Di-Sector V2.0b Documentary supplement

Well you finally have the Di-Sector disk in hand. I hope that you will find it worth the wait!

When you are creating the User disks, Don't have any devices connected to the Serial bus except ONE device 8. Other devices connected at that time can cause strange things to happen. Do not be alarmed if the disk continues to spin when the User Disk creation process prompts you to change disks. This is normal. It is O.K. to swap disks in the drive because all I/O opperations will have stopped at this point. Follow the screen prompts to insert the User disk or Master disk as required.

If you are having trouble booting Di-Sector, you can usually cure the problem in one of two ways. The most common problem is a serial bus peripheral that wants to throw garbage on to the communication line during the fast boot/transfer routines. This device could be a printer, a disk drive, or a homebrew device. The best cure is to turn off the device and/or remove the device from the bus. Since most printer interfaces derive power from the printer itself, in most cases, if a printer is at fault, just turning off the printer will solve the problem. The RECO module is the only fast-boot module that allows printer output, so just turn the printer on after safely booting the RECO module. If you have a printer that causes this problem and cannot be turned on after power-up, then you may wish to contact us about the availibity of a standard, slow-boot, version of RECON. If a drive is causing the problem just turn it off until needed. We hope this problem will be alleviated soon. It is a side-effect of the fast I/O routines, but we may be able to cure it for future updates.

The other little hang-up is the drive light fluttering and reporting an error when attempting to load the Di-Sector Master disk or the Di-Sector User disk. This problem is rare, but can happen occasionally. This is caused by the drive head being on either extreme end of the disk when the load commmand is executed. The cure is to initialize the drive with the door open. With the door open, type the following from the BASIC prompt:

OPEN2,8,15,"I"

Now insert the disk, close the door, and proceed to load the Di-Sector User or Master disk as outlined in the documentation.

If these steps fail to load the disk, turn the computer AND drive off for a few seconds and then turn them back on before proceeding with the loading instructions. The problem may be only temporary.

If you still have a problem, give us a call, we may be able to diagnose the problem over the phone.

NEVER, write to or modify your User disk or your Master disk in any way. Doing so will result in permanent damage to the disk.

After creating your User disk, it should be write-protected. Leave it that way. The Master disk should not be write-protected. Store it in a safe place!!

Di-Sector is a great utility, and we have gone to great lengths to ensure that the program is free of bugs. However, a package of this size is almost impossible to release totally without "oversights". If you find any bugs, see any possibilities for enhancement, have ideas for more features or have brainstorms for new modules, please contact Bruce at Starpoint Software. Di-Sector is, without doubt, the most powerful disk utility available for the Commodore 64 at this time, and we at Starpoint will strive to assure that it always will be. Keep those suggestions coming in.

PLEASE send in the warranty cards. If you do not, you will be ineligable for support after 30 days from our shipping date!! So send those cards in right away!

We will be working on updates for quite some time. The upgrade policy is great, so don't just complain about problems, report them, and use your update option.

Have fun with the program, and try to let us know of any disks that you have trouble backing up. Some of the the new protection schemes that are in use now will require parts of Di-Sector to be revised - we're working on it!

Please direct all questions, comments, suggestions, etc. to:

Starpoint Software Star Rt. Gazelle, CA 96034

Attn. Bruce