

Timeline 99 - perserved for the benefit of the TI-99 Community

Number: 1817 Name: STRING MASTER PRESS REL.

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Description:

Bytemaster has released a new software package for 99'ers that provides many powerful capabilities from XB by using strings. Here's information on it! 28 sectors.

Keywords: STRING MASTER,BYTEMASTER,XB,Assembly,programming,user environment

File: STRING MASTER PRESSREL.

File Ready. 7 Bit Text.

STRING MASTER

Bytemaster Computer Services

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STRING MASTER, a powerful Extended BASIC programming tool and user environment, was released at the Chicago TI-Faire on November 7, 1987, by Bytemaster Computer Services 171 Mustang Street, Sulphur, LA 70663). STRING MASTER is a set of 29 assembly language routines accessible from Extended BASIC. Dr. Ron Albright, writing in the November 1987 issue of Computer Shopper, called STRING MASTER "...one of the most valuable software development tools the 99/4A has seen since the Extended BASIC cartridge". The package is available for only \$19.95 (plus \$2 shipping and handling).

STRING MASTER routines

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APENDA in its simplest form copies a string array into a string array. Optional parameters allow beginning the append at any element of the destination array, using the equivalent of a SEG\$, using a match string to selectively copy elements based on an operator (such as "="), copying the entire string or the SEG\$, obtaining a count of the elements copied, and counting the elements that qualify without actually appending.

BEEP produces a BEEP tone.

BINHEX converts a binary string to hexadecimal. For instance, a word of memory consists of two bytes that can be represented as 2 decimal numbers. This routine will convert a string of such memory words into the hexadecimal equivalents.

CIRCUL does a specified number of circular rotations of an array, so that the array can be handled as a "stack" in a manner similar to the numeric stack in FORTH. The top element rotates to become the last element and all other elements move up one element.

CONCTL concatenates the elements of one array to the left side of the corresponding element of another array or concatenates a string to the left side of all elements of an array or concatenates a string to a string.

CONCTR works as CONCTL, except to the right side of the destination string or array.

EOANN returns the last non-null element of an array.

FIXLEN sets all elements of an array to a specified length. By setting the length to 0, memory can be freed.

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FRAME displays a rectangle comprised of a specified character at specified screen coordinates.

HEXBIN converts a hexadecimal string to a binary string.

HEXDEC converts hexadecimal strings to decimal numbers or vice-versa (yes, an entire array can be converted in a single statement).

HONK produces a HONK tone.

LTRIM eliminates all specified characters from the left side of all elements of a string array or from a string until a character not specified is reached in each source element.

MAXLEN returns the length of the longest string in an array.

MINLEN returns the length of the shortest non-null string in an array.

REBEEP produces a BEEP tone until a key is pressed (for those who wish to leave their computer unattended until completion of a section of a program).

REPLAC allows replacing any string segment with a specified string.

SEARCH returns the element at which a specified string is found. he search begins at a specified element.

SELECT displays elements of an array and allows paging through the elements by use of arrow keys or a joystick.

SMPEEK peeks CPU memory into a string or string array. The number of bytes to be peeked is limited only by the amount of string memory available.

SMPOKE pokes a string or string array into CPU memory.

SORTA sorts a string array into ascending order.

SORTAN sorts a string array into ascending order, with null last.

SORTD sorts a string array into descending order.

STRINC fills a string array with incremented numbers.

SVPEEK peeks VDP memory into a string or string array.

SVPOKE pokes a string or string array into VDP memory.

TRIM is the same as LTRIM, except the trim is accomplished at the right side of strings or string array elements.

WINDOW displays a string or string array into a specified rectangular area of the screen or reads a rectangular area into a string or array.

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STRING MASTER Conventions =====

All routines can be fully utilized with any standard 99/4A system with disk, memory expansion and Extended BASIC.

TI Extended BASIC and direct derivations therefrom are fully supported (MYARC XB is not supported because it is internally radically different).

Both OPTION BASE 0 and OPTION BASE 1 are fully supported.

Any string type (direct string, string variable, string array element or string array) is valid for any string parameter.

Any numeric type (direct number, numeric variable, numeric array element or numeric array) is valid for any numeric parameter.

Both string and numeric arrays can utilize any number of dimensions supported by XB, 1 to 7.

Complete error checking with standard XB error messages.

Numeric integers within the maximum range -32768 to 32767, inclusive, are fully supported.

CALL LINK's utilize standard XB syntax. In other words, complex expressions may be used only for passing parameters to (not from) assembly routines and may not pass entire arrays (examples of valid complex expressions are "A\$&B\$" and "A+B").

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Please direct questions to BYTEMASTER (GEnie); 70337,1011 (Compuserve) or to Bytemaster Computer Services, 171 Mustang Street, Sulphur, LA 70663.

Order payments accepted by check or money order for U.S.A. customers. Outside the U.S.A., please use Canadian Postal Money Order or International Postal Money Order.