'Atmosfairy' ?

Collected from the newsgroups <comp.sys.oric>

From Steve Marshall: Atmosfairy is a dreadful name. The program is still being worked on as far as I know. Hopefully the name will get changed before it is released.

From André Majorel: Send an SAE to the Oric Emulator Naming Bureau. $ grep oric /usr/share/dict/words | column -c 64

allegoric	caloric	Doricizes	metaphorically
allegorical	categorical	euphoric	meteoric
allegorically	categorically	historic	paregoric
anaphoric	combinatoric	historical	phosphoric
anaphorically	combinatorics	historically	prehistoric
antihistorical	Doric	licorice	rhetoric
boric	Doricize	metaphorical	Yorick

From Bob Bazly: Historic sounds about right for a retro emulator! And most people remember the Oric name more than the Atmos name right?

From Simon Guyart: My vote would go for any name that does not exist in common language, so the program can be easily found with a search engine :-) What about FabOric? (FabriceOric, FabulousOric...) Erm, actually I don't like this name at all but that was just an example :-)

From Steve Marshall: I did a check like this to find the name Rhetoric. I found some others with Puerto Rican being my favourite. For some reason I find that quite funny. You've missed 'floriculture' and 'folkloric' which are both a little similar to Atmosfairy. There's also (licorice & liquorice), oratorical, paregoric, phantasmagorical and plethoric. I used one of those Franklin electronic dictionaries, which are fun. You can enter you name and do an anagram check to find what words can be made and sue it to form a sort of astrology map of you self. Not that it works, but it can be very interesting what words are thrown up! You can also do a fun check to find yourself a nickname based on your initials. I did a search based on *S*D*M* (with ' * ' being a wildcard). My favourite result was Speed Bump - I must go on a diet!

From John Gilliver: Phantasmagorical sounds good! Perhaps without the «al», and maybe start with an f.

From Steve Marshall: It's a bit long. You could chop off a bit at both ends and come up with something like «Magorica» which I think has a certain ring to it. Pretty cool actually. So that's half a dozen names we've come up with that are better than Atmosfairy. I don't think it matters too much really so long as the emulator itself is really good. I guess it will be knowing Fabrice !

From Fabrice Francès: Dreadful? Damn'd, and I was satisfied to have come with this name! :-(Mhhh... Maybe it's because I'm not a native English speaker, and it bears some signification for you that eludes me... At first, I wanted to call it Atmosfair: in French it is phonetically atmosphere, in English it expresses how faithful it is to the real Atmos. But I felt the name was a little austere, so Atmosfairy brings a more fantasy: it expresses fairyland, like if a good fairy was watching over our trusty Atmos, and it still has fair in it. In French, it also sounds like «féérie» (enchantment, fantasy)... So, what has it that you feel it dreadful ?

Again from Bob Bazley: Hello Fabrice! Firstly, I guess the word just doesn't seem right to us native English speakers (If I can actually call my Scottish accent English!) but I can see where you are going with the Atmosfair and Atmosphere but the words are too different for English speakers to make the association. Fairy is usually a word that would be used alone and by itself, so adding Atmos to the beginning of it doesn't make that much sense. Now my personal choice is to use «Historic» as that is an actual word but also includes Oric in the title. Of course that's just my opinion and as your the man that did the programming then you should be the one that gives a name to your creation!

From James Groom: Well, I like Atmosfair and the reasons you have for using it. AtmosFairy has a few problems though. The use of the word «Fairy» is not cool enough for us masculine Oric users :-) Fairy can suggest weak, childish or feminine (a weak version of feminine, not a positive one) to some. Basically, Fairy is too «girl-like» a word to the English! There is a potential sexual connection too which I will not go into here. :-O For a more «masculine» or «aggressive» approach, what about AtmosFear? Phonetically (in English anyway) it is the same as «atmosphere» and is a strong enough word not to cause embarrassment to any Oric owner talking emulators with his Spectrum or 64 colleagues ;-) I quite like «HistOric», but it suffers a bit from being an obvious choice (it is not a very clever use of words). Still quite good though. I like «PhosphOric» too. Not as aggressive a word as AtmosFear, not as girly as AtmosFairy, but still sounds fairly cool. Suggests the phosphor used in TV screens as well. There is the potential for expansion modules to have related and sensible names - you could call an add on module, upgrade or tool «PhosphOric Acid» or «Super Phosphates» for example.

From Stian Soreng: IMHO, Historic is a good one. Lots of good suggestions here, since I'm looking for an emulator name as well ;-) But don't worry, I'm not going to steal any :) Metaphoric sounds great too.

From Anders Carlsson: Well, as long as the emulator is shipped with some Tinkerbellesque interactive guide («Hi, I am the Atmosfairy - can I help you?»), it might work? On the other hand, AtmosFear might work given that one of the major Commodore emulators is called Vice (or VICE actually :-).

Again from André Majorel: Atmosfairy is too long. And it sounds a bit «tarabiscoté».

Again from John Gilliver: I fear Atmosfairy is still homophobia that is the reason)-: some people feel uncomfortable with it. It is correct that it sounds decidedly odd in English - which is why I rather like it, as it is so different! As for AtmosFear: no, I don't want people frightened of my Oric!

Again from Steve Marshall: Not homophobia, but it does have gay connotations, which would be both misleading and inaccurate. It is also ephemeral and brings up images of petals fluttering in the wind and mythological stuff. The Atmos wasn't mythological, flowery or fictitious. It sounds like a

fairy for the Atmos, which wouldn't be quite right.

Again from Anders Carlsson: Maybe there were some promised, but never released peripherals which could be referred to as mythological or fictitious?

Again from Steve Marshall: Well I guess that's true. Very true of the Oric! I suppose it's even true of the Atmos if you consider the promised 32K models never turned up. We could start a list: Oric-1 disk drives / The Oric Angels / Alternative memory size Atmoses / 80 column expansion card / 80 column Oric printer / Dual processor Oric / Oric PC. I'm sure there's more than that.

Question from Anders Carlsson: Was that supposed to be a dual 65xx machine, or a 65xx + Z80 etc?

Answer from Steve Marshall: It had a Z80 as well. I think they actually built a prototype of this but in never went to commercial release.

Again from Anders Carlsson: Interesting. Something similar to the Commodore 128 then.

Answer from Steve Marshall to Fabrice: Don't worry, everyone disagrees with me ;-) [In French, it also sounds like «féérie» (enchantment, fantasy)...] But it isn't - it's an emulation of the Atmos, so it can't look over itself. Then again, isn't it going to include more than an Atmos emulation? What about the other Oric machines? If the name was Atmosgenie would it work? I don't think so really. You could just call it Tinkerbell if you want a name like that. As John pointed out fairy can be a slang term for a gay person, though it isn't used so much nowadays. I think that could be cause some confusion or even embarrassment where it needn't. Euphoric was, of course, the name that was for years associated with errors and mistake on the Oric as it was used in Théoric for their little section debugging misprints etc. I don't think it is too austere, but I do picture the cartoon of the guy apparently being sick when I see the name. Stick with the name if you like it. It is up to you and needs to be your decision not someone else's. I came up with the name of Rhetoric after a bit of research into names containing 'Oric' and we got a letter from someone saying they detested the name. It was the best I could come up with! I wasn't going to say anything but there's nothing like a bit of controversy to get a few posts. I think I've prompted more posts in this thread than in whole of last week.

Answer from Fabrice Francès: Ouch, now I understand what you mean... Dictionaries should point out the misleading sense of words... I was imagining a titillating fairy like the nice little one in Peter Pan's, and native speakers see a gay people instead... :-(Well, I can imagine good words being raised by Sinclair's fanatics, better not give them this chance... Ok, so I will go with 'Atmosphere': not too complicated, it only has two meanings, with no pejorative one I hope. Right, André, it's a bit long, but who types program names nowadays?

Answer from André Majorel: Who indeed? Actually «Atmosphere» violates another rule: Never use a word that already exists, as it makes search engines useless. But I don't share Jim's enthusiasm for «Atmosfear» (nor «Atmosphear» or any cute misspelling thereof).

From Bob Bazley: How about «OricAtmosphere» that is unique enough to be found in search engines but also includes the «Oric» name which (and someone tell me if I'm wrong) is the most widely known name when it comes to our beloved machine!

Again from Steve Marshall: How about Atmosphoric?

Answer from Simon Guyart: Hey, that one it not so bad! Just a little bit long maybe... I'm not very inspired on my side... MagicAtmos?

From Steve Marshall: Maybe it is a bit long but it follows on from Euphoric nicely. MagicAtmos works I guess. I also thought up 'eXPoric' which I think works well. It's got the 'oric' and the 'XP' and the 'e' can stand for electronic (as in email) or emulator. It also sounds like a word and follows the Euphoric style of name. eXPoric anyone?

Answer from André Majorel: 1. it's readable 2. it's pronounceable 3. it's got «oric» in it 4. it's less than 9 characters long 5. it doesn't already exist Apart from the funky capitalisation, I like it. For what my opinion's worth. :-)

Answer from Bob Bazley: As an Apple Mac user, I completely and utterly don't like the thought of our beloved Oric name having anything to do with XP involved with it! I agree that it will run on the XP OS but do we need to give it that name!

Again from Steve Marshall: But the whole point is to make an emulator to work in the XP environment, isn't it? As a PC user, I'm not keen on XP either. It's the way we are going to be forced to go though, so unless you're the kind of masochist that fights your way through Linux we'll be needing an XP Oric emulator.

Answer from John Gilliver: [Less than 9 characters long] Less than 8 actually, which means it would still be valid under 8.3 filename restrictions - good. [It doesn't already exist] Always a good point! [XP] I'd be a little sad to have to associate it with Windows XP, as I inevitably would (I know there are other XPs - Athlon processors, a MAC OS - but it means Windows to me), though, but I haven't any better suggestion ATM!

Answer from Anders Carlsson: Wasn't that the intention - an emulator developed to work with Windows XP might only suffer complaints about name infingement from M$ if it was named with XP itself. XP is also (e.g. in roleplaying environments) short for experience points, and in Norway there is a line of low cost products called XP (which M$ had some irritation with, but the Norwegians had their XP on the market first). These products are sold with the concept «the same quality, but lower price» which may not hold entirely true for Windows XP though.

Answer from James Groom to Fabrice Francès: [So I will go with 'atmosphere'] And it comes «Full-circle» as we say in the UK. Atmos being shortened from Atmosphere originally. Someone suggested OricAtmosphere and I like that too (even though it means another four letters), because it gets the all important Oric bit in and makes it easier to find on a search engine. Whatever it is called, I'm looking forward to it! I do suggest that you do NOT call it the following: Phosphoric-acid-tributyl-ester.

From Bob Bazley: I suggested OricAtmosphere as I truly deeply utterly believe that it's a great name and includes all things Oric! Just my thoughts

From Steve Marshall: Remember that Russ Abbott song - « I love an atmosphere....»? Neither do I!

From Anders Carlsson: [Atmos being shortened from Atmosphere originally] Was or was not Oric an anagram of 'micro' minus the m? Maybe the emulator could be called Microsphere and absolutely no one would understand what it does or why the name was chosen. :)