



# List-less modems

**Even if it's not on the list, you can still get your modem to work with DOIP.**  
**Terence Green explains how.**

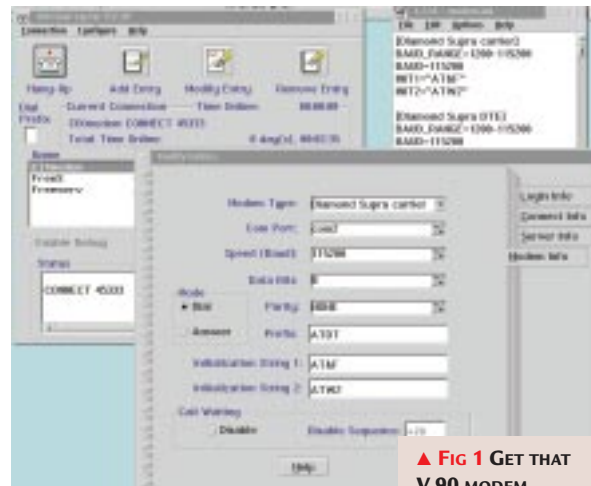
**I** promised, last month, to write about how to get Warp and Windows networking with TCP/IP — I don't know why I make these extravagant promises but I do hope to be able to cover this in next month's column.

Also in last month's column, writing about using new modems which Dial Other Internet Provider doesn't appear to support, I professed ignorance as to how to update the now-ancient DOIP modem list. Bear in mind, as I wrote then, that you really don't need to do this. Your modem will work with OS/2. Pick any modem — for example, 'Hayes Generic' or 'Other' — from the list and edit the Initialisation strings on the DOIP modem page to suit:

**AT&F**  
 always works.

But it's naturally a worry when your modem isn't listed.

Reader Michael Talbot says his ISP has just upgraded to V.90 and he wonders whether to flash-upgrade his Hayes modem. Hayes provides drivers, as Michael notes, but they are 'of course for W95/98, so it's unclear as an OS/2 user



**▲ FIG 1 GET THAT V.90 MODEM WORKING WITH DIAL OTHER INTERNET PROVIDER**

whether I will gain any advantage from upgrading,' writes Michael.

Well, Michael, you will. My Diamond V.90 and Psion GoldCard V.90 modems work a treat in Warp [Fig 1]. The lack of OS/2 drivers is

completely irrelevant. It creates a perception that the modem won't

***You don't need to do this. Your modem will work with OS/2***

work with OS/2 but nothing could be further from the truth.

Windows drivers? All they do is to automate the process of updating a few text entries in the registry through a flashy interface with dancing folders.

There are cases, though, when you might want to have your modem in the DOIP list and, as I've now discovered, a simple edit of a text file does the business.

My Diamond SupraExpress modem by default reports computer-to-modem (DTE) speed. It needs the 'W2' command in

order to report the actual connect (DCE) speed, so I edited the MODEM.IAK file. This file can be edited with any text editor and the format of modem entries is obvious.

Finding the right file is less obvious. OS/2 sports four MODEM.\* files! But MODEM.IAK in X:\MPTN\ETC (where X: is your OS/2 boot drive) is the one you want.

Use your modem manufacturer's

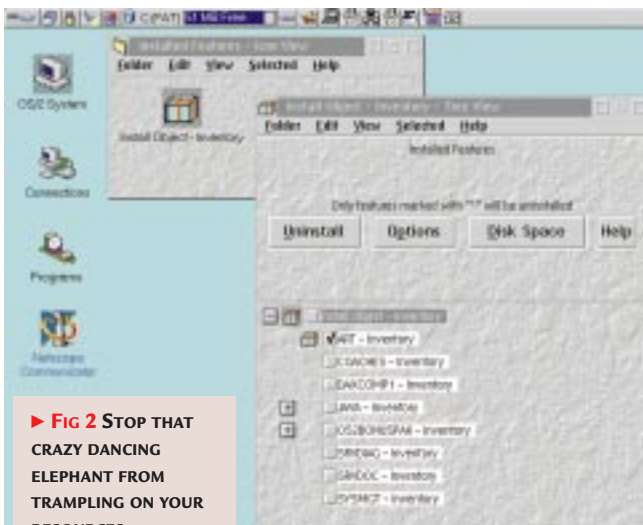
manual or online documentation to find out whether a special AT command string is required and simply add your modem to the top of the list following the format of the other entries. Now, when you add or edit an entry in DOIP you can select your modem from the list: it turns up in alphabetical order even though you added it at the top of MODEM.IAK. The MODEM.LST in that same subdirectory is used by the IBM Global Network Dialer, IBM's ISP, and has nothing to do with DOIP.

In case you come across them, the other pair of MODEM.\* files, are in X:\TCP\IP\SAMPLES\ETC. They're copies of the originals and are not used by DOIP.

## ■ Problems, problems...

CD-ROM problems are a continuing source of frustration for readers and I do not always have good answers to intractable problems such as those troubling reader, Nigel Brown. His CD works, but not all the time. Worse still, it works fine with Windows and Linux but not with Warp 3 or Warp 4.

Nigel has a 486 with a Mitsumi FX400 CD-ROM attached to the secondary IDE channel. With some CDs the PC freezes and can only be rescued with the reset button. This doesn't happen with all CDs but with those it does affect, the problem is repeatable.



**► FIG 2 STOP THAT CRAZY DANCING ELEPHANT FROM TRAMPLING ON YOUR RESOURCES**

My first port of call with a CD-ROM problem is always the OS/2 Device Driver Pak Online at <http://service.software.ibm.com/os2ddpak> but the Mitsumi entry here says that the drive is supported in Warp 3 and Warp 4.

• *If any reader recognises this problem please write in. Nigel also wants to know how to start Warp with Num Lock on. I am sure there is an easy answer to this but it is not known to me. Help!*

## ■ Crash repair

Andy Pengelly discovered the reason his PC was thrashing the disk and sometimes crashing for lack of resources. The errant process turned out to be C:\OS2\ART\ARTCHRON.EXE which Andy reckons is part of the IBM software registration facility.

Indeed it is and it's a real nuisance if you don't know how to get rid of it. You can kill it by renaming ARTCHRON.EXE but it's best to disable it 'officially' [Fig 2]. Open the Drives folder (found in the 'OS/2 System' folder) and from there open the \OS2\INSTALL folder from your OS/2 boot drive. You should see the icon for 'Installed Object - Feature'. Double-click on this to open it, place a checkmark in the ART - Inventory box, and select Uninstall. Follow the instructions and, voilà!

## ■ Trouble with debugger

Reader Cecil Wallis never fails to amaze me. He has been digging into Java. Everything worked until he ran the debugger, at which point things went awry because the debugger could not find localhost.

He tried everything and eventually gave up and decided to set up XFree86. There, in the documentation FAQ he

## LOST AND FOUND

Readers have had difficulty finding some of the programs mentioned in past issues. My apologies for this as there have since been some changes.

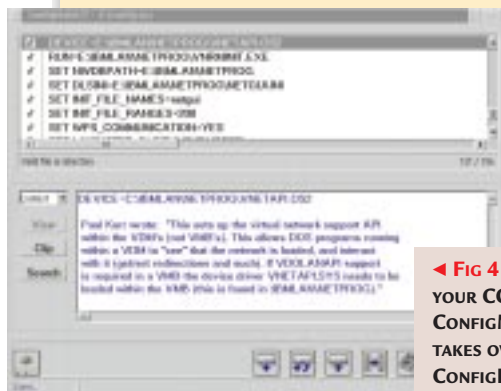
• **ZTreeBold** — Dave Phillips couldn't find ZTreeBold at the URL given. It turns out that they've moved to [www.ztree.com](http://www.ztree.com) [Fig 3]. Hope it's still there by the time this appears!

• **ConfigInfo** — Martin McDowell gave the URL for the ConfigInfo utility to a friend but it had vanished by the time he looked it up. It turns



▲ **Fig 3 FOUND AGAIN!** **ZTREEBOLD**, THE TEXT-MODE FILE UTILITY THAT LOOKS LIKE **XTREEGOLD**

out that the original author of ConfigInfo has ceased updating it but a new utility called ConfigMaint/2 [Fig 4] has risen



◀ **Fig 4 FOR EDITING YOUR CONFIG.SYS, CONFIGMAINT/2 TAKES OVER WHERE CONFIGINFO LEFT OFF**

from its ashes. It can be found at [www.buntspecht.de/cfgmaint/](http://www.buntspecht.de/cfgmaint/) along with an explanation as to how it came about.

found the line: 'Be sure that the line in \tcpip\etc\hosts ends with a newline'. So, problem solved — and, as Cecil says: 'Those who can afford a dedicated server will be muttering "DNS". But as for the rest of us...'

He then checked the Java docs and found this: 'A line is considered to be terminated by any one of a line feed (\n), a carriage return (\r), or a carriage return followed immediately by a

linefeed'.

So, if you are using the HOST file rather than a DNS server for TCP/IP configuration and having problems, you should check for that newline. Cecil reckons that he 'should have known — RTFM... but which manual?'

➔ **As an aside**, if you want access to more accumulated knowledge on OS/2 than you ever imagined could exist, IBM has put the Red Books online at [www.software.ibm.com/os/warp/library/redindex.html](http://www.software.ibm.com/os/warp/library/redindex.html). Unfortunately I couldn't find a way to S(ave)TFM!

## ■ Star Office

Several readers have expressed interest in Star Office. Charles Stirling wrote in to suggest a workaround for the registration issue: we could put the software on the CD and readers could register without needing to download. It's a workable plan but it wouldn't meet with the licence conditions so we're going down the legit path. Star Division is ready to give us a version for our cover CD so we'll grab it as soon as space permits.

## PCW CONTACTS

Terence Green welcomes your feedback on the OS/2 column. Contact him via the PCW editorial office (address, p14) or email [os2@pcw.co.uk](mailto:os2@pcw.co.uk)

## WARP 3 FIXPACK#40

You've probably noticed that there has been an absence of Fix Packs for some while now. My apologies for this but there has been a recent push from the top to include lots of packages on our cover CD — for instance all those ISP sign-up packages that

Windows users need — and there has been no room for us. The good news is that we've managed to squeeze a Fix Pack onto this issue's cover CD. As it has been a while since we carried a Fix Pack and the last one was for Warp 4, you'll find Warp 3 Fix Pak#40 on the disc.