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Global System Manager and Microsoft Windows 95

This bulletin announces the support of Global System Manager (MS–DOS and Windows) and Global System Manager (Novell NetWare) on Microsoft Windows 95.

Resellers should be aware that this bulletin refers to the existing 16–bit, real–mode, MS–DOS compatible version of Global System Manager (configurations 5622, 5623, 5611 and 5613; architecture code "JW"). A full port of Global System Manager to Windows 95 (and Windows NT), using the 32–bit Microsoft Visual C++ compiler, is in progress and will be announced when a beta–test version becomes available during early 1996.

In the sections that follow, the terms "directory" and "file" have been replaced by "folder" and "document" to use the standard Windows 95 terminology.

INSTALLING GLOBAL SYSTEM MANAGER ON WINDOWS 95

The installation of Global System Manager on Windows 95 is almost identical to the installation on Windows 3.1 as described in the Global Operating Manual (MS–DOS and Windows).

Installation must be carried out from an MS–DOS prompt so before installing Global System Manager, an MS–DOS session should be initiated from the Windows 95 Start menu. The rest of the installation is completed by following the notes in Chapter 2 of the Global Operating Manual (MS–DOS and Windows).

The MS–DOS utilities supplied on the BACNAT diskette, and described in Chapter 6 of the Global Operating Manual (MS–DOS and Windows), are all supported on Windows 95, although it is advisable to execute them from an MS–DOS prompt (i.e. by initiating an MS–DOS session from within Windows 95).

CONFIGURING GLOBAL SYSTEM MANAGER ON WINDOWS 95

This section should be read in conjunction with Chapter 7 of the Global Operating Manual (MS-DOS and Windows).

The Global System Manager initialisation documents (i.e. GSM.INI and the related, read-only template document GSM.TLT) are used as described in section 7.1 of the Global Operating Manual (MS-DOS and Windows).

All the MS-DOS environment variables, as described in section 7.2 of the Global Operating Manual (MS-DOS and Windows) are supported when using Global System Manager under Windows 95.

The GSMBOOT.PIF document should be used to initiate Global System Manager since it contains the correct command line argument for GSMLOAD.EXE and specifies various other requirements. Note there is no PIF editor supplied with Windows 95, but the contents of the GSMBOOT.PIF document can be altered by viewing the GSM folder using the Windows Explorer, selecting the GSMBOOT.PIF document and choosing the "Properties" entry in the "File" menu.

Windows 95 allows programs to be initiated in a variety of ways:-

· By choosing the "Run" entry on the "Start" menu. This causes a dialogue box to appear which prompts for a program, folder or document name. To start Global System Manager key the GSM folder name followed by GSMBOOT.PIF (e.g. C:\GSM\GSMBOOT.PIF);

· By viewing the GSM folder (e.g. via the Windows Explorer) and opening the GSMBOOT.PIF document. This can be achieved either by double clicking on the GSMBOOT.PIF entry or by selecting the GSMBOOT.PIF document and choosing the "Open" entry in the "File" menu;

· By setting up an entry on the "Start" menu which initiates GSMLOAD.EXE. A "Start" menu entry can be set up as follows:-

    1.   Select the "Settings" entry on the "Start" menu;

    2.   Select the "Taskbar" entry on the "Settings" menu and the "Taskbar Properties" dialogue box will appear;

    3.   Click the "Start Menu Programs" tab;

    4.   Click the "Add" button in the "Customize Start Menu" section and the "Create Shortcut" dialogue box will appear;

    5.   At the command line prompt enter the Global System Manager folder name followed by "GSMLOAD.EXE GSM200 W" (e.g. C:\GSM\GSMLOAD.EXE GSM200 W). Note that the

additional parameter "N" is required for Global System Manager (Novell NetWare) configurations;

6.   Once the command line has been entered correctly click the "Next" button and the "Select Program Folder" dialogue box will appear;

7.   Choose the folder in which the Global System Manager entry should be placed (e.g. Programs);

8.   Once the folder has been selected click the "Next" button and the "Select a Title for the Program" dialogue box will appear;

9.   Key "Global System Manager" at the prompt, click the "Next" button and the "Select an Icon" dialogue box will appear;

10.   Choose an icon from the selection shown and click the "Finish" button. Note that the Global System Manager icon is not shown in this selection, but it can be configured using the "Advanced" option of the "Taskbar Properties" dialogue box as follows:-

    A. Use the steps described above to get to the "Start Menu Programs" dialogue, click the "Advanced" button and the Windows Explorer will appear showing all folders in the Start Menu;

    B. View the folder containing the Global System Manager entry (e.g. Programs and select the Global System Manager entry);

    C. Choose the "Properties" entry in the "File" menu and the properties dialogue box will appear;

    D. Click the "Program" tab;

    E. Click the "Change Icon" button and the "Change Icon" dialogue box will appear;

    F. Key in the Global System Manager folder name followed by GSM.ICN (e.g. C:\GSM\GSM.ICN) and click the "OK" button;

    G. Click the "OK" button on the main properties dialogue box to return to the Windows Explorer;

    H. Exit the Windows Explorer and the "Taskbar Properties" dialogue box.

·   By creating a shortcut on the desktop which is achieved as follows:-

1.   Place the mouse cursor on any free space on the desktop,

click the right mouse button and a menu will appear;

2.   Choose the "New" entry and another menu will appear;

3.   Choose the "Shortcut" entry and the "Create Shortcut" dialogue box will appear;

4.   Use the "Create Shortcut" dialogue box as described above.

CONTROLLERS SUPPORTED ON WINDOWS 95

This section is based on Appendix J of the Global Operating Manual (MS–DOS and Windows) and Global Operating Manual (Novell NetWare). The following controllers are supported on Windows 95:–

Controller class	Name	Controller type
DISKETTE	DISKETTE	BIOS
DISK	SSD–FILE	MS–DOS
	DOS–FILE	MS–DOS
CONSOLE	CONSOLE	Hardware
	DOS–SCR	MS–DOS
	WINTTY	MS–DOS
	TTY	Hardware
	HYPER	Hardware
	TCLSYNC	Hardware
	PCC/I	Hardware
	TCLASYNC	Hardware
	SPX	Netware
TAPE	ASPI	MS–DOS
PRINTER	DOS.PRI	MS–DOS
	PRINTER	BIOS
	S.PRINT	Hardware
	HYPER	Hardware
	PCC/I	Hardware
	$AUXPRI	via TTY
LAN	ARCNET	Hardware
	NOV–SPX	Netware
MEMORY	LIM	MS–DOS
	XMS	MS–DOS

Although the expanded and extended memory controllers are supported their use for RAM disk and disk cacheing is NOT recommended.

The following controllers are NOT supported on Windows 95:–

Controller class	Name	Controller type
DISKETTE	DOS–DISK	MS–DOS
DISK	ADAPTEC	Hardware
CONSOLE	HYPERMX	Hardware
TAPE	ADAPTEC	Hardware
	AHA–TAPE	Hardware
PRINTER	HYPERMX	Hardware
	HYPERMXP	Hardware

The Adaptec controllers for both disk and tape will NOT work under any version of Windows because Windows memory management prevents them from communicating with the Adaptec hardware correctly.

The following controllers are considered obsolete for Global System Manager (MS–DOS and Windows) and Global System Manager (Novell NetWare) and have not been tested with Windows 95. Consequently, these controllers are NOT supported on Windows 95:–

Controller class	Name	Controller type
DISK	BIOSFILE	BIOS
	DISK	BIOS
CONSOLE	SM.TTY	Hardware
TAPE	CD–TAPE	Hardware
	VIPER	Hardware
PRINTER	SM.PRI	Hardware
LAN	ARC–500	Hardware
	NOVELL	NetWare (i.e. IPX)

HARDWARE SETUP ON WINDOWS 95

On installing a peripheral card, Windows 95 will attempt to re-configure itself to support the new card. This usually results in Windows 95 loading a new driver which allows Windows programs to access the new hardware. Since Global System Manager is effectively an MS-DOS program which utilises its own drivers to access the hardware the Windows 95 drivers must be disabled. Of the supported controllers decribed above the Hyperport intelligent I/O family of cards and the Arcnet cards must be installed **without** re-configuring Windows 95.

The ASPI tape controller requires an MS-DOS device driver to be loaded. This MUST be achieved via the CONFIG.SYS file. The Adaptec drivers supplied with Windows 95 do not provide the ASPI service for MS-DOS programs (e.g. the $TAPE controller).

The SPX LAN controller and SPX Workstation can be run using the NetWare client software supplied with Windows 95. The MS-DOS version of the NetWare client software, loaded via the AUTOEXEC.BAT file, is not required.