

jPersonnel Contact Information Manager

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February 2, 2008

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1 Introduction

jPersonnel stands for *Java Personnel*, which is a small program developed in Java¹ for personnel contact's information management.

2 Installation and Configuration

jPersonnel, as a Java application, is runnable itself and it does not need any type of installation in order to work. In order to run jPersonnel, the user must go into the directory containing the jPersonnel.java and simply issue the command: 'java jPersonnel'.

For GNU/Linux users, jPersonnel is also distributed in Debian Package format, which will install the contents of the directory into standardized paths in the operating system. Furthermore, the Debian package will create a runnable item named 'jpersonnel' that will be included in the PATH.

jPersonnel does not provide any way of configuration and it is directly runnable. No options nor user preferences are provided for now.

3 Running jPersonnel

jPersonnel can be directly run from the distribution directory. If it is run from the command line, then type 'java Personnel'.

However, there are two more distribution formats available. One is the JAR format, which could be directly run by clicking it on a graphical interface (on any operating system), or either issuing 'java -jar jPersonnel.jar', on the command line.

Also, as mentioned in the previous section, jPersonnel is officially distributed in Debian package format, which provides a wrapper script named 'jpersonnel' and can be directly run from the command line as it is included in the system PATH.

¹The Java version used in the development was intended to be 1.5.0 using AWT and Swing user interface components

4 Adding and Deleting Contacts

Adding a new contact in jPersonnel is as easy as go to the menu **Edit** and selection *New contact*. Another way is to use the navigation pane on the bottom right corner, which provides a button with the label *New contact*. When a new contact is created, it is automatically saved with the name *New* and the family name *Contact*. The recently created contact will be added to the contacts list on the left and automatically selected and presented to the user for immediate information modification.

Contact deletion is performed by using the menu **Edit** and **Remove contact**. Please, note that contact deletion does not include any confirmation dialog, but instead it immediately deletes the contact from the contacts list, not being accessible anymore.

Nevertheless, even though a contact is deleted from the contact list, it will not be immediately deleted from the address book if it existed in the hard disk. Therefore, in order to permanently delete a contact from an address book which is loaded from the hard disk, the contact should be first removed with the user interface and then the address book should be saved to the disk, so that the contact is permanently removed.

5 Editing Contacts Information

In order to edit a contact's information it is necessary to click on the specific contact on the contacts list on the left. Once the contact is selected, then the information can be directly edited on the personal information fields. Please remember that after editing, the information should be saved before going to another contact, so that this information remains.

A way of moving through contacts without specifically clicking on the contacts list is by using the navigation menus and buttons. One possibility to use this feature is to use the menu **Go**, and then select either **Next contact** or **Previous contact**. The other possibility is to use the buttons on the navigation pane on the bottom left corner, indicated with the labels << (for previous contact) and >> (for next contact).

Finally, an important note for the user is that jPersonnel detects when the Enter key is pressed on an information field, and so the contact information will be saved immedi-

ately. For instance, if we change a contact's name and then we press Enter on that field, the information of the contact will be immediately saved.

6 Saving and Loading Contact Data Files

Saving the current contacts information to a file is done by using the menu **File** and **Save as...** The menu **Save** works in such a manner so that, if a previous file was opened and it is being used right now, the modifications will be synchronized with the hard disk, saving the changes on the same file (overwriting it). If no file was opened and contacts were just added on an empty new address book, then the menu **Save** will pop up a dialog and ask the user for a name and path to where to store the contacts.

Contact files made with jPersonnel are characterized for the *.jpd* extension. Moreover, different versions of jPersonnel may refuse to open other-version contacts file, since there may be certain incompatibilities depending on the differences among program versions.

Opening a contacts file is as easy as going to **File** and **Open**. This will pop up a dialog and the user will be asked to pick a file to be opened. Notice that opening a new file could discard all the previous work on jPersonnel, but it does not happen and the program prompts the user for saving previous changes properly, before opening a new file.

7 Utilities, Sorting and Searching Contacts

As of version 0.4, jPersonnel allows the user to alphabetically sort contacts (only by name). This feature is under the menu *Tools* and then *Sort contacts*. Such a tool is very limited and it is only an example of how powerful the program can become by including more features.

Contacts search is achieved from the menu *Edit* and *Find...* In this case, you will be prompted for entering any keyword or number and press 'Go'. jPersonnel will look in the whole contact list and select the first occurrence which satisfies the search criteria. Moreover, in order to find more occurrences, the menu *Edit Find next* will have to be used. Note that the search is quite simple and based on first names and family names only.

8 Copyright

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