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## DataBasics Newsflash March 2006

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### abmst = Mac OSX Virus Protection

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#### abmst (A Bit More Secure Terminal)

UGSoft has released the virus protection tool '**abmst**' (A Bit More Secure Terminal) for all Mac OS X versions free-of-charge.

**abmst** prevents unintended execution of Terminal documents (e.g. viruses masked as normal documents, which want to execute terminal sessions) until this security issue is solved in Mac OS X itself.

The abmst installer installs two files, the shell scripts abmst-en and abmst-de in /usr/local/bin/ - an english and a german version. One of them must be entered in the Terminal application's preferences dialog instead of the usual shells. From then on a confirmation is requested whether to start a command or not which was eventually passed to the Terminal application, whenever a Terminal window will be opened. Alternatively a normal shell can be executed.

Advantage compared to other protection mechanisms:

- no need to rename or move the Terminal application to another folder.
- protects even if a document (with a masked virus) is opened from the Finder.

**abmst** can be downloaded locally from DataBasics  
<http://www.databasics.com.au/docs/abmst.dmg> (.dmg file)

#### How to install and activate **abmst**?

- install **abmst** using the installer abmst.pkg
- after installation is finished start the Terminal application from /Applications/Utilities/
- in the Terminal application open the Terminal - Preferences...menu item
- select the "Execute this command" radio button
- enter the path "/usr/local/bin/abmst-en" followed by any of the following shell commands which will be executed in case no Terminal document was passed to the Terminal application, e.g:  
/usr/bin/login  
/bin/tcsh  
/bin/bash

A valid entry will look like, e.g.: "/usr/local/bin/abmst-en /usr/bin/login"

- close the dialogue box.
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## Testing installation and activation

- select "New Shell..." from the File menu
- at the first line of the terminal an abmst message is displayed, for example

```
abmst-en v3 (www.ugsoft.de)
Last login: Mon Mar  6 12:10:08 on ttyp1
Welcome to Darwin!
[My_Computer: ~] myname%
```

- installation is successful
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### About DataBasics

DataBasics is a major distributor of leading IT products in Australia, New Zealand and South East Asia specialising in creative business solutions for prepress, networking, internet and productivity.

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