

Volume 3, Number 1, Issue #44
January 3rd, 1997

Welcome to our 3rd year! It's hard to believe that we're already in our third volume of *ComputerFAQs*. We look forward to another great year. Of course, if you would like to receive back issues you may have missed, you can call and request for them to be faxed to you, or you can view them on our home page at www.amicron.com. As always, if there is any way in which we can be of service, please call. We look forward to serving you.

Q: What is this "Millenium Bug" I keep hearing about, and what does it mean for my company? > *Doug, Springville NY*

A: The Millenium Bug, or "Year 2000 Bug" as it's called is actually not a bug, but a flaw in software design for many older (and some new) programs. What happened was software programmers tried to save disk space by saving years as two-digit numbers. That will work just fine up until the year 2000, when the computers will think it's the year 1900. This can cause *catastrophic* problems for many businesses. Many large companies are working to have their systems "debugged" by having programmers analyze and re-write their programs, but most small companies may *not even know* that the software they're using will be effected. What do you do? Check with the manufacturers of all of your major software programs (especially your accounting software and anything you may have had custom-designed for your business) and make sure that your program is "Year-2000 Safe." If not, update or replace your software. If you need assistance, our professional computer programmers are available to help. Just give us a call and request **document #13012** for info on Year-2000 assistance. > *Rick*

Visit us on the Internet at www.amicron.com

Q: I was just talking with a friend of mine and he was telling me of this virus called Good Times that was spread through Email and, he said, could "not only wipe out your hard drive but put your CPU into an nth-complexity infinite binary loop which can severely damage your processor." Is this true? > *Dave, Buffalo NY*

A: Dave, we heard about this too. Let's clear up a few misconceptions people have with viruses. First of all, viruses only travel attached to executable programs (with the exception of macro viruses which people have found in Word and a few other apps). The only way you can "catch" a virus is to run a program that is infected - not just reading an Email message. Secondly, there is no way in which a software command can damage your processor. *Period.* Now, in the old days (late '80s) there was a way in which viruses could damage hard drives, but that's been done away with. When your system gets a virus, you may not know about it until it's too late. It can cause all kinds of strange problems, or do something unnoticeable like slowly eating up your hard drive space. If you have (or think you have) a virus, call and request **document #13013** for our recommendations on what you can do to get rid of it, and prevent viruses from infecting your system in the future. We'll help you out! > *Don*

Post-Holiday System Specials Now

Are you tired of waiting for Windows to load? Are your applications running too slowly? Do you wish you had top end class computer, but cannot budget a new system?

Upgrade Your Computer

Turn your slow 486 PC into a fast 6x86

(The processor that outperforms the Intel Pentium)

6x86 P120+ \$355

6x86 P166+ \$423

6x86 P200+ \$792

Price includes replacement of existing 486 motherboard and processor with a new motherboard and 6x86 processor. Some restrictions apply, please call for details.

Price includes pickup and delivery of your system. Additional upgrade options available. Offer good while supplies last.

Request Document #13011 For More Info!

Available!

We have just put together some outrageous computer system specials for the "post-holiday" season. We have complete high-end 486 systems available for only **\$739** - perfect for any office. We also have a complete line of Pentium-class systems starting at only **\$1079**. And finally, for the power users out there, we have put together a few Pentium Pro configurations with Windows NT 4.0 starting at only **\$2129**. Call and request **document #13014** for complete details.

Q: I have a program loading when Windows starts that I want to get rid of. It doesn't show up in my Startup folder! What can I do to get rid of it? > *Gwen, East Otto NY*

A: Some programs will install themselves directly to your WIN.INI file (a special configuration file located in your Windows subdirectory). You have to manually go into your WIN.INI file and remove the line. We recommend placing a semicolon ";" in front of it - in case you get the wrong one. If you would like more information, call and request **document #13015**. > *Jason*

ComputerFAQs is
copyright 1996 by
Amicron Technology
Services. To reach our
main office and for

document requests, call **716-837-4685**. Fax: 716-833-6724. Voicemail: 716-369-6235. Email: amicron@amicron.com. Mail: PO Box 1453, Buffalo NY 14225. Circulation: **16,008**. Missing an issue? Please call for free back issues. *Problems?* If you would like to be removed from our fax list, or would like CF sent during business hours only, please call. Due to market fluctuations, prices advertised are subject to change at any time. <http://www.amicron.com>. Coming soon: we will have our very own computer bulletin board service! Stay tuned. Also, if you would like more information on any of our services, please call.