

# NIAKWA

## Newsletter

Number 1 - November 28, 1984

This newsletter will be provided as an on-going service to Basic-2C licensees. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide general news and information on procedures, hardware products and software products which may be useful to you in your pursuits with Basic-2C. In cases where a product or service is provided by a third party, we will many times test the product and give our opinion as to it's functionality. Please be advised however that Niakwa assumes no responsibility for the performance of any non-Niakwa products and services discussed.

### TELEX INSTALLED

For your convenience, we have installed a Telex to receive any hardcopy correspondence you may have. This line is open to receive 24 hours a day. When submitting RunTime Package orders via telex, please be sure to include all information as per our standard order form.

Our Telex number is 289 843.

### PORTING TO THE PC

We have received many questions regarding the methods of porting 2200 programs and data to the PC. Vendors who have access to 2275 diskettes drives have reported no problems in making the port. The 2275 diskette is far and away the quickest and most reliable method of porting to the PC. For those of you who do not have access to a 2275 diskette drive, you will have to use a telecommunications product for porting. There are currently two such products available:

#### The Wang PC 2200 Support Utilities:

This Wang product is intended to allow the user to transfer files from a 2200 to a PC and back via asynchronous telecommunications. While this package includes a diskette transfer utility and 2200 terminal emulation, the feature of interest here is the asynchronous file transfer capabilities. Please note, the Wang Asynchronous Communications package is a different product than the Wang PC 2200 Support Utilities. Although it contains the same 2200 terminal emulation program, the asynchronous file transfer program it contains is a generalized form and the package does NOT contain the required 2200 communications program.

Hardware requirements for the Wang PC 2200 support utilities:

1. PC - no special hardware requirements.
2. 2200 - A 2236MXE controller or a 2227B (or equivalent) communications board.

3. Cable - According to the Wang PC 2200 Support Utilities Manual (June, 1984 - 1st edition - 715-0018), two special connector cables are supplied with the package which will enable it to work with a standard 2200 terminal cable. If these special cables are not provided (this has been the case on pre-release shipments), you will need two standard RS-232 cables with a null modem between them. A standard 2200 terminal cable, even if jumpered to work terminal emulation, will NOT work for file transfer.

#### Operational problems:

The file transfer seems to work fairly well going from the 2200 to the PC. Like most telecommunications products, a good deal of patience and possibly re-tries may be required. In our opinion transferring from the PC to the 2200 does not seem to work very well. Please note, these comments are based on very limited testing. As we get more reports from people who have used the product, we will include further comments in future newsletters.

#### "The Cable"

"The Cable" is a transfer package developed by Basic Computer Services, Inc., and SR Squared Computer Software, Inc.. The product consists of a specially designed cable and a 2200 telecommunications program.

#### Hardware requirements for "The Cable":

1. PC - 128k plus Asynch communications package
2. 2200 - Floppy Disk drive (SSSD or DSDD) plus 2227B (or equivalent) telecommunications board

This product is easy to install and use. It also is very fast (9600 baud). Error checking consists of both a byte count and a checksum. The current version supports only 2200 to PC transfer.

Although we have reviewed this product and found that it works as claimed, Niakwa accepts no responsibility for the operation of "The Cable". We do however wish to bring this product to your attention as an alternative method of porting programs and data to the PC. See the BCS enclosure for details on "The Cable". All orders for "The Cable" are handled by BCS directly.

#### Compiling from Wang PC BASIC-2 format

Revision 1.02 of the compiler can not compile programs saved in PC BASIC-2 format. However, release 2.0 of PC BASIC-2 does have a program which will convert PC BASIC-2 format to 2200 atomized format. This utility is called 2200ATOM and is included in the PC BASIC-2, release 2.0, package. The compiler can compile programs created by this utility.

#### Notes:

Release 2.0 of PC BASIC-2 is currently a BETA release.

Rev 1.02 of the compiler does NOT support language extensions incorporated into PC BASIC-2.

The internal format of programs saved under release 1.0 of PC BASIC-2 is different than release 2.0. We suspect that this conversion program will not work directly with programs saved under release 1.0. See WANG documentation for details.

Release 2.0 of PC BASIC-2 requires 384k to yield a reasonable partition size. You will not be able to run the conversion program in 256k.

### APPLICATIONS STATUS

This section of the newsletter deals with the status of various applications packages running under Niakwa Basic-2C. Much of the information in this section has been provided by Basic-2C licensees. Niakwa accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of this information or the performance of the applications discussed.

We welcome your contributions to this section. Please submit any contributions in writing. Please state whether or not you would be willing to accept phone calls from other vendors using the same application package. We will not publish the names, addresses, or phone numbers of contributors without their written permission. Please note, if you have made specific changes to software packages to make them work under Basic-2C, we will print these changes if you submit the details.

The Office Manager SPEED I Utility release 2.1 has been modified to operate under Basic-2C. Numerous vendors have reported end user installations using compiled SPEED 2.1. DATA 3500, release 2.1, is also available and Basic-2C compatible. Contact The Office Manager for details.

AIMS (Advanced Information Management Systems) has announced that AIMS3 (version 3.7) and AIMS4 (version 4.1) will be available by 12/1/84. These versions are compiler compatible. A new product, ARMS will also be available as of 12/1/84. AIMS reports that execution time will be 2 to 2-1/2 times faster under Basic-2C than on a 2200. Also, prices will be lower! AIMS vendors will be receiving details on these products. For more information, please contact AIMS.

The Wang IDEAS utility has been successfully modified by several vendors to run under Niakwa Basic-2C. The primary modification required is to replace a \$GIO statement which accesses the keyboard:

The original IDEAS code gets a key in G\$(1) and key type in G\$(3)  
Please note, we are not sure of the exact line numbers or variables. However, the replacement code will perform all functions of the \$GIO which is replaced.

```
DIM G0$36, G$(10)1
G0$=HEX(71054005400E0108020D7101C67003031740030211611720142403001141170803012020
)
$GIO(G0$, G$())G$(<4, 1>          : REM THIS IS THE STATEMENT TO REPLACE
```

Replacement code for the above \$GIO:

```
$GIO/005(4005400E)          : REM PRINT HEX(050E) TO SCREEN
G$(3)=HEX(02)                : REM DEFAULT KEY TYPE IS 02 (SPECIAL FN)
KEYIN G$(1),, 250            : REM WAIT FOR A KEY, PUT IN G$(1)
G$(3)=HEX(00)                : REM KEY TYPE FOR NORMAL KEYS IS 00
IF G$(1)=HEX(08)THEN G$(3)=HEX(03): REM KEY TYPE FOR BACKSPACE IS 03
IF G$(1)=HEX(0D)THEN G$(3)=HEX(01): REM KEY TYPE FOR RETURN KEY IS 01
250 G$(6)=G$(1)              : REM SIDE EFFECT OF $GIO PUTS KEY IN G$(6) ALSO
```



The Wang KFAM utilities have been successfully ported by several vendors. Version 7.0, set up for multiplexed operation, seems to be the easiest to get working. Note, you will need the set up for multiplexed operation for networking applications. The only modifications required are in the KFAMOPEN routine. This routine contains one \$GIO statement which checks for the existence of a disk. Please note, line numbers and exact variables may be different depending upon exactly which version of KFAM you are using and whether or not you have made any modifications.

## Original code:

```

2174 IF POS("3BD"=T4$)*POS("123567"=STR(T4$,2))*POS("012345"=STR(T4$,3))=OTHEN
      2911
      : SELECT #Q<T4$>
      : $GIO#Q,(70A04000870B,V7$)
      : ERROR GOTO 2911
2184 IF STR(V7$,11,1)<>HEX(DO)AND STR(T4$,3)>"0"THEN 2911
      : IF Q=Q2 THEN 2194
      : Q=Q2
      : GOTO 2174

2194 LIMITS T#T1 T$,V,T3,T,Q
      : $CLOSE #T1
      :
      :
      :

```

## Modified code:

```

2174 IF POS("3BD"=T4$)*POS("123567"=STR(T4$,2))*POS("012345"=STR(T4$,3))=OTHEN
      2911
      : SELECT #Q<T4$>
      : REM $GIO#Q,(70A04000870B,V7$)
      : ERROR GOTO 2911
2184 REM IF STR(V7$,11,1)<>HEX(DO)AND STR(T4$,3)>"0"THEN 2911
      : IF Q=Q2 THEN 2194
      : Q=Q2
      : GOTO 2174

2194 LIMITS T#T1,T$,V,T3,T,Q
      : ERROR Q=0
2195 $CLOSE #T1
      :
      :
      :

```

The Wang Sort-4 Utility apparently has some program generation logic. A few vendors have reported that they have been attempting to get around this problem by hard coding the DIM and pack format statements which were being generated. We hope to have more details on this for our next newsletter.