CIM File Viewer V1.01 for Windows '95

What is it for ?

This program provides an easy way to read all sorts of message files in the Filing Cabinet of CompuServe Information Manager® (CIM) or CompuServe Navigator® directly from within the Windows 95® Explorer using its quick-view capabilities.

CIM files are in a binary format and can not be read with an ordinary text editor but require a specialized program (such as WinCIM) that 'knows' their binary format to read them. This CIM File Viewer works as a plug-in DLL to view CIM files directly from the Windows 95 Explorer.

Forum thread files can be displayed both as plain text and as a map structure, with or without the text of each message. E-mail messages and all other file types are displayed as plain text in a user defined format and font.

-> What's new ?   (Version history)

-> Do you want to convert CIM files to plain text or other formats ? See this for more information...

How to use it ?

The main window of the CIM File Viewer is divided into three parts:

On top, below the menu, is the toolbar. It can be switched on and off with the option 'Toolbar' in the 'View' menu.
The following tool icons are available:

Open all branches of the message map, show the complete structure. Has effect only on forum thread files. Same as option 'Expand all' in 'File' menu.

Open all messages in the map of a thread, show the full text for all messages. Has effect only on forum thread files. Same as option 'Expand texts' in 'File' menu.

Close all messages in the map of a thread, display only the map structure with the sender name for each message. Has effect only on forum thread files. Same as option 'Collapse texts' in 'File' menu.

Open the parameter dialog to select parameters for the displayed message text.
Same as option 'Parameters' in 'View' menu.

-> The parameter dialog

Below the toolbar is the main text window for the displayed message text or the forum
thread map structure.

The font and format of the displayed information can be selected using the parameter
dialog (see above). There you can also choose whether to display forum thread files as
plain text or as a map structure.

The message map display of a forum thread shows a map of all messages in the thread
file, represented by the sender's name.
With the yellow box that precedes the sender's name you can open or close the display
of all replies to that particular message. This is similar to opening and closing sub-
directories in a file selector dialog.
By clicking on the green down-arrow you can open the message text for that message.
The symbol then changes to a red up-arrow, that can be used to close the message
text.

At the bottom of the main window is the status bar. It shows a short help whenever you
move the mouse cursor over an object in the main window or toolbar.

The status bar can be switched on or off with the option 'Status bar' in the 'View' menu.

If the option 'Replace window' in the 'View' menu is checked and a new file is opened
with the CIM File Viewer while another instance of the Viewer is still open, the contents
of the already opened Viewer window are destroyed and replaced with the new CIM file.
If the option is not checked a new window is opened for each instance of the CIM File
Viewer.

About CIM files...

There are five CIM file types:

- E-Mail messages (*.plx) - Electronic mail, sent directly from one CIS address to an
other.
- Forum messages (*.msg) - A single message from a forum message board.
- Forum threads (*.thd) - A group of messages with the same subject downloaded from
a forum message board.
- Display articles (*.art) - Miscellaneous information retrieved from CIS; e.g. "What's
new" articles, program descriptions, articles from some of the news services etc.
- News stories (*.nws) - News stories downloaded from the Executive News Service
(ENS).

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Thank you for using the CIM File Viewer for Windows '95.
Any comments, suggestions or bug reports are appreciated.

What's New ? (Version History)

Changes for Version 1.01:

    - Fixed an installation problem with Win95 long name for the CIM File Renamer.

Original Version 1.00 dated September 1995

The Viewer Parameter Dialog

In the viewer parameter dialog you can select the format and font for the viewed message text or thread map structure.

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Automatic line wrap: If checked, the text output is automatically wrapped to the specified number of characters per line. The value for the line length must be between 65 and 255 characters.

■
Expand TABs: If this is checked TABs are converted to blanks. The TAB spacing can be specified in the range of 2 to 32 characters. This option should generally be enabled with the TAB spacing set to 8 characters for best output alignment.

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Threads-tree viewer: Display forum thread files as a message map structure instead of plain text. This has effect only on forum thread files.

■
Generate message: Display the message text. This option should always be selected; otherwise only the message header is displayed.

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Standard header / Minimum header / Maximum header: Check one, according to how much header information you wish to see for the viewed message. 'Maximum header' will include all available information from the CIM file.
If none of the header options is checked, only the file name and type is included with the displayed message.

■
Strip empty lines: If this is checked empty lines in the message text are omitted. That will result in a more compact output but may affect the readability in certain cases.

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Font: To select another font click on the 'Choose' button and select a font from the list in the sub-dialog.

ShowCIM for Windows

If you are searching for a program to convert your CIM messages to plain text files or some other useful formats you may want to try out our software ShowCIM for Windows which is available as a separate shareware program.

What is ShowCIM for Windows ?

ShowCIM for Windows converts e-mail, forum messages and all other types of files from the CompuServe Information Manager® (CIM) filing cabinet into plain text. It can be used with both the Windows and DOS version of CIM and with CompuServe Navigator®.

CIM files are in a binary format and can not be read without a specialized program (such as WinCIM). If you convert them into text files using ShowCIM for Windows you can edit them with any text editor or word processor and insert them in your documents.

ShowCIM for Windows can also convert CIM files to a format that can easily be imported by most database management software, such as Microsoft Access® and Borland Paradox®. Thus you can archive your electronic correspondence in a very efficient way with all the powerful data management tools that your database software provides, such as filters, sorting and text search.

The output can also be formatted for compatibility with the TapCIS® message format that is supported by many 3rd party utility programs. That format should be used to convert messages for import in GoCIS® and NavCIS® for instance.

How do you get ShowCIM for Windows ?

ShowCIM for Windows is available for download on the CompuServe network in several forum libraries. The list of forums includes:

- WinCIM General Support Forum (GO WCIMGEN); Library 'Filing Cabinet'
- CompuServe Applications Forum (GO CSAPPS); Library 'FCCopy utility'
- Windows Shareware Forum+ (GO WINSHARE); Library 'Comm/FAX/App-Utils'
- PC Communications Forum+ (GO PCCOM); Library 'Comm. Utilities'

and several others. The name of the archive file is WSHOWC.ZIP.