BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO SYSTEM DISKS

Part III - The Installer
By Joe Wankerl and Steven Disbrow

Perhaps the least used portion of IIGS System Software is the Installer. The first place you are likely to encounter the Installer is on the IIGS System.Tools disk. Since IIGS System Software is becoming more complex with each release, a utility such as the Installer is needed to ensure that users have a means of quickly, easily, and correctly installing these updates. In this final installment of the "Beginner's Guide To System Disks," we'll find out what the Installer is all about and how to get the most out of it.

What It Is

The Installer is a utility, written by Apple Computer, Inc. and (initially) provided on the System.Tools disk of each IIGS System Software release, that allows software publishers to provide users with an easy way to install their software. Instead of forcing users to copy files using the Finder or some other utility, the Installer allows publishers to automate the installation process by the use of Installer scripts. These scripts contain instructions that tell the Installer which files need to be copied and where they need to be copied to.

Meeting Notice

The next meeting is
October 21, 1993

The topic is still open
for suggestions

Contents

Meetings - Regular Membership
The regular membership meeting is held on the third Thursday of the month, with a start time of 7:30 p.m.. The meeting is held at:

        "the computer store",
        444 Ferry Street, Salem, OR.
The general public is invited to attend.

Meetings - Board of Directors
The Board of Directors meeting is held before the regular meeting or as otherwise arranged.

Annual Membership Dues
Individual member $15.00

The WAC BBS is currently provided at no charge, however if you would like to make a donation to keep the BBS running, contact:
Neal Layton
P.O. Box 18435
Salem, Oregon 97305

Authors should submit their articles in hard copy, 3 1/2 inch disk or send it via modem to the editor at the above number by the first of the month.
Copy should be submitted in ANY form you wish. I can read any format from any computer types so if you have something that looks good send it in.

The WAC Journal is published monthly.

Contributing writers are needed, especially for the Who's Who column. This is a member written column dealing with what each individual is doing with their computer, what kind of computer and programs you use, and how long you've had your computer. I can accept your article at any time for this column. Call me!

This newsletter was produced with Appleworks GS and printed on an Imagewriter II.

Since Apple stresses using the Installer so much, EGO Systems has licensed the Apple IIGS System Software for use with GS+ Magazine. On each issue's disk you will find the Installer along with several Installer scripts that will allow you to quickly and easily install the software on the disk.

How To Use It

Using the Installer is simple. Let's say you want to install an EGOed update on the latest issue's disk. After starting up your computer, insert the GS+ disk into a drive and run the Installer. It is important to remember that the Installer only recognizes the scripts that are in the Scripts folder on the disk that it is run from. So, in this case, it is very important that you run the Installer from the GS+ disk and not from your System.Tools disk!

When the Installer window appears, you will see, on the left hand side of the window, a list of the scripts that are on the GS+ disk. The Installer refers to these scripts as updates. On the right hand side of the window is an icon showing the name of the disk or folder that will be the target of the installation. Below this icon is a list which, for updates that can go in a folder of your choosing, will show all of the files and folders in the target directory. Since the EGOed update can only go in the System:Desk.Accs folder of your boot volume, this listing will be empty.

Now, click on the line that says EGOed so that it becomes highlighted. When you first start the Installer, the default target disk for updates is your boot disk, so that should be the disk that appears in the right hand side of the window. So, all you have to do at this point is click the "Install" button. The Installer will then begin copying the appropriate files from the GS+ disk to your startup disk. If necessary, it will prompt you to swap disks when needed. That's all there is to it.

One quirk about the Installer is that when you install files into the *:System folder, the Installer will force you to restart your computer when you try to quit from it. So be sure you do all of your updates at one time.

Why Use The Installer?

Only a few days ago, Apple Computer, Inc. released Apple IIGS System Software v5.0.3. This update comes on two 3.5-inch diskettes. Since there are numerous enhancements in this new version of the System Software, you will probably want to take advantage of it as soon as possible. So, when you finally get your copy of System Software v5.0.3, how do you best take advantage of it? Well, if you don't have a hard disk, what you will probably want to do is just make a backup copy of the new System.Disk and just start up your computer with that. However, if you are using a hard disk, you probably have a need for several of the files on both disks. But, which ones do you copy for your

particular configuration? For example, where is the new driver file that will let you use your 3.5-inch UniDisk drive? You can spend a few minutes searching both of the update disks and copy over the file when you find it... but, is it just one file? Even if it is, where does that one file go? The Installer knows the answer to all these questions.

Suppose you don't care about any of that UniDisk junk. You just want to get the new System Software on your hard disk as quickly as possible. Which files do you copy? Which files do you delete? Are you sure?

Speaking of copying files, do you have to use the Finder? Will Copy II+ do the job? What if some of the files in the update are those silly "forked" files? Copy II+ can't handle those!

The Installer, by the use of script files, knows which files to copy and which to delete. If you were to do all of the copying by hand, there is a big probability that you'd forget a file and your system wouldn't work like it should. The Installer, on the other hand, will follow the instructions that it finds in the script file and copy everything needed. The Installer also knows how to copy files with resource forks, so you don't have to worry about that. Also, by automating the file

copying procedure, you no longer have to figure out which files to copy or where to put them. All you have to do is select the update you want to install, select the disk volume you want to install it on, click the "Install" button, and swap disks when you are asked to do so!

Taking A Hint

In the year or so since the Installer was first introduced to the IIGS community, I have heard several dozen people ask Apple representatives the question, "Why doesn't the new System Software work for me?" In each case the reply has been, "Did you use the Installer?" If you don't use the Installer to update your System Software, the first thing you will be told to do is reinstall itＯthis time with the Installer. Basically what Apple is saying is, "The Installer works. Take the hint and use it! If you still have a problem, let us know."

But it isn't just AppleＯmany other companies are starting to take advantage of the Installer and insisting that people use it. It cuts down on the number of problems that users have due to faulty installations and, therefore, reduces the time that is spent answering the technical support phones.

The End Of The Road

This brings us to the end of our "Beginner's Guide To System Disks." By now, you should have a handle on what IIGS System Software is, what it does, and how to make sure you get the most out of any future versions of System Software. (Use the Installer!) But, if you still have questions

about IIGS System Software, don't forget that the quickest way to learn about your computer is to pull out the manuals and then sit down at the computer and use it. If that doesn't help, ask at your next User Group meeting. That's what they are there for.

Computer Terms Word Search
Submitted by......Roger Hanthorn

```
L E T R S R Q Y F H K Y U E W A R D R C M P B
A T T E E L E P I K O C F R R O G R E F E M P
Z F N T I V R V K C J U E I T B O X L X D D R
W V L U T P I W O T E A C A Q T E F M H O A A
X C X P I B T R L C D H R T I K T J G Z M T M
N Y V M L O D E D T L E Y N N E U O E R B A N
Y L I O I U O I B Z L T O S E A L G O A A B C
C P N C T Q V L F E D M S H R D L S S K W A H
U P T Y U S O C C K P R S U R R S I S R I S I
F U E T W C G C J B B D A A D E C I O R U E P
J S G I K S A A G C A A C H R I D U R E C J S
M H R B I X I R J E K X D P S X E S C T L M U
E R A - W Q O G R Z L Q U Y Y X J D A N X E Y
C E T 8 A V N P X A A S S P Q C I M M I E M W
L W I C G R S B I B F T P T F W E E L R A O I
I O O W 0 X C R E E E O V E A X K E T P P R Y
P P N D V 0 E H G M L C D A P Q E S U O M Y R
L U C S E S 1 R I F B F O N T S D K D R D C G
A U M C C X U - N V F O D R A C H I S C S G S
R F L Y M 3 L A T R E N N A C 3 K R K X W E O
T N X S E I V Z K V D I S K V D R I V E D D D
K F L T Y M J L E M D A I S Y N C H A I N H N
```

8-BIT	MODEM
ACCELERATOR	MOUSE PAD
ARCHIVE	POWER SUPPLY
BASIC SYSTEM	PRINTER
CLIP ART	RAM CHIPS
DAISY CHAIN	READ BLOCK
DATABASE	RGB MONITOR
DISK DRIVE	SCANNER
DUST COVER	SCSI CARD
FLOPPY DISK	SERIAL CARD
FONTS	SPREADSHEET
HARD DRIVE	SURGE SUPRESSOR
INTEGRATION	UTILITIES
MACRO	VT-100
MEMORY	COMPUTER

THE WORDS HIDDEN IN THIS GRID MAY RUN:

HORIZONTALLY FROM LEFT TO RIGHT AND VERTICALLY FROM TOP TO BOTTOM
HORIZONTALLY FROM RIGHT TO LEFT AND VERTICALLY FROM BOTTOM TO TOP
DIAGONALLY IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

Classified:

Wanted-Buy
Sell-Trade

For Sale or Trade:

Paint/Write/Draw by Activison — $20
Printshop   — $10
PrintShop Companion   — $10
Printshop Graphics Lib #2   — $5
Printshop Graphics Lib Holiday   — $6
Graphics Expander Vol.1   — $5
Sci-Fi Classics by Infocom   — $15
5.25" Disk Nothcer (New)   — $4
Various Apple Manuals   — $1 - $5

Contact Neal at 370-9527 Voice
                363-0861 BBS

BBS News
By Neal Layton

Well not to much has been happening lately on the BBS lines. By the time you read this article I should have a new modem online. The WAC BBS will be one of the few Apple // only bulletin boards that will allow the use of Hi-Speed modems. I have ordered a new Practical Peripherals 'PM14400FXMT' 14400 Data/FAX Modem. With this new modem callers will be able to call at 14400bps!! That's 6 times the current maximum of 2400bps. Hopefully this change will go smoothly and callers with only 1200 or 2400 bps won't be affected to much. Maybe at the meeting I will be able to give a demo of the new speed. I'm not sure if we can pull it off but we will see.

Our little Apple // BBS has had over 4300 calls and still counting. If you haven't got a modem yet you should get one just to see what you'vce been missing the last couple of years. There is a whole community online waiting for you to call!!

Membership Application
Willamette Apple Connection, Inc.
An Apple II & Compatible User Group
P.O.Box 7252   Salem, OR 97303-0053
Voice 838-5870   BBS 363-0861

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Please list computer(s) and software you use regularly:

Please list areas of interest (i.e. DTP, graphics, spreadsheets, etc.):

Membership fee is $15.00 annually.

Please make your checks payable to: Willamette Apple Connection, Inc.

USER GROUP
C·O··N··N·E·C··T·I·O··N

Willamette Apple Connection, Inc.
P.O.Box 7252
Salem, OR 97303-0053

TO: