Omicron Turbo
for 8-bit Atari Computers

Overview

Omicron Turbo provides a set of unifying file formats and loaders compatible with selected Atari data recorder turbo upgrades popular in the Central Europe.
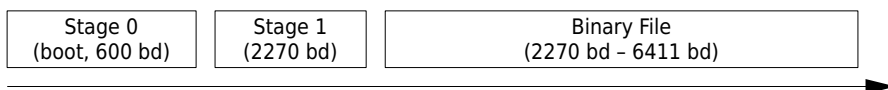
With Omicron Turbo, you can distribute software on tapes with high transfer speed and great out-of-the-box compatibility with various data recorder turbo upgrades.

Omicron Turbo is therefore an excellent choice for creating retro tape editions of software for 8-bit Atari computers.

How to Load a Program

Loading a program is a simple procedure

1. Boot the Stage 0 loader from cassette by pressing START+OPTION keys during cold start of the computer. Alternatively, start the stage 0 loader from a universal cartridge or a disk drive.
   The stage 0 loader activates the turbo upgrade in the data recorder and automatically detects the source of the signal (SIO port or joystick port).
2. Binary loader (Stage 1) is loaded by the Stage 0 loader with transfer speed of 2270 bd.
3. Binary loader (Stage 1) loads and executes the program with transfer of at least 2270 bd.

Stage 0 (boot, 600 bd)	Stage 1 (2270 bd)	Binary File (2270 bd – 6411 bd)

Compatible Turbo Upgrades

Omicron Turbo works with large number of turbo upgrades.

Turbo 2000 (CZ/SK), Super Turbo (CZ/SK), KSO Turbo 2000 and compatible systems (input both from the joystick port or from the SIO port), Turbo Blizzard, Atari Super Turbo and compatible systems (ATT and Unerring Master), Hard Turbo, Lower Silesian Turbo 2000, Turbo ROM Plus.

Supported Conversion Types

With Omicron Turbo, you have the following conversion types to choose from: BlockLoading, Kilobyte Blocks, Two-kilobyte Blocks and ExpressLoading.

Highlights

- The Omicron Turbo loaders allow displaying program name that can be up to 20 characters long.
- Transfer speeds supported by the loaders are 2270-6411 bd. The base speed (2270 bd) is recommended for maximum compatibility.
- A file version of the stage 0 loader is available for use with universal cartridges or disk drives.

Availability

TURGEN (https://turgen.sourceforge.io/) can convert binary files to Omicron Turbo.

The Omicron Turbo loaders are freely available (including the source code) in a git repository.