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My Windows

An invaluable tool

JAVAJID R. SHAMI mentions various functions of DU meter and maintains that there is no better tool for an accurate account of the data flowing through the modem at any given moment

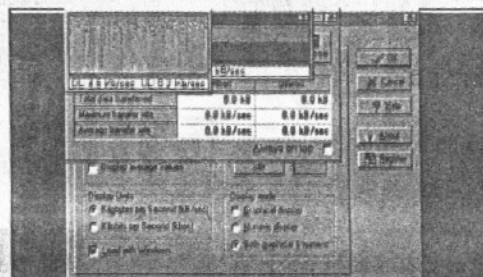


DU Meter is a download/upload meter which gives an accurate account of the data which is flowing through your modem at any given moment when connected to the Internet. This readout is presented in both numerical and graphical format. DU Meter supports Windows 95/98/NT4.

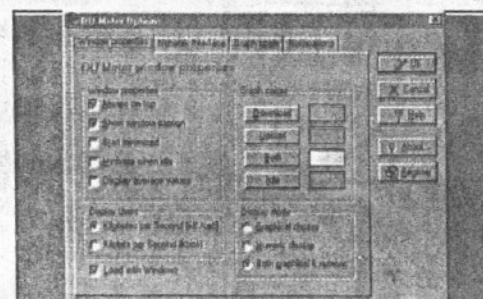
There are many reasons why you might want to monitor your network activity. Watching your data transfer rates can be very enlightening as you download a web page, e-mail, or a software application. This will give you a much better idea of how long the operation will take. It will also let you know how efficient your Internet connection is.

If you are going to spend some time optimising your configuration for maximum download speeds, it is critical that you accurately monitor your download speeds or data transfer rates so you can compare them at various settings.

There is no better tool for the job than DU Meter, a share-ware product that enhances the Windows operating system.

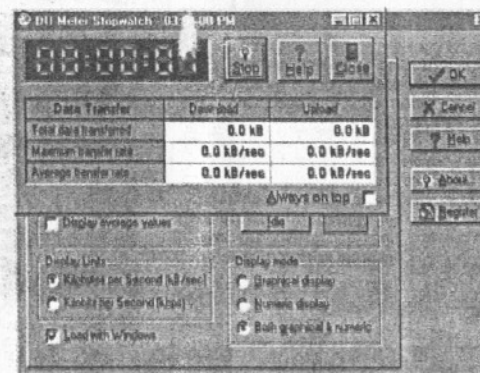


This is a very cool mini meter that you can place "always on top" and locate the blank space on your browser toolbar, more or less. And you can re-size it to whatever size you like. This handy utility will report your moment-to-moment data transfer rates in a clear graphical format as well as a character-based readout, which indicates your download and upload speed.



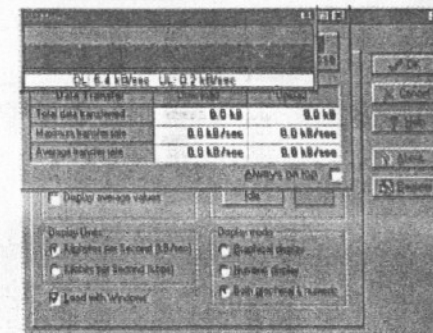
Opening Dialogue

This invaluable tool has some cool features including an auto hide feature, a fully customizable interface, and a great new stopwatch which helps you to accurately time your downloads and track average transfer rates in order to accurately compare various MaxMTU settings and optimise your system configuration.



Stopwatch Mode

But the part I have always liked the most about this little meter is the consistent graphical readout it provides over an extended period of time, which allows you to clearly view the quality of your download with any gaps or other inconsistencies in data transfer.



DU Meter showing a typically smooth download over a 5 minute period

The actual screen-shot above is a fairly wide configuration of the meter in order to clearly show the quality of a download over a 5 minute period. This is the kind of downloads we all want.

DU Meter can also come in very handy to monitor whether some dangerous unknown activity is occurring while you are on-line. How can you tell whether data is either uploading or downloading from your computer behind the scenes while you are on-line? You get some idea of data flow when using your browser, e-mail or FTP programme, but what happens if some unknown application has installed itself and is sending or receiving data without you knowing about it. Obviously this is not something you want to think about, but it happens to people every day. The problem of Trojan's worms and other hidden files which can raid your system completely in the background is becoming more and more common. Back Orifice is just one of these notorious applications. It has been written about on many places on the Web. Don't let this happen to you! DU Meter can monitor this activity for you 100 per cent of the time and let you know if data is downloading or uploading behind your back. You can then log off from your ISP immediately and terminate the activity.

If you have a question that you would like to be answered or a comment you would like to make, send an e-mail to jrshami@mail.com. Please mention your full name, age, occupation and the name of the city where you live.

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RAPHAELLE LUCAS highlights
the new world open to

Experts of the

