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Davex v1.23     Release notes

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The following are the nontrivial changes that have been made
to Davex since version 1.1. (Davex v1.23 is the first
version since 1.1 that has been distributed widely. All
registered users will receive v1.23.)

   1. Serial numbers have been added to Davex to allow for
       $5 kickbacks (see DAVEX.DOC).

   2. Most of the help is now compressed and stored in a
       single file. This saves quite a bit of space on disk.
       Type "help topics" to see what help is available.
       (Note: try "exec %print.help" to print out all the
       help--it will print about 70 pages.)

   3. 'eject' has been fixed to work with Apple's SCSI card
       (it did *not* try to format the disk as some
       disk-eject programs accidentally do; instead, it would
       just hang).

   4. "Aliases" have been added. This is a generalized
       feature that replaces all the multiple names for
       commands. Each command has exactly ONE real name, but
       a file called "aliases" in the same directory as Davex
       allows the old names to continue working.

       Type "alias" to see your active aliases. You can add
       your own aliases (or remove existing ones) by editing
       the "%aliases" file with a text editor.

       The alias mechanism provides simple text substitution
       before Davex checks the command line for each new
       command (after a ";"). Aliases may refer to other
       aliases.

   5. The name of the old 'alias' command has changed to
       'sysalias'. Its function is the same as before (it
       creates small SYS applications to run other SYS
       applications). Also, the name of the old 'run'
       command has changed to 'brun'.

   6. The SPACE BAR now steps the display one line at a time
       rather than stopping and starting it. Use RETURN or
       almost any other key (but not Escape or Ctrl-C or
       Apple-Period) to let the screen resume scrolling.

   7. SPACE and RETURN are acceptable responses for many
       Yes/No questions. SPACE or RETURN always defaults to
       the "safe" choice in a particular situation.

   8. Commands executed by "exec" files are no longer
       visible (or audible, if you're using a speech
       synthesizer). Any output produced by the commands in
       the exec file still appears normally. Also, Davex can

accept a "startup path" telling it to execute a file
other than "%autoexec".

 9.   Commas (",") are allowed after pathname parameters
      (for example, "rename file1, file2" works). Only a
      blank was allowed previously.

10.   On the Apple IIgs when ProDOS 16 has been booted,
      Davex can now launch EXE files (not just S16 files).

11.   The 'what' external command has several new features.

12.   'setdate' external command added for users without
      clock cards.

13.   'dump' external command added for displaying a file in
      hex.

14.   'find' external command added for searching a file for
      all lines containing a given string.

15.   'ffind' (file find) external command added for
      locating files anywhere on any disk, given any
      combination of (1) part of the name, (2) file type,
      and (3) auxiliary type.

16.   'vstore' and 'vrestore' external commands added for
      storing the image of a ProDOS volume into a file (or a
      group of files on several disks). For example, you
      can use 'vrestore' to preload your RAM disk whenever
      your power up.

17.   'gsbuff' external command added (works on Apple IIgs
      only; sets serial buffer sizes)

18.   'num' command added to convert bewteen decimal and
      hex.

19.   'fp' external command added. It is a simple text
      formatter that takes imbedded formatting commands
      similar to AppleWriter's.

20.   'move' command added to copy a file and delete the
      original (exactly like copy -d).

21.   'iw2' external command added to set ImageWriter II
      options.

22.   'deschw' external command added to describe system
      hardware.

23.   Old commands with new features: 'blist' can wrap
      lines, 'config' has two new options, 'du' can print
      disk usage on a single disk, 'err' can list all error
      codes, 'init' can write just the boot blocks, and
      'touch' can set and clear the backup bits on your
      files.

(end of new features list)

Note--If you are copying from the Davex 1.23 disk to an
existing Davex installation, you should delete all the files
in your old help directory first (because the single large
file "indexed.help" replaces all of them, and more), and you
should delete the "alias" and "run" files if they are in
your Davex directory (because they are replaced by
"sysalias" and "brun").

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end of Davex 1.23 release notes