

Volitans Software releases SMART Utility 2.1.1

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Volitans software has announced SMART Utility 2.1.1, a small update to the hard drive diagnostic application. SMART Utility is an application to scan the internal hardware diagnostics system of hard drives SMART is a system built into hard drives by their manufacturers to report on various measurements of a hard drive's operation. The new features include updating the main window saving position, additional help content, and bug fixes.

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SMART Utility is an application to scan the internal hardware diagnostics system of hard drives SMART (Self-Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Technology) is a system built into hard drives by their manufacturers to report on various measurements (called attributes) of a hard drive's operation. The attributes can be used to detect when a hard drive is having mechanical or electrical problems, and can indicate when the hard drive is failing. SMART Utility can read and display these attributes. This allows time to hopefully backup, and then replace the drive.

SMART Utility is different from other drive utilities, such as Disk Utility, which only read the overall SMART Status. SMART Utility not only displays the individual attributes to see their status and information, but it also uses an internal algorithm based on those attributes to detect drives failing before SMART indicates it has failed. This pre-fail detection can save precious data before SMART has determined that the drive has failed. And, while the raw information can be viewed on the command line with smartmontools (which is what SMART Utility is based on), SMART Utility presents it in an easy to read format, as well as running its internal pre-fail algorithm.

Full release notes for Version 2.1.1:

- * Fixed bug where on new installs scans every 50 seconds instead of every hour
- * Fixed bug where polling preference time shows unknown time
- * Fixed bug where error window would not open on some drives
- * Fixed bug where reading health would cause an exception
- * Fixed bug where outputting debug message would cause crash in self test log
- * Fixed bug where with French localization where main window and tests window would not localize self test error statuses
- * Fixed default opening tab for preferences
- * Fixed a small memory leak
- * Improved debug log information output
- * Now Main window saves its position
- * Updated help with changes to polling as well as two new FAQs
- * Updated eSellerate embedded engine to 4.0.0.6
- * Updated Growl framework to 1.2 (which is 10.5 only but should still work for 10.4 Growl installs)

Features:

- * Displays all supported drives and their partitions
- * Displays easy to read overall SMART status with color coded text
- * Displays important information in the main window, such as drive model, capacity, power on hours, temperature, bad sector counts, and error counts and types
- * Displays more detailed information in separate windows, including capabilities, all available attributes, and the past five errors

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- * Run built in drive self tests
- * Customize failing triggers
- * Supports scanning individual RAID drives in addition to non-RAIDed drives
- * Supports logging all information to a log file for verifying SMART data
- * Supports Mac OS X 10.4 or later (including Server) and both PowerPC and Intel Macs

Pricing and Availability:

SMART Utility is available in a variety of licenses including a personal license for \$25 (USD) and a family license for \$40 (USD). It can be purchased online or in an innovative way: within SMART Utility itself through its embedded web store.

Volitans Software:

<http://www.volitans-software.com/>

SMART Utility 2.1.1:

http://www.volitans-software.com/smart_utility.php

Download SMART Utility:

<http://www.volitans-software.com/downloads/smartutility211.zip>

Purchase SMART Utility:

<http://store.esellerate.net/volitans-soft/store>

Screenshot:

<http://www.volitans-software.com/screenshotmain2.jpg>

App Icon:

<http://www.volitans-software.com/images/version.jpg>

Volitans Software was founded on February 22, 2007, by Matthew Butch, to sell SMART Utility. The name Volitans comes from the scientific name of the Red Lionfish. Matthew is an Apple Certified Macintosh Technician, an Apple Certified Technical Coordinator, and an Apple Certified System Administrator. He conceived of the idea of SMART Utility because he wanted a better way to test hard drives in his job as an on-site Macintosh Technician.

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