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What does fileWATCH do?

This program monitors the hard drives on your system using saved image files and reports extra, missing, and changed files. Use it to monitor program installations to see where files are scattered or even watch what files are tampered with over time, etc.

To test it out:

1. Save a FW3 image file.
2. Delete, move, or create a file.
3. Find changes.

Saving a FW3 image file

1. Under Settings Tab
Highlight drive or folder to WATCH.
Use Shift or Control to make multiple selections.
2. Under Settings Tab
Highlight folders you wish to exclude from scan. All folders and files within highlighted folders will be ignored. Use Shift or Control to make multiple selections.
3. If you are a registered user
Configure choices under Registered Options.
Decide if you want to save RSA MD5 file signatures, etc.
4. Under File Menu
Select Save .FW3 file

Finding changes

1. Under File Menu
Select Open .FW3 File
Choose desired image file.
2. If you are a registered user
If RSA MD5 file signatures were saved,
you may decide to check them or not.
3. Tabs
Browse the Changed, Extra, and Missing Tabs

What exactly is monitored?

Missing & Extra files

These files are found by simply checking current filenames on the system with those saved in an FW3 image file.

Changed files

When a file isn't missing or extra, it's current status is again checked against saved data:

Attributes: Read Only, Hidden, System, Directory

Date & Time: Windows Stamp

Size: Bytes

RSA MD5: Calculated internal file signature.

RSA MD5 signatures

Registered users have the option to create a RSA MD5 key for each file. This key should be unique enough to detect any internal changes in case the attributes, date, time, and size of a file remain unchanged.

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Opening a RPT file

You can load a report in the future to remove the Extra files found. Changed and Missing files saved with the report are also viewable.

1. Under Report Menu
Select Open .RPT File

Saving a RPT file

After loading an image file and finding changes, you may want to save the list of extra files found for later removal. Changed and Missing files are also saved in the report.

You may remove single or multiple file listings from the report windows by highlighting them and pressing the 'Remove Selected Files from Report' button. This does not actually delete any files.

1. Under Report Menu
Select Save .RPT File

Printing a RPT file

The current Report under the Printable Report tab can be printed. Text in this window may be edited before printing.

1. Under Report Menu
Select Print .RPT File

Removing files

You may move Extra files listed in a current or saved report to the Windows Recycle Bin. For safety, this means they may be un-deleted until you empty the Bin from Windows.

1. Under **EXTRA Tab**

Highlight files you wish to remove.

Use Shift or Control to make multiple selections.

2. Under **EXTRA Tab**

Click 'Send Files To Recycle Bin' button.

Registered Options

When a new .FW3 file is saved, the data below is saved for each file only if the corresponding checkbox is activated.

1. `Store Size`
Save size (bytes) of each file.
2. `Store Attributes`
Save attributes (RHSDA) of each file and folder.
3. `Store Date / Time`
Save Date & Time of each file and folder.
4. `Store MD5 Signatures`
Save RSA MD5 signatures for files.

FAQ

1. How do I ignore the Recycle bin(s)?

Select 'Add: Define Folder Mask' button from the Main Settings Tab. Then enter c:\Recycled\ to prevent from scanning. If you have more than one hard drive, enter :\Recycled\ to ignore all of your bins.

2. Why is a folder/file inaccessible?

This means it was not accessible via Windows (not DOS compatible.) Shared Network and/or MAC volumes may have some un-scannable folders. If a file is not accessible, you may want to CHKDSK or ScanDisk for errors.

3. 'Messages saved in fileWATCH.log?'

If a folder/file is inaccessible or any other problem occurs it is noted in the log file.

Registering fileWATCH

If you find this program useful then you are obligated to support shareware and send me a \$10.00 (US currency) registration fee.

In return, you will receive a registration code via electronic (fast!) or snail mail applicable for any future revisions of version 3. Click the link to fileWATCH's homepage in Help|About if you wish to register over the web with credit card. Thanks!

fileWATCH v3
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History of fileWATCH

The grandchild of this Delphi version is based on a simple Turbo Pascal DOS utility I wrote before Windows 3.1 was even introduced.

I have ported the code between various versions of VB and Delphi since then. As a result, my folder scanning algorithm has been optimized for speed and accuracy over time.

The RSA MD5 signature algorithm was added in version 3 of the project. I had experimented with CRC checksums in the past for a similar feature.

I hope you enjoy...Kg'98

