This way, you can "toggle" MDOS versions quite easily. This was written so that each compiled version of MDOS could be "run" without copying it to the root directory and rebooting the system. DS If one modified the "autoexec" name to alternate filenames, it would be possible to have 1.14, 97h, and 98h (Lou's release) all available and each calling up their "separate" "AUTOEXE1-3" files to use the appropriate patch routines. The next release of MDOS should not require any patches (hopefully) This includes SETDSK as I am looking at "imbedding" a command into the CLI to allow you to set your head step speeds and tracks/drive. The only "problem", is that if you boot from floppy (or ever need to boot from floppy), then the patch will not enable 80 tracks on drive 1 until after MDOS is loaded. In other words, if your controller did not support an 80 track eprom, drive 1 has to be a 40 track disk until MDOS is loaded. Hope some of this info helps. Later

34045 5-SEP 15:54 Development Area
RE: MDOS booting (Re: Msg 33948)
From: FDOS To: 9640NEWS

Beery, thanks for the info on what must be an improved "LOAD/SVS" file. It still seems to me that this file will have to reside on floppy, just in case the MDOS booted is bad. No way to recover afterwards! Except changing the file by swapping floppies, but the HFDC still won't go to floppy. As long as the MDOS versions are good, then that will work quite well. In any event, we are back to attempting to boot from floppy first or the "Hot" Key method. Nicht war?

MDOS v1.20

The last topic concerns the version of MDOS (v1.20) that was released right after the buyout. In the following thread of messages is a list of what is contained in the release, bugs experienced with v1.20 and overall user experience with the product.

34076 6-SEP 20:39 Development Area
New Files
From: 9640NEWS To: ALL

I've uploaded interim releases to MDOS V1.20F & HDOS

1.20H. Also included is the PSYSTEM Runtime program (no libraries here yet, but available on Genie), MKVOL, and BASIC 3.00. I don't know if there are any fixes to BASIC, but this is the most current source I have to work from. Later

44106 7-SEP 23:06 9640 GENEVE
mdos 1.20F and HRD?
From: BRNDSNYDER To: 9640NEWS

Jerry, I tried the new Mdos. version 1.20F, but I can't get it to work with my Horizon ramdisk. I tried downloading twice to make sure that I got a good copy, but got the same results both times.

The problem is that I can't access my HRD at all once 1.20F is loaded. I've tried with and without the patches that I use: SETDSK-COM, FIXRAMDISK, and RAMDOS. Since I don't know what has changed in the new version of Mdos, it is hard to tell if I should be using any or all of the patches. I suspect that I will have to wait for RAMDOS 1.20F, as that patch sometimes locks up the computer, and if it doesn't I can't access DSK1 anymore.

I use the HRD as a work drive, not a boot drive. It has no changes made to it. No Phoenix mod. I boot up from a floppy, and I don't have a hard drive. When I switch back to Mdos 1.14F, everything is back to normal, and the HRD is just as I left it. The Geneve is modified with the extra 12K 0 wait RAM. Any suggestion? Also, could you tell us what has changed in the new Mdos?

RE: New Files (Re: Msg 34127)
From: JERRYVC To: JSVZDEK (NR)

DSK5 is not a patch but a simple ramdisk operation - keep it. I also found that LOCK3 seems to be OK and SETDSK as well. DO NOT use any old version of RAMDOS -- they are all version dependent (they alter absolute addresses which change from version to version). SETDSK on the other hand, uses an MDOS pointer to find the address to be changed, so it works for any MDOS.

44176 9-SEP 22:22 Development Area
RE: New Files (Re: Msg 34152)
From: 9640NEWS To: JPLESIE

SETDSK-COM is used to use a 720K drive with a CorComp system. Also, I don't think the MDOS Format command is smart enough for the format structure on the hfdc without some rewrites.

34187 9-SEP 22:49 9640 GENEVE
RE: GEN-TRI (Re: Msg 34155)
From: JERRYVC To: D24

The I/O mods in the new versions of MDOS should fix that. Paul C had made some changes that should speed up HD read/write by a factor of three, but you will have to reformat your HD at a faster interface. Barry Boone will have a lot to say about this in coming weeks.

34197 10-SEP 02:06 9640 GENEVE

MDOS v1.20 notes
From: JERRYVC To: ALL

Beery's Notes ...
New CLI Command (can be used in an Autoexec file)
VERIFV [parameters]
VERIFV ON Default, no changes to operating system.
VERIFV OFF Sectors not verified on writing to floppy, "traditional" 4A style.

TTVOUT Routine modified to work with PSYSTEM

Memory management does not block out Memex pages unnecessarily.
[Means you have to flip dips on Memex or have fully decoded expansion cards]

LOCK03 No longer required for EXEC users.
Physical page 003 is permanently reserved for TIMODE.

LOCKBC No longer required.
No longer memory management conflicts with users using the save speech card.

FILES and BUFFERS statement removed from the CLI.
After looking at the code, they performed no useful feature at all. It was only cosmetic.

Keyboard Scan Mode 8 fixed

CLI Interface reinstalled after removal from 8.98H/1.15.

Remapped Operating system back to original pages to maintain compatibility with GETSTR, and GETKEV.

Removed a few hundred bytes of unnecessary text in the CLI.

My Notes ...

MKVOL for Psystem still has an original Myarc bug -- it measures size in sectors (256 bytes) rather than P-system "blocks" (512 bytes) as implied in the prompt. Fix by changing AX2 to AX4 in line 130.
Using the file-labeled volumes (DSK2.PFILE) rather than device-labeled volumes (DSK2.) when invoking PSYS imposes a substantial penalty in I/O speed. Note that device-labeled volumes must be ZEROed to properly locate directories.
Anyone with GENie access should note that the two PSVSLIB archives are nearly identical but only PSVSLIB1 worked for me. It also appears that the 9640-specific SVSTEM.LIBRARY may have been omitted (the creation date on the SYS. LIB file is 1988, but should be 1991 -- also it has the "turtle-graphics" units that were not supported on the II). There are a large number of standard utilities that are omitted -- I am checking this against the files and source Lou "gave" me personally during beta-testing.

I will be comparing notes with Beery as

34229 11-SEP 19:43 9640 GENEVE
 RE: GEN-TRI (Re: Msg 34214)
 From: 9640NEWS To: MARKVC

Mark, the speed up routines for the hard drive were not in 1.20H. Clint identified a "bug" and we are chasing down what is causing it. The bug is a result of multiple sector I/O reads (or at least appears to be).

34277 13-SEP 22:46 Development Area
 MDOS 1.20 breaks FIXRAMDISK
 From: JHWHITE To: ALL

THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE for anyone using MDOS 1.20, the internal Geneve RAMdisk (OSK5.), and the FIXRAMDISK patch (latest versions). Either don't use FIXRAMDISK with MDOS 1.20, or make the following patch with your favorite sector editor:

Find hex string: BB99 03B8
 Replace with: BB99 03FF

This is what I did with the revision that is 142 bytes long, but I think it will be the same for all revisions. Yes, I know I should be using the latest FIXRAMDISK, but I'll have to find a copy. Note that this patch (replacing B8 with FF) will make FIXRAMDISK not work with any earlier releases of MDOS. I think PaulC made the change after I suggested it to him. I'll upload an MDOS 1.20 exclusive version of FIXRAMDISK if anyone wants it.

34286 14-SEP 04:19 Development Area
 RE: MDOS 1.20 breaks FIXRAMDISK
 (Re: Msg 34285)
 From: JAWHITE To: JPLESIE

Jonathan: I uploaded a new version of FIXRAMDISK for MDOS 1.20F/H. Changing the byte B8 in earlier versions to FF would have worked most of the time. However, no one ever reported a bug that could cause in rare cases problems with the RAMdisk. I suppose no one ever tried setting the RAMdisk to 400K with 0.97H and then running FIXRAMDISK after having copied files to it. It was a well-concealed bug that got in when I squashed the code. According to the time stamp on the file, I wrote Revision 4 during the wee hours of the morning. Since no one complained, I'll assume the bug never showed its ugly head. BE WARNED that using FIXRAMDISK Revision 4 or earlier with MDOS 1.20F/H will cause unpredictable results and unbelievable numbers with DIR or CHKDSK.

34311 15-SEP 03:22 Development Area
 RE: MDOS 1.20 breaks FIXRAMDISK
 (Re: Msg 34304)
 From: JAWHITE To: JPLESIE

Jonathan: I thought I was clear that the new version of FIXRAMDISK is only for MDOS 1.20F or 1.20H. PaulC implemented my suggestion (to replace B8 with FF in the RAMDISK header), and that change breaks earlier versions of

FIXRAMDISK. FIXRAMDISK is no longer necessary with MDOS 1.20 (either version F or H, and when I say MDOS 1.20, I refer to both). You can FIXRAMDISK-like results by formatting the RAMdisk larger than the amount reserved by RAMDISK. Here is an example autoexec file:

```
RAMDISK 120
ASSIGN C=DSK5:
C:
FORMAT /K120
```

After you go through the format, MDOS will say you have 1 bad sector and 509 free on the disk, and there is a total of 512 sectors. The FIXRAMDISK approach will also give you 509 free sectors, but no bad sectors because the total number is 511 sectors. The 512th sector is not bad; it does not exist. You can of course use FORMAT /K132 and get 17 bad sectors. PaulC did not take my suggestion and move the RAMdisk header into the OS pages. If he had, we would not have to worry with FIXRAMDISK. In fact, unless you want to gain the few sectors FIXRAMDISK adds, don't worry about using FIXRAMDISK with MDOS 1.20.

34330 15-SEP 23:21 General Information
 NEW
 From: JERRYVC To: ALL

NEW:

From Clint Pulley and Jeff White: new versions of QDE, CDEF, and FIXRAMDISK for use with 1.20 versions of MDOS. above - GenPROG).

34524 21-SEP 21:57 General Information
 to >0C or not to >0C
 From: BARNESW To: ALL

Does anyone have any idea what's going with the following problem? I recently installed MDOS ver 1.20f. I also recently dusted off some old 9640 Fortran code. After changing it around (making it bigger in size), re-compiling, and executing it I noticed the screen data was all jumbled and overwriting itself. I found out that neither the Fortran CALL SCREEN or format control code "1" clears the screen anymore. Since all the CALL SCREEN command does is write the clear or page break control character (>0C or twelve) to the screen via the video XOP (6) and operation 27, I wrote a simple assembly routine to blank the screen by moving spaces to the VRAM screen table. This should have worked, right? Uh-uh, think again! Well it did and it didn't. The routine, executed from the Fortran program, does clear the screen. However, when writing to the screen from the program and the bottom is reached, the screen scrolls and the previously cleared screen magically reappears along with the stuff currently on the screen. I tried this program (using the CALL screen) from versions 1.14f and 1.15f. The former of the two works but the later does not. It's obvious the >0C command was disabled after 1.14f, but some screen clear mechanism still exists in MDOS (i.e. the CLS command line command

till works.) I've tried solving this by clearing all screen tables in all 16 URAM pages (this is running in TEXT mode) and writing spaces to the screen via the VID XOP. The results are still the same when the bottom of the screen is reached and it scrolls. So does anyone have any ideas about it?

Clearing a screen in Fortran and making it stayed cleared.

What the deal is with the >0C command. Is there a new clear screen command in MDOS 1.20f? For some reason I vaguely recall hearing/seeing/envisioning talk on this before but cannot seem to recall (or find) it. Any thoughts, comments, or otherwise are welcome.

01591 23-SEP 20:09 Development Area
Screen Clearing
From: 9648NEWS To: BARNESM

I am aware of the screen clearing problem you mentioned. byte >0C does not presently clear the screen as it was modified to maintain compatibility with the PSYSTEM. After talking with Clint Pulley, he has had the opportunity to examine the PSYSTEM in more detail and does not think that anything current with the PSYSTEM uses that screen clearing call.... so it will be modified in a release (soon) that will restore the >0C screen clearing capability. Also, per Clint, byte >1A will also do the screen clearing too.

01657 25-SEP 21:05 Development Area
RE: Screen Clearing (Re: Msg 34538)

From: CLINTP To: JERRYV

Jerry, I have not changed the special codes (1C-1E) which PSYS needs. What I have changed is the use of Form Feed (0C) which, prior to 0.99h, cleared the screen and homed the cursor as one would expect. At 0.99h this was changed to an operation that advanced the cursor forward by one position. I have also found that code 1A can be used to clear the screen. The new versions of DM and QDE use this. However, Beery advised me that many programs were broken by the new use of form feed, so I changed it back to clear screen and made code 19 do the cursor positioning. I tried what little I can do with PSYS to test and nothing appeared different. However, I have had no luck in doing anything significant with PSYS (no docs so can't even load a file into the editor!) so cannot test further as I must do before releasing the code.

Joke
Of The
Month



A blind man walked into a warehouse, mistaking it for the church next door. Sensing a presence, he approached the madam and quietly said, "Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned."
"Well, honey," she said, "you tell me your sin and I'll tell you if it's original."

MDOS SOURCE AVAILABLE

From: 9648NEWS To: ALL

9648 News
Beery Miller
P.O. Box 752465
Memphis, TN 38175
Dear Sir,

As a result of your generosity, the MDOS Buyout was successful. I have now retained the exclusive rights to the source code for MDOS, ABASIC, and PSYSTEM. Also included by Paul Charlton, was the GPL Interpreter source code. Per my promises the source code is available ONLY to the contributors to the MDOS Buyout. The source code will not be available on any network or BBS, and should not be distributed to anyone without my direct authorization. Final versions of the program image files for MDOS, ABASIC, and the PSYSTEM runtime system will be available on Delphi, Genie, and through other BBS systems. Per contract with Lou Phillips, all registered Geneve owners will receive their final copies of MDOS directly from me (if Lou Phillips provides the names and addresses and does not break that clause of the contract). Paul Charlton was paid \$2500 for his portion of the source. Lou Phillips required not immediate cash, but instead required me to handle the estimated 2200 Geneves and the final mailing of MDOS software. As a result of this higher number than my anticipated 800 Geneves figure, I am still short money to handle the final mailing. Your generosity has been appreciated. If you (or others you know), would like to make an additional contribution, it is more than welcome. Other people contributing will also have the option then of also acquiring the source code (minimum \$25 contribution before acquiring source code diskettes).

As I mentioned earlier in transcripts and notices, preferred enhancements to MDOS will only be "heard" from contributors. Bug reports will be heard from everyone. Current enhancements have included a 3 fold speed increase for any floppy controller access and a 2 fold increase in hard drive speed.

There are "requirements" to be able to assemble the source code to these systems. It requires a MFDC and hard drive, and also ownership of GenPROG by Paul Charlton. I am currently negotiating a contract with Paul Charlton on the re-distribution of this package.

Ordering Packages

Diskettes are available in 5.25" DS/SD (180K) format
or 3.5" DS/QD (720K).

	5.25" (DS/SD 180K)	3.5" (DS/QD 720K)
MDOS/GPL	\$10.00 (4 disks)	\$5.00 (1 disk)
ABASIC/GPL	\$ 7.50 (3 disks)	\$5.00 (1 disk)
PSYSTEM	\$ 5.00 (2 disks)	\$5.00 (1 disk)

Name: _____
 Address: _____

Products Desired:
(please circle)

MDOS/GPL	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
MDOS/GPL	\$ 7.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
ABASIC/GPL	\$ 5.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
PSYSTEM	\$ 5.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
PSYSTEM	\$ 5.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

Total: \$ _____

Bugs with 1.14F or 0.97H MDOS that you would like to report are:

Wish list (but no absolute promises) of things you feel need to be added to MDOS, ABASIC, or possibly PSYSTEM:

BACKUP MISER

Product Announcement - Now Available for the 9640 GENEVE Backup Miser

September 7, 1992 - LGMA Products

LGMA Products announced today the availability of BACKUP MISER, a new Hard Disk Backup Utility for the 9640 Geneve.

BACKUP MISER runs under MDOS .97H and later versions of MDOS, and provides compressed backups of a hard disk to one or more floppy disks.

BACKUP MISER utilizes the same type of LZH compression as ARC. Backup Miser will compress any file that will fit on a floppy in compressed format. Using BACKUP MISER, you can:

- o Back up your entire hard disk to floppies in compressed format
- o Back up any directory or set of subdirectories to any number of floppies in compressed format
- o Back up your hard disk based on files that have changed since a certain date and time
- o Back up any files that match a wild-card pattern (e.g. all of your *.C files)
- o Set up to six "ignore" patterns (e.g. skip all your *.X files)
- o Backup to any floppy drive

BACKUP MISER has extensive restoration options, including:

- o Completely restore a hard disk from floppies. BACKUP MISER even takes care of creating your subdirectories for you!
- o Restore a set of files to a temporary directory
- o Wild-card your restorations (e.g. restore all of your *.C files)
- o Restore from any floppy drive

BACKUP MISER supports all four floppy drive types:

- o Single Sided/Single Density
- o Double Sided/Single Density (normal TI Controller)
- o Double Sided/Double Density

o Double Sided/Quad Density

Of course, BACKUP MISER is a GenBench SHELL application, which means you have the same great user interface as GenBench SHELL. No cryptic command lines to memorize, just invoke your pop-down and pop-up menu boxes, and use your mouse or keyboard to "drive" the program.

BACKUP MISER "remembers" your file types and original directories so you can restore perfectly all of your files. BACKUP MISER supports the "pre-clean" method to gain optimal file compression.

In addition, BACKUP MISER provides you with on-line HELP capability!

BACKUP MISER is available immediately through LGMA PRODUCTS. To utilize BACKUP MISER you need:

Basic 9640 GENEVE (no MEMEX required)
MYARC Hard/Floppy Disk Controller
At least one floppy disk and one hard disk

BACKUP MISER can be ordered directly from LGMA Products by sending a check or money order in the amount of \$20.00 to:

LGMA Products
5610 AppleButter Hill Rd
Coopersburg, PA 18036

The \$20.00 includes all shipping and handling charges.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS

DETACH THIS PAGE FROM THE NEWSLETTER AND SUBMIT IT TO THE EDITOR AT THE NEXT CLUB MEETING YOU ATTEND OR MAIL IT TO: NEWJUG 99ER'S USER GROUP
P.O. BOX 1463
SAUREVILLE, NEW JERSEY 08871-1463