Contents

Overview

FindItFast is a group of utilities that do a few specific tasks within Windows quickly and easily.   The utilities provided are:

- <u>Text Finder</u> for performing searches on text files (phone lists, file number, inventory lists etc)
- <u>Explorer Sychronizer / DOS Shell</u>: Enter a couple of letters of the folder name where you want Explorer or a DOS shell to start up in and you're there.
- <u>Directory Monitor</u> Monitor changes to directories (no limit).   Know when that download is finished and for system administrators; know when changes are made in any system directory you specify.

More functions will be added to this program – watch your favorite shareware site.   Please submit comments or questions to: lvaasjo@metocean.ns.ca.

More Help….

Right-click buttons / lists etc. for more help.

Text Finder

The Text Finder is a simple text searching utility.   Up to five groups of text files may be specified through the File List Editor.   To find text in files, choose the file group to be searched (a group contains one or more files), specify the text to search and then press Enter or click the Search button.

This utility was developed for use in my workplace.   A number of people keep reference information such as phone numbers, numerically referenced paper files and inventory lists.   This utility provides the ability to group and search these text files conveniently.

The Text Finder presents the following:

- **Search Text Box**.   This is where you enter the text that you wish to locate among the list of files.   Use '+' to narrow the search by specifying two text items.   The result of the search is displayed in the Results List.
- **Search Button.**   This starts the search for the desired text.   During the search this turns into a Cancel button.
- **Results List.**   This is the scrollable list to the left of the Text Finder form.   The results of the search are displayed here.   Results are <u>not</u> retained when switching between <u>groups</u>
- **Extra Lines.**   Specifies the number of lines from the search file to be displayed in the search results that follow the line containing the found text.   This option was provided since our inventory text file contains quantity and price on the line following the inventory item description.
- **Found.**   This indicates the number of times the search text was found in the files.
- **Max.**   This specifies the maximum number of finds allowed during the search.   If it is exceeded a message indicating so is included at the bottom of the search results
- **File Group.**   This is where you choose which list of files is to be searched.   This list is modified with the <u>Edit File Lists</u> form.

Edit File Lists

The Edit File Lists form displays the following:

- **List of Files.**   The list of files corresponding to the currently selected group is displayed on the left.
- **File Groups.**   The list of file groups is shown on the right.

The Edit File Lists form allows the following when a file is selected within the displayed list of files:

- **Adding and Removing files to/from a List.**   To add a file press ^A of choose List, Add File to List.   To remove a file press ^R or choose List, Remove File from List.
- **Change a File's Position in a List.**   To move a file in a list press ^U for up, ^D for down.   Alternatively choose List, Move File Up/Down in List.
- **Edit a File.**   To invoke Notepad to edit a file choose Edit Selected File from the List Menu.
- **Change Group Name.**   The name of the selected group may be changed by pressing ^N or by choosing Group, Change Group Name.

Explorer Synchronizer, Directory Monitor

Explorer Synchronizer

The Explorer Synchronizer lets you choose a directory from a list of directories (produced by a search for a directory pattern).   To launch Explorer with the desired directory double click the directory name or either press Enter or the Synch Explorer button when the desired directory is highlighted.

To specify the pattern for which to search for directories, type in the text in the 'Find Directory With…' box that the directory name must contain.   To narrow the search you may include a '+' followed by text that must be within the <u>full path name</u> of the directory to be found.

NOTE: A list of directories is maintained by this program which must be initialized before directories can be listed.   See <u>Scanning Drives</u>.

<u>*Monitor List*</u>

The Monitor List provides a list of directories that are checked regularly (once every 10 seconds).   Whenever any changes are made in a monitored directory, action is taken depending on the selected mode of operation.

Two actions are possible; Display and/or Logging of changes, which may be selected independently from the <u>Monitor Menu</u>

<u>*Menus*</u>

- <u>File</u>
- <u>Tools</u>
- <u>Monitor</u>
- <u>Help</u>

The full path name is the full name of a directory starting with the drive letter (eg: C:\Windows\System could be the full path name for a directory call 'System')

This is the list of directories that have been found based on the Directory Search Pattern

Invokes Explorer to open with the currently selected directory in the Directory Search Result List as the active directory.

Causes the currently xxx selected directory in the Directory Search Result List to be added to the Monitor List

File Menu

- **Re-Scan Directories**.   Brings up the <u>Scan Drives</u> dialog which allows the re-reading of available directories.
- **Exit**.   Exit the program.

Tools Menu

- **Text Finder**.   Brings up the <u>Text Finder</u> window.
- **DOS Shell**.   Brings up a DOS shell with the currently selected directory from the Monitor List or the Search Results List, depending on which one is currently highlighted.

Help Menu

- **Contents, Specific Help, Registration and 'About' are displayed**.

Monitor Menu

The following items are available from the Monitor Menu:

- **Enable**.   This turns on / off the Directory Monitoring process.   Note that the Monitoring Process is suspended automatically if there are no directories in the list, or if neither 'Log Changes' nor 'Message if Changed' are checked.
- **Log Changes**.   When this is checked, all directory change information is placed in the 'C:\fif_mon.log' file.
- **Message if Changed**.   When this is checked,   the changes made to the directory(ies) are displayed in a pop-up window.   This window will be displayed regardless of what the currently active application is. When the window is closed, control is returned to the program that had control before the window was displayed.
- **Remove File from List**.   This will deleted the currently highlighted directory in the Directory Monitor List.
- **View Log File**.   This will bring up a window showing the contents of the log file.
- **Delete Log File**.   Deletes the log file.   A message box is displayed to confirm the deletion of the log file.

This is the list of directories that are being monitored for change

Shows the number of changes made to the monitored directory since monitoring began or the log file was last viewed.   This is NOT shown if the Mode includes 'Msg'.

Shows current logging mode: Msg = Message will appear, Log = Changes placed in log file.

Scanning Drives

The Scan Drives window allows you to create / re-create the list of directories which Find It Fast retains in it's database.

A list of all available drives is provided from which the desired drives to be included in the database are selected. When all the desired drives are selected press the Scan Now button to have Find It Fast create a database of all directories on the selected drives.

When the scan is completed, the number if directories found on each drive is displayed in the Directory Counts list box.

Feedback Information

If you have comments or suggestions, send email to me at 'lvaasjo@metocean.ns.ca'.

To register, a $5 contribution would be appreciated.   Send to:

Lorne Vaasjo
6862 Flinn St.
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada.
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Include an email address and authorization code will be sent to you.

Text Find Popups

Enter the text that is to be searched for among the list of files.

This is where the results of the search are displayed.

Maximum number of finds allowed during the search

Indicates the number of times the search text was found in the files.

A file group is a group of files (1 to 1000) that are searched at the same time for the desired text.   Press ^E or use the Menu to edit the file groups.

Starts searching the selected group for the specified text.   Turns into a Cancel button during the search.

Specifies the number of lines from the search file to be displayed in the search results that follow the line containing the found text