

MODEM DOCUMENTATION

MODEM/CMD is a program which will perform fast, error free transmission of disk files between two TRS-80 Model I disk systems. It is available at no charge as a download file on many computer bulletin boards in order to establish a standard method of file transfer via tele-communications links.

MODEM/CMD is based on Ward Christensen's program MODEM.COM for the CP/M Operating System but it has been substantially rewritten by Stan Misel to operate under the TRSDOS family of operating systems. It is NOT compatible with the CP/M version. The initial release is for the Model I with RS-232.

If the equipment can be acquired for test purposes, we will issue Microconnection & Model III versions as well.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

MODEM is designed to have all of its options set during program initialization by use of a command string. The command string is entered at DOS READY, by typing MODEM, followed by a space and then the primary and secondary options.

Primary options:

- S to send a file
- R to receive a file
- T to act as a terminal
- E to act as a terminal with echo
- H lists an abbreviated set of operating instructions
- X lists examples

Secondary options

- T Enter terminal mode after file transfer
- E Enter echo mode after file transfer
- W Pause execution allowing user to switch disks
- . Set baud rate
- A Perform multiple file transfers without exiting program

- Q Quiet mode - does not print status messages to screen
- R Show all data received
- S Show all data transmitted
- V View file sent or received.

FILE TRANSFER

To transfer a file via MODEM, all the person sending the file has to do is type "MODEM S FILENAME/EXT". This will automatically load MODEM/CMD, initialize the RS232 at 300

baud, and prepare to send the file "FILENAME/EXT" to the receiving end.

To receive this file, the person on the other end would type "MODEM R FILENAME/EXT". At this point, when the two computers are able to communicate with each other, they will begin transfer of the file a sector at a time. If a sector has been garbled during transmission, it will be resent automatically.

If the receiving end had entered "MODEM RV FILENAME/EXT", the file would have been displayed on the screen while it was being received. "MODEM RR FILENAME/EXT" would allow the user to also view all status messages, as well as the header and checksum information the transmitting end has sent.

It is sometimes desirable to have no status messages displayed during file transfer, and is achieved by using the "Q" suboption. This is usually done when a printer is linked to the display.

MODEM also has a dumb terminal mode which is entered by typing "MODEM T". In this mode MODEM will allow you to communicate with bulletin boards or time share computers. However, if you wish to communicate with another TRS80 user who is also using MODEM, it is necessary for one of them to be in echo instead of the terminal mode. This is invoked by typing "MODEM E".

The terminal and echo modes may also be entered upon completion of program transfer by using a "T" or "E" as a suboption. This is handy when using MODEM with a bulletin board.

If you are a single drive user, and the file you wish to send is not available on the same disk as MODEM, just enter the "W" suboption. This will give you the opportunity to switch disks before the program opens disk files.

WARNING When using the "W" suboption, make sure that the disk in drive 0 always contains the same operating system, or you will most likely bomb the system and possibly damage the data contained on the disk.

The "A" suboption enables you to transfer multiple files without returning to DOS after each file transfer. Instead, after the first file transfer, the system will prompt you for a new filespec. To abort this mode, just press enter in response to this question.

The RS232 is normally set at 300 baud. MODEM has the ability to modify this value through the "." suboption. There are three variations of this function.

- .F 1200 baud operation
- .S 110 baud operation
- .O Skip initialization procedure to use previously established RS232 settings.

If you should ever wish to abort and exit MODEM, just hold down the clear key. All files will be closed and you will return to DOS READY.

Please direct any comments, criticism or advice, to Stan Misel on any of the Connection-80 Bulletin boards. Your message will be forwarded to him. You may also send EMAIL messages to account # 70330,117 on CompuServe.

If you do not have any means to download this program from any of the bulletin boards, a disk containing MODEM/CMD can be sent to you for a fee of \$10.00. This charge is to cover

media, duplication, shipping costs and wear & tear. If you are running, or plan to run a computer bulletin board featuring downloading via this program, a special, abbreviated and optimized version of this program is available. Feel free to copy the board version from any source you can, or you can get this too for \$10.00. However, to adapt the board version to your particular application requires good understanding of the operation of your board's software and the ability to write some simple BASIC language routines for download menus, error condition interpretation and timeout control.

Send any orders (if absolutely necessary) to Stan at
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-Ed Zuilkowski-