

NSLOOKUP for Windows

Introduction

This program is one element of WigWam for the Internet, a forthcoming off-line news and mail reader from Ashmount Research Ltd.

This will be an extension to the existing range of off-line readers for remote services, such as Compuserve, CIX and BIX, and the local conferencing and email application - PowWow.

WigWam for the Internet will allow you to gather news and mail in bulk over a SLIP or other WINSOCK network connection, read and reply to it off-line, and send the replies the next time you connect.

For more information on WigWam and other Ashmount products, mail :-

- ashmount@cix.compulink.co.uk
- enquiries@ashmount.demon.co.uk
- 70007.5437@compuserve.com
- Alternatively, telephone +44171 935 7712

Ashmount has kindly allowed me to make this program available on the Internet. It is not released into the public domain, and remains Copyright (c) Ashmount Research Ltd.

Requirements

NSLOOKUP requires you to have a properly installed WINSOCK.DLL and requires Windows 3.1 or later.

If you do not already have a WINSOCK.DLL working on your system, I recommend that you obtain Trumpet Winsock.

See “Getting started with Winsock” below.

Installation

Copy the executable NSLOOKUP.EXE into any desired directory.

Create an ICON in any Program Manager group - either use the File Manager and drag the program into a Program Manager group, or use [F]ile [N]ew in the Program Manager.

Running the program

Name Server: Enter the name of the name server you wish to use. This is usually the name of a machine run by your Internet service provider.

If you haven't got Winsock's own limited name server working, you can enter an IP address here instead. **Make sure the IP address is contained in square brackets** (e.g. “[123.234.12.34]”).

Each time you do a successful lookup, the nameserver you used is added to the list of name servers in the drop down box. Any NS (Name Server) records returned from a query are also added, so that you can easily select one for a subsequent query.

Name: Enter the name you want to look up.

Note: The name should be the name of a machine connected to the Internet, not a user name on a

machine. To ask a machine about the users who use it, you need a finger program - e.g. WS_FINGER.

Or enter an IP address without brackets to do a reverse (number to name) lookup on that address. This uses the standard IN-ADDR.ARPA lookup form, so you can also look up subnet details this way - just enter a partial IP address.

Type: Select the type of name record you want to see. Select ALL to see all record types.

Lookup: This is the default button, activated whenever you press return. It resolves the Name Server name using Winsock's own limited name server, then sends a name lookup request to the address. It also displays the name and query type in the results box.

When the Name Server replies, the reply records are decoded and displayed in the results box. If the Name Server does not reply, then no data is displayed. Either way, the text "Complete:" is shown, to indicate that there is no more data available.

If the Name Server does not support recursive name lookups, you may find that it replies with one or more NS records. These are other name servers it knows about, that should be able to give more details in response to your query. Just Tab to the Name Server box, and select one of these names from the list box, then press Return. NSLOOKUP will then query the new server with the same request.

Close: Press this button to exit the program.

About: Press this button to obtain the program version number.

Save: Press this button to save the name of the current name server in the NSLOOKUP.INI file in

the same directory as the program. This name server will be offered as a default next time you run the program.

Results box: The results are shown in standard format. You can copy all or part of a result to the clipboard - just mark the area you want to copy with the mouse, and press Control-C.

Online help

I have not created any online help for the program yet. This will be forthcoming, but probably not until the first commercial release. For instructions, read the **Running the program** section above.

NSLOOKUP.INI variables

When the program is first run, it will create a file called “NSLOOKUP.INI” in the same directory as the program. The variables written to the file have the following meaning ...

InitialTimeout=120

The number of seconds to wait for Winsock to load and connect to the network.

ClientTimeout=10

The number of seconds to wait for a reply from the name server.

Nameserver=

The default name server.

MaxItemsInList=20

The maximum number of name servers held in the drop-down list.

FileDebug=0

If this is set to 1, NSLOOKUP will write extensive debugging information to the file NSLOOKUP.LOG on the current directory. This is only really useful if you have a problem with NSLOOKUP, and I need more information to help you.

Nameserver-n=

The name servers in the list box are all saved in sequentially numbered variables, so that they persist from one session to the next.

Support

To contact the author of this program, send Internet mail to "nslookup@trmphrst.demon.co.uk". I give no guarantee of support (you haven't paid for the program, after all), but I will try to help if I have time.

Getting started with Winsock

To get started with Winsock - get the file ftp.demon.co.uk:/pub/doc/os/windows.txt

Also read the Demon metaFAQ, which has lots of useful pointers to other documentation - ftp.demon.co.uk:pub/doc/general/dis-meta.faq

Once you've got it working, you can look at getting it to go faster by reading "modem.txt" and "tuning.faq" somewhere in the /pub/docs directory hierarchy.

These are all Demon Internet specific files, but they also contain much useful information on how to get started with Winsock, and TCP/IP over phone lines in general.

Lachlan Cranswick <lachlan@dmp.CSIRO.AU> has put together an internet kit that puts a number of user-friendly Winsock applications all in one place with one set of installation instructions. It includes :-

Trumpet Winsock

Hgopher

Trumpet newsreader

Mosaic (16bit) with lview gif and jpg viewer already installed.

Ws_ftp

Winqvt - telnet and other services

Trmptel - no frills telnet program.

It can be obtained from :-

sol.dmp.csiro.au:/pub/internet/all/internet.exe

or for floppy disk friendly version :-

sol.dmp.csiro.au:/pub/internet/floppy/internt1.exe

sol.dmp.csiro.au:/pub/internet/floppy/internt2.exe