

Introduction

Requirements

Windows 9x or Windows NT 4
CATraxx 2000 or CATraxx 98

What is a Compilation?

A recording media, which contains tracks from various sources. The media is either a "MiniDisc", "CD-Recordable", "DAT", "CC" or something else.

What can you do with this application?

CompilationMaker helps you to compile, manage and document your "Best Of" media. Instead of entering tracks, you connect to an existing CATraxx database and select the tracks, you want to add to the actual compilation.

- ▶ Create/Open a separate compilation database. Your CATraxx database is not affected.
- ▶ Compilation overview and details. Browse and search capabilities.
- ▶ For each media you can enter a *Name* (compilation title), *Length*, media *Format* (valid formats are "MD", "CD-R", "DAT", "CC", "Other"), *Manufacturer*, *Recording Date*, *Storage* (location), *Annotations* and a *Cover* text.
- ▶ Connect to a CATraxx database and CompilationMaker will display all available tracks. The application provides many options to change and adapt this view: concatenated filter criteria, up to three sorting fields, search each field for a string, use an explorer like tree view window for navigation.
- ▶ Copy tracks from the CATraxx database to the CompilationMaker database. If you try to copy a track which is already recorded on another compilation, you will get a screen, which lists all previous recordings of this track. The copy process can then be continued or canceled.
- ▶ Rearrange the tracks on a compilation: drag and drop a single track or use the sort option.
- ▶ Print
 - Cover
 - Report for the selected compilation
 - Recording protocol for the selected compilation
 - List all tracks sorted by *Performer* and *Album* (on which compilation do I have this song?).
 - Export to PDF file format.
 - Copy the cover text (RTF) to the clipboard and paste it e.g. into a Word document based on a label template (for a MiniDisc you would choose: 5.0/5.2cm * 7cm)

Limitations

- ▶ CompilationMaker supports only "MiniDisc" and "CD-R" covers, but as a work around for other covers the cover text can be copied to the clipboard.
- ▶ It is not possible to edit tracks.

Your First Compilation

- ▶ Press the **Open Database** button and open the example database. Now you see the **Overview** screen.
- ▶ Press the **Add Compilation** button. The **Add/Edit Compilation** screen pops up. All fields are empty.
- ▶ The fields with the pale yellow background must be filled. These are mandatory fields. To assign values to the other fields is up to you. After filling the fields press the **Update** button. If you make additional changes to any of the fields you have to press **Update** again. Click on **Connect** and select your CATraxe database. The **Get Tracks** button is now enabled.
- ▶ Press on **Get Tracks** to display the **Get Tracks** screen. Depending on the number of tracks in your CATraxe database and on your computer this may last quite a while (20000 tracks on a PII/333: ca. 25sec). This screen is the heart of the application. Basically it consists of two parts:
 - ▶ **Source: upper part** (above the sunken line)
 - shows all tracks in your CATraxe database. You have a variety of options to modify this view and to move between the tracks.
 - Press the **Filter** button to apply a filter. Define your eventually concatenated criteria and click on **Apply Filter**. To disable a filter and to show all tracks again, press **Clear Fields** and **Apply Filter**.
 - Press the **Sort** button to sort the source. Specify up to three sorting fields and click on **Apply Sort**. To use the default sort order again, press **Clear Fields** and **Apply Sort**.
 - Press the **Navigate** button. Navigation is appropriate in situations when you want to record some additional tracks, but don't know exactly which ones. So it's easy to scroll up and down and expand some nodes (*Track Performer*). Looking at the performers and their tracks in this way might give you some ideas.
Click on a *Track Performer* to position the source table on the first track of this performer. Double-click on a *Track Performer* does the same and expands the tree to display all tracks of this performer. Click on a *Track* to minimize the **Navigate** window and position the source table on the specified track.
 - Make use of the **Find Button Group** to locate a certain track as fast as possible.
 - To **copy tracks from the source to the target**, you double-click on the track in the source table.
 - ▶ **Target: lower part** (below the sunken line)
 - displays *Name*, *Track Number* and *Time* for the active recording media. The target table contains the tracks already recorded on this compilation.
 - To **delete a track from the target**, you double-click on the track in the target table. If the total play *Time* becomes greater than the *Length* (capacity) of the recording media, the font color turns from green to red.
 - After copying all tracks to the target you may wish to change the track order.
- ▶ Press on **Rearrange** to enter the **Rearrange Tracks** screen
 - To move a single track, select it first, then move it with drag and drop to the desired position.
 - By double-clicking on the table the Sort Pop-Up windows appears. Define the sort order you want to apply to the tracks.

- ▶ Go back to the **Add/Edit Compilation** panel. Fill the **Cover** field. For a "CD-R" the cover text appears on the CD jewel case inlay. For a "MiniDisc" the cover text will be printed to an area within a hairline border (H: 5cm, W: 7cm). Don't forget to press the **Update** button again. Close the panel and go back to the **Overview** screen.
- ▶ That's it. The compilation you have created is now displayed as a new row in the overview table. Double-click on it to display the **Detailed View**. Go back to the **Overview** screen, select an item from the combo box in the toolbar and click on **Print**:
 - **SEL - Recording Protocol**. The generated report is thought to be a help for making the recordings, i.e. it tells you in the header part, which CD's / Lp's you have to take from your shelf to make the compilation. The body part lists for each track: *Album Performer*, *Album Name*, *Item Number*, *Track Number*, *Track Time* and *Track Name*.
 - **SEL - List of Tracks**. This report documents the SElected compilation.
 - **SEL - Cover**. Find some remarks about the CD-R cover here and about the MiniDisc cover here.
 - **ALL - List of Tracks by Performer**. Lists all tracks in your compilation database. The report is sorted by *Track Performer*, *Album Name*, *Track Name*. It tells you where you can find a track, by providing *Compilation Name* and *Track Index*. If the same track is recorded on three different compilations, you get three entries for it.
 - Use the items **ALL - List of Tracks > PDF** and **SEL - List of Tracks > PDF** to export the reports to PDF files. Browse, search or print the files with the Adobe PDF reader (Freeware). You can distribute or mail these reports to your friends.