CIM File Viewer for Windows 95, Version 1.01

Thank you for your interest in the CIM File Viewer for Windows 95.

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.

Installation

After you have extracted the installation files from the downloaded archive execute the program INSTALL.EXE from Windows 95 Explorer to install the CIM File Viewer on your system:
1. First you can choose a directory where to install the program files, using the file selector. If the selected directory does not exist it will be created.
2. Then specify the directory where the CIM filing cabinet index file CABINET.DAT is located (usually C:\CSERVE\FCABINET\CABINET) or click on the Auto-Search button to let the install program search the index file for you.
3. Click on the 'Install' button to start the installation.

After the installation is complete you will see a new program group titled "CIM File Viewer" with a program icon for the CIM File Renamer (see below) and two icons for the online help file and this readme file.

The actual CIM File Viewer is not installed as a program icon but as an add-on for direct use from within the Windows 95 Explorer. To start it, launch the Explorer, right-click on a CIM message file and select 'Quick View' from the pop-up menu.

When you start the unregistered version, you will see a registration dialog appear from time to time. If you already have your registration codes you can enter them in the designated fields to stop the dialog from showing up.
For quick help look at the bottom line of the window. It shows a short help text whenever you move the mouse cursor over a control element. For more detailed information use the "Help" menu.

NOTE: The Windows 95 module 'Quick View' must be installed before the installation of the CIM File Viewer. Please see the Win95 documentation for information how to install additional system modules.

Files

During the installation process the File Viewer DLL named CIMView.DLL is installed in the chosen target directory (see step 1 above). An additional utility program named CIMRename.exe is also installed in that directory. Please see the section titled 'CIM File Renamer' below for more

information.

The Windows 95 registry file is also updated in order to establish a link from the CIM file extensions to the CIM File Viewer DLL. The following extensions (file types) are supported:

    .PLX - Email messages
    .MSG - Single forum message
    .THD - Thread of several forum messages with the same subject
    .ART - Miscellaneous information retrieved from CIS, e.g. 'What's New' articles etc.
    .NWS - News stories downloaded from the executive news service

CIM File Renamer

An additional utility program called CIMRename.EXE is installed with the CIM File Viewer. It can be used to rename the message files in the CIM file cabinet to the message subject, making use of the Windows 95 long file name option. That makes it much easier to find a certain message in the file cabinet with the Win 95 Explorer. The original file name is added to the message subject in square brackets so the renaming can be undone at any time using the undo option of the Renamer. The three character extension that specifies the file type is not changed.

The program asks for the CIM file cabinet base directory and then renames all messages in all folders. However, there is a special option to exclude thread files from the renaming. If a thread file is renamed, new messages from the same thread that are downloaded with CIM later will not be added to it but a second thread file with the same subject is created. That results in split threads in the CIM file cabinet. To avoid that problem the option to exclude thread files from the renaming should always be selected.

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

Shareware registration

If you decide to use this program after the initial 30 days evaluation period you are required to register. For easy online registration please use the CompuServe shareware registration service (GO SWREG) and use the shareware registration ID # **7730**.

The shareware fee is 12 US$. The registration code is sent to you by email, and there is currently no additional shipping and handling fee.

The registration code which you will receive as a registered user will stop the registration reminder dialog from appearing from time to time. The code is valid for all future update versions of the CIM File Viewer for Windows 95 with no additional registration fee.
Of course you will also receive technical support from the authors on all questions related to the program. And we are looking forward to receive your suggestions for future versions.

Please remember that the shareware concept is meant to provide users with reliable software for an affordable price. It can only work if you support it with your registration.

Thanks again for trying out the CIM File Viewer for Windows 95. We hope that you find it a useful

utility.

The authors...

Joerg Arnu, Berlin, Germany;   CIS-ID 100326,564 and
Gildas Quiniou, Paris, France;   CIS-ID 100752,1413

October 1995