Online Software & Services
Windows Source Search

Web site: www.pwick.demon.co.uk
Email: oss@pwick.demon.co.uk

Updates may be obtained from our web site.

Why another search program ?

When there are so many file search utilities it is worth while explaining why it was felt necessary to implement yet another.

This file search is particularly aimed at software developers who, by the nature of their work, often have files located in multiple project directories, have files with different extensions for code and include files.   These files often include many references to the required search text and it is often only by checking each reference that an entry can be eliminated.

It is also common that a whole file can be eliminated as soon as it's contents are viewed and also very common to repeat a pattern of searches many times as work switches between programming environment and the search for the next area to be modified.

Often it is desirable to search compiled files for sequences of text in somebody else's program to check for environment variables, variable names etc.

Given that no current search engine seems to address all of the above it was decided to implement Source Search with the features described in the overview

License Agreement

Copyright
1997 Online Software and Services Limited. All rights reserved.

This software is SHAREWARE - not freeware.
If you continue to use this software after 21 days it must be registered - see registration for details.

Copy and use restrictions
Although you are encouraged to make backup copies of the Software for your own use, you are not allowed to make unlimited copies. The copyright laws that pertain to computer software protect the Software. It is illegal to make copies of the software except for backups. It is illegal to give copies to another person, or to duplicate the Software by any other means, including electronic transmission. It is illegal to utilise this Software on more than one machine per license. The software contains trade secrets and in order to protect them you may not de-compile, reverse engineer, disassemble or otherwise reduce the software to human perceivable form. You may not modify, adapt, translate, rent, lease or create derivative works based upon the Software or any part thereof.

Source Search Registration

Registration info

This product may be registered by utilising the in-built BrainTree software or via the CompuServe network - Registration ID: 15350

Overview

The following is an overview of the key features within Source Search :

▶ Search multiple locations

▶ Search multiple file extension without searching all i.e. *.*

▶ Sub directory searches

▶ Hex and ASCII views

▶ Previous search memory

▶ Previous / Next file step

▶ Previous / Next match step

▶ Background search while files being viewed

Hopefully you will find this software useful - If so then please register it.

Please feel free to email any suggestion for improvements or new software to **Steve@pwick.demon.co.uk**

 Source Search Installation

Installation of Source Search is very simple.
Create a directory and unzip all of the files to that directory.
The Source Search ini file (wins.ini) is automatically created the first time the program is closed.

 File Paths

This combo box holds the file paths to be searched.
Multiple paths may be entered for a single search by separating them by a semicolon.   If the sub directory option is checked then all sub directories of each of the entries will be searched as well.

Available paths may be browsed by calling up the browse dialog using the [...] button.
Paths used are automatically recorded in the wins.ini file and may be re-selected for future use by dropping the combo box.

File Masks

The file mask combo box is used to enter the DOS file masks to be included in the search.
Multiple masks can be entered by separating each one by a semicolon e.g. *.txt;*.doc
All normal DOS wild cards can be used.
It should be noted that a separate pass is made in each directory for each of the masks.   It is therefore more efficient to have a small number of entries in this field although it is very effective for searching many directories while skipping large binary files.
It is also useful to have masks set up for each main file category e.g. source with *.c;*.h;*.inc etc.
All previously used masks are recorded and may be used again by dropping the combo box.

Paths and File mask dialog

This dialog allows the file structure to be browsed and file masks to be tested.   It is very similar in function to the windows standard file dialog.
Any masks entered here are recorded in the file masks combo box.

Search Strings

This combo box holds the value of the string to be searched for.   No wild cards are supported other than '*' which will match any file.   The case of the string will be ignored if the Case Sensitive option is unchecked. Used values are recorded in the wins.ini file and may be used for future searches.

Search Options

There are two options which effect how a search is carried out and are available on the main application dialog box. These are :

Case Sensitive determines whether or not the case of the search string is significant.

Search sub directories determines whether all directories under those specified in the File Paths combo are searched.

The value of these options are retained between sessions.

 File list display

The file display list box on the main dialog shows the files which match the search criteria.
This list is updated as files are found.   This allows files to be viewed as they are found without having to wait on the search finishing.
The number of hits in each file and the full file path are shown.
A file may be viewed by double clicking on it's entry in the list box.

File Viewer

File Viewer Overview

The file viewer is a general purpose browser which allows files to be viewed in Hex or ASCII.   Large files can be traversed from start to finish without having to read the entire file as the viewer will automatically do a file 'seek' to the correct position when the scroll bar is moved.

The top of the display indicates how many files have a text match and how many matches or hits are in the currently displayed file.   These counts are automatically updated if a file is being viewed while the search is still in progress. The background colour and Fonts used for each of the view modes can be modified by right clicking the display and selecting the appropriate option from the popup menu.

The current file and text match can be stepped through by using the File and Hit step buttons.

The size and position of the view window is recorded between sessions.

ASCII or Hex Display

The file view window is capable of displaying the current file in either normal ASCII mode or in Hex.
When in hex mode the ASCII values of the screen are displayed down the left of the screen and the hex values are displayed on the right.
The current offset, decimal, hex and character information are displayed on the bottom status bar for the character under the cursor.
The font used for Hex or ASCII can be tailored as required by using a right mouse click.
Text may be selected in either mode and copied to the clipboard.

File Buttons

By using the buttons indicated above the file in view can be changed either by jumping to the first or last file or by stepping forward or backwards through the files.
The file will be position at the first text match found.

Hit Buttons

By using the buttons indicated above the matching text can be changed either by jumping to the first or last match or by stepping forward or backwards through the matches.
The first and last hit button will jump to the first and last hit in the current file.   If the previous or next hit button is pressed then the next available file will be called up and the appropriate highlight shown.

Background Colour

The background colour of the text window can be altered by right mouse clicking the view window and selecting the colour option.

The colour selected will be used for both ASCII and Hex views and will be remembered between sessions.

The colour of the font is chosen in the font selection dialog and care should be taken not to have a black font on a black background etc.

Copy to clipboard

The currently highlighted text can be copied to the clipboard by pressing Ctrl+C or by right mouse clicking and choosing copy.

 Fonts

The fonts display in the text windows can be changed by right mouse clicking in the view window and choosing either Hex or Normal font.
These options then invoke the appropriate standard font selection dialog.
It is recommended that the Hex option uses a mono-spaced font and will default to courier.
Font selections are remembered between sessions.

 Erase previous values

As each search is executed the values in the combo boxes are recorded in the wins.ini file.

The list of values held for each of the combo boxes can be erased by pressing the button. Values will continue to be added to the list until they are cleared.