

Contents for Delta Help

△ Delta is a tool that profiles one or more directories. Profiles can be saved, compared, and used to automatically "uninstall" software. Files can be identified that have been added, deleted, or modified during the course of a change to your system's hard drive or network system. In addition user specified files can be probed to view any changes to their contents. A typical application would be to use Delta to identify changes to your hard drive, AUTOEXEC.BAT file, WIN.INI file, etc. caused by an installation program. This information can then be used later to automatically uninstall the program.

Delta was written in Borland Pascal Version 7.01.

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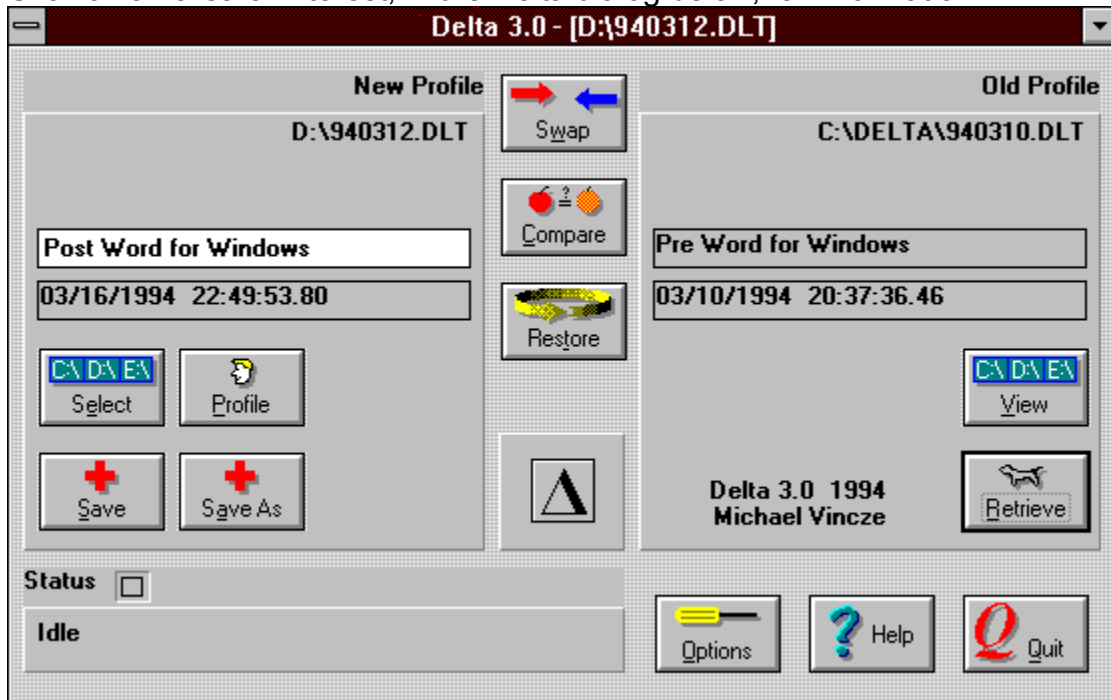
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Ordering Information

Ordering Information

How to use commands

Click on an area of interest, in the Delta dialog below, for information:



How to customize Delta


Delta can be customized with the Options button. From this dialog you can select the default text editor for viewing reports, the default directories to place results and backups in, and the restore options. In addition to these options you can also select directories to profile and files to probe with the Select button.


It is recommended that you select your options at least once before a profile is ran.


How to use Delta for a typical application

A typical application would involve profiling a disk or directory to where you wish to install software. Normally the software's installation procedure, such as Windows software, would install files in more than one directory and modify certain files, such as AUTOEXEC.BAT and WIN.INI. You would run Delta once before installing the software, and once after you have installed the software to see which files were added, modified, or deleted. You might also want to run Delta after you run the installed file, as some programs will add additional files after they are ran. Below is a typical procedure for software that is installed on the C: drive:

1. Run Delta.


2. Click on . This will bring up the Select Profile dialog and allow you to select which directory or directories to profile and which files to probe. Select the C: drive.


3. Click on . This will perform the profiling.
4. At this point if you would like, add a comment in the comment field.

5. Click on . This will save the current profile.

The filename should be distinctive. For example if you are installing Microsoft Word for Windows you might want to use the name WordPre.dlt. After you install Word for Windows you can profile the C: drive again and save it with the name wordpost.dlt.

6. Install the desired software per the manufacturer's directions.
7. Go back to Delta and repeat steps 2 through 5. This will perform the same profile as earlier but the disk will now also contain your installed software.

8. Click on , enter the filename you entered in step 5. This will retrieve the old profile you had before you ran the installation procedure.

9. Click on . This will compare the old profile against the new profile. This will also prompt you for a filename for the report file. The report file will be automatically viewed per the text editor selected from the Options dialog.

How to restore your system (Uninstall a program)



Restoring, or often called uninstalling, is achieved by analyzing which files have been added and modified. Added files can be deleted and modified files can be restored to their original states. As a safeguard these files can be put into a backup directory. Before restoring please **read this section in its entirety** to help you minimize errors.

The restoration is started by comparing two previously saved profiles. The behavior of which is set through the Options dialog. Any file that is to be deleted or restored can be optionally backed up to the backup directory before any actions are taken. Further you can specify whether you want to be informed or not of any actions that need to be taken on a file.

During a restoration the following can occur:

Added files are deleted

*.INI files in the probe list are restored by removing/adding/modifying sections in them.

Text files (i.e. non *.INI files) in the probe list are restored directly from the previous profile. This means that individual lines can not be restored as in *.INI files. The entire file gets replaced.


Note that deleted files not in the probe list can not be restored. These files can only be restored if you backed them up previously.

You must be cautious when deleting *.DLL, *.VBX, and *.386 files as other programs may depend on them. For example when an install program installs BWCC.DLL, another install program may also install this same file. If you delete this file for the first application program it will become unavailable for the second application program.

For the above reasons it is recommended that you check all the prompt options in the Options dialog. Also make sure that you read all the prompt dialogs very carefully before taking an action. If however you run a profile, install an application, and then run another profile you can be very confident that if you immediately run a restore before installing another application you will get the correct results. When evaluating an application it is best to remove it immediately upon determining that you no longer want it.

In other words you must be very cautious when running restore from two profiles that are separated by a few days or more. It is also recommended that you do another Compare after a Restore.

How to select disks/directories to profile and files to probe

Click on . This will bring up the Profile and Probe Editor dialog. This allows you to select which directories to profile and which files to probe.

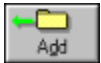
The list of directories to be profiled are at the bottom of the dialog. The list of files to be probed are above this list. In order to add a file to the probe list, navigate through the

file list until the desired file appears in the Probe File Name section and click on .

In order to remove a file from the probe list, select a file in the probe list and click on



. Similarly in order to add a directory to the profile list, navigate through the directory list until the desired directory appears in the Profile Directories section and click on






. In order to remove a directory from the profile list, select a directory in the profile list and click on





If you want the profile and probe lists to be saved for the next time Delta is ran, select the Save Setup check box.

How to compare two previously saved profiles

To compare two previously saved profiles:

1. Click on  and enter the filename of the first profile. Delta will consider this as the old profile.
2. Click on . Delta will now consider the first profile retrieved as the new profile.
3. Click on  and enter the filename of the second profile. Delta will now consider this as the old profile.

The old profile should contain the profile you ran before the new profile. You can verify this by looking at the dates provided for each profile. If this is not the case, then simply click on  again.

4. Click on . This will compare the old profile against the new profile. This will also prompt you for a file name for the report file. The report file will be automatically viewed per the text editor selected from the Options dialog.

How to use the command line options

Usage: delta [filename] [-a] [-ega]

where: **filename** is the filename of a previously saved profile.

-ega runs Delta in a smaller dialog more suitable for notebook size screens.

-a indicates to automatically run Delta and save the new profile.

The **filename** option allows you to run Delta from the File Manager. This is done by associating Delta files (*.DLT) to DELTA.EXE. This will allow you to double click on a Delta file and automatically load it as an old profile. Please see the File Manager help on how to associate files with applications.







The **-ega** option allows Delta to be ran on smaller screens found on notebook computers.

The **-a** option allows you to automatically run Delta, save the new profile and quit. The directories and files profiled and probed depend on what was selected in the Profile and Probe Editor. The mode of the automatically generated file, either normal or compressed, depends on the compress check box in the options dialog. The name of the saved file depends on the date the **-a** option is ran, the Default Dlt File Name, and the existence of a previously saved profile on the same date. For example running Delta **-a** on 03/01/94 with a Default File Name of *c:\delta*.dlt* will result in a filename *c:\delta\940301.dlt*. Subsequent runs on the same date will yield *c:\delta\940301a.dlt ... c:\delta\940301z.dlt*. Up to 29 automatic runs can be handled for any given date.

*Two icons have been supplied with Delta. This allows you to add two program items to a program group in the Program Manager and distinguish between them. One item can be for running Delta normally and the other for running Delta with the **-a** option.*

How to report the contents of an entire disk

With Delta it is also possible to list the entire contents of a disk:

1. Click on  and remove all selected directories.
2. Click on .
3. Click on .
4. Click on  and select the desired drives.
5. Click on .
4. Click on  and enter a filename.

Because of Delta's nature, all files will be indicated as being added.

How to use the LZMAV.DLL compression library in your own applications

In order to use the LZMAV.DLL compression library, create the following Pascal for Windows unit:

```
unit LZmavDLL;  
interface  
function LZmavEncode (InFileName, OutFileName: PChar): Word;  
function LZmavDecode (InFileName, OutFileName: PChar): Word;  
implementation  
function LZmavEncode; external 'LZmavDll' index 1;  
function LZmavDecode; external 'LZmavDll' index 2;  
end.
```

Then in your program file add the LZmavDLL Unit to your Uses clause.

LZmavEncode compresses InFileName to OutFileName, while LZmavDecode decompresses InFileName to OutFileName. For both functions, the returned value is equivalent to Turbo Pascal's ObjectWindows TStream.Error stxxxx values.

If you register Delta 3.0, you may distribute LZMAV.DLL without royalty, provided credit is given to the author (Michael Vincze.)

Ordering Information

[Print Order Form](#)

△ Delta is **not** distributed via the public domain or freeware systems. Delta is distributed using the shareware system.

Delta may be used freely for evaluation purposes for up to two weeks. If you decide to keep the software after the evaluation period please send \$21.00 plus shipping to the author for registration.

Please send inquiries, comments, or fees to:

Michael Vincze
c/o Delta 3.0
5229 Wood Creek Lane
Garland, TX 75044-4915

vincze@lobby.ti.com
(214) 414-6596
(214) 575-2724

Registered users will also get a registered copy of the latest DLL Check program which can show you which DLLs a Windows application calls and visa versa (which applications are called by a particular DLL). With DLL Check you can drag and drop a file name, when prompted for deletion during a restore operation, to see which files depend on it. This can be used as a measure to see if you want to delete a file or not.

Registration of the software gives rise to a license to continue use of Delta for execution. No other rights, including the right to alter, de-compile, disassemble, or otherwise decode the software's machine language representation are given nor may be assumed to exist.

The license is granted on a per user basis. This includes the right to install and use the software on one or more computers so long as the total number of users does not exceed the license quantity.

Permission is hereby granted for any SysOp or other person in charge of maintaining on-line services to offer a copy of Delta for downloading, as long as no charge other than normal charges for system access are made, and as long as the originally distributed files are kept together and offered in unmodified form.

Delta is distributed as is, with no warranty regarding its usefulness or fitness for any particular purpose. While care has been taken to produce software which is problem free, the author assumes no responsibility or liability for any failure of this software, or any problems, or damage ensuing thereby. Any use of the software is construed as acceptance of this disclaimer of liability.



DELTA ORDER FORM

Name (Please Print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ ZIP _____

Country (if not USA) _____ Phone/Fax _____

Email Address _____

DISK SIZE: [] 3.5" 1.4M [] 5.25" 1.2M

Previous registered Delta users need only purchase the upgrade price

Description	Quantity	Price	Total
DELTA 3.0		\$21.00	
DELTA 3.0 UPGRADE FROM 2.x		\$7.00	
DLLCHECK 1.0		FREE	
SHIPPING USA*		\$1.00*	
SHIPPING OTHER COUNTRIES*		\$3.00*	
AMOUNT ENCLOSED			

* Add \$1.00 for each additional registration

Sorry, at the moment only U.S. dollars are accepted in Cash, Check, or Money Order. Make checks payable to "Michael Vincze".

Mail to: Michael Vincze
c/o Delta 3.0
5229 Wood Creek Lane
Garland, TX 75044

Where did you get Delta from?

- [] Downloaded from a BBS: BBS Name _____
- [] Shareware Catalog Vendor: Vendor Name: _____
- [] Retail Shareware Rack: Rack Vendor Name: _____
- [] Ordered it from us
- [] A friend gave it to me
- [] None of the above
- [] Unknown

Compare Command



is used to compare two profiles. A filename is also prompted for that will contain the results of the comparison.

You must have an old and new profile before you can do a comparison.

Help Command



is used to invoke help.

Profile Command



is used to profile and probe the selected directories and files.

Quit Command



is used to quit Delta.

Retrieve Command



is used to retrieve a previously saved profile. The filename you enter will be considered the old profile.

Save and Save As Commands



and



are used to save the new profile you have just created. If you choose 'Save', then the profile will be saved under the same name that appears in the title bar. If you choose 'Save As', then the title bar will be changed to the saved filename.

Make sure that you have entered any desired comments in the new comments field before saving.

Select Command



is used to select which directories to profiled and which files to probed. See [how to select disks/directories to profile and files to probe](#) for more help with this command.

Swap Command



is used to swap the new profile with the old profile.

Normally the old profile would contain the profile you ran before the new profile. If this



is not the case then can be used to swap them out. For an application see how to compare two previously saved profiles.



Be careful when using the command in conjunction with the



or



commands, since the new profile will always be the one that's saved.

Michael Vincze

A genuinely nice guy who wrote Delta.

Delta

The fourth letter in the Greek alphabet. It denotes a finite increment in a variable.

Profile

Information on directories. The information consists of all files in the directories, their time stamps, and sizes. In addition a profile may contain the contents of individual files (called probe files.)

Probe files

Files whose contents are saved and checked for changes. Probe files can be any text file such as: AUTOEXEC.BAT, and CONFIG.SYS, or Windows initialization files such as: WIN.INI, and SYSTEM.INI.

Restore

The action of restoring directories based upon two profiles. This typically involves removing files and sections in initialization files (*.ini) that were placed there by installation programs. This is also called an "uninstall".

Options

Allows you to setup Delta options such as default pathnames for reports, and backups. Restore options are also set here.

View old profile and probe lists

Allows you to view which directories and probes are in the old profile.

Freeware

Software that may be freely distributed and used.

Delta is **not** freeware!

Public domain software

Software that may be freely distributed and used.

Delta is **not** in the public domain!

Shareware

Software that may be freely distributed and evaluated.

Shareware gives users a chance to try software before buying it. If you try a shareware program and continue using it, you are expected to buy it (normally called registration).

Delta **is** distributed under the shareware system.

File Manager

A tool used to organize files and directories.

Program Manager

A tool used to start applications and organize applications and files into logical groups.

Title Bar

Located along the top of a window. It contains the name of the application and new profile.

System Menu

Located along the top of a window left of the title bar It contains commands that allow you to manipulate the window or switch to other tasks.

Iconify Button

Located along the top of a window right of the title bar When clicked, this button will iconify the application.

New Profile Name

Defines the name of the new profile. This is either a file name of a saved profile or a set of directory names to profile.

Old Profile Name

Defines the name of the old profile. This is either a file name of a retrieved profile or a set of directory names to profile.

New Probe List

List of new probe files. This list is initially empty until a profile is performed.

Old Probe List

List of old probe files. This list is initially empty until a profile is retrieved.

Old Time Stamp

Date and time of old profile.

New Time Stamp

Date and time of new profile.

Old Comment

User entered comment for old profile.

New Comment

User entered comment for new profile. This field can be edited.

Status LED

Shows the status of the program. The LED flashes yellow when Delta is busy or waiting for input.

Status line

Shows the status of the program. If Delta has finished a process it displays: 'Idle'. If Delta is busy then it will display pertinent process information.

Compare

Compares two profiles. A filename is also prompted for that will contain the results of the comparison.

You must have an old and new profile before you can do a comparison.

Compress

Selects option to compress a file you are saving.

Help

Invokes help.

Profile

Profiles and probes the selected directories and files.

Quit

Quits Delta.

Retrieve

Retrieves a previously saved profile. The filename you enter will be considered the old profile.

Save and Save As

Saves the new profile you have just created. If you choose 'Save', then the profile will be saved under the same name that appears in the title bar. If you choose 'Save As', then the title bar will be changed to the saved filename. If Compress is checked, then the profile will be compressed upon saving.


Select

Defines which directories are to be profiled, and which files to be probed. See [how to select disks/directories to profile and files to probe](#).

Swap

Swaps the new profile with the old profile.

Normally the old profile would contain the profile you ran before the new profile. If this is not the case

then  can be used to swap them. For an application see [how to compare two previously saved profiles](#).

 *Be careful when using the*  *command in conjunction with the*



or



commands, since the new profile will always be the one that's saved.


stxxxx constants

Constant values used by the ObjectWindows streams and the LZmavDLL units.

The following values are returned by TStream.Error, LZmavEncode, and LZmavDecode when a stream error occurs:

<u>Error code</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
stOk	0	No error
stError	-1	Access error
stInitError	-2	Cannot initialize stream
stReadError	-3	Read beyond end of stream
stWriteError	-4	Cannot expand stream
stGetError	-5	Get of unregistered object type
stPutError	-6	Put of unregistered object type

Probe File Name

A file that can be added to the probe file list with the  button.


File Name List

A list of files that can be selected with mouse clicks into the probe file name.

Probe File Types

Selects the type of files to appear in the file name list.

Profile Directory

A directory that can be added to the profile directory list with the  button.



Directory List

A list of directories that can be selected with mouse clicks into the profile directory.

Available Drives

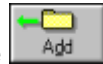
Selects the available disk drive for the directory list.

Probe List

Selected files to probe. Files are added and removed to and from this list with the  and  buttons respectively.

Profile List

Selected directories to profile. Directories are added and removed to and from this list with the



and  buttons respectively.

Add Probe File

Adds the probe file name to the probe file list.

Remove Probe File

Removes the file selected in the probe file list.

Add Profile Directory

Adds the profile directory to the profile list.

Remove Profile Directory

Removes the directory selected in the profile directory list.

Accept Profile and Probe Lists

Accepts the profile directory and probe file lists to be used the next time a profile is ran.

If the Save Setup check box is checked, then the profile and probe lists will also be saved for subsequent runs of Delta.


Having the Save Setup check box checked is important before running Delta to run automatically.

Ignore Profile and Probe Lists

Ignores any changes made to the profile directory and probe file lists.

Changes to the the update ini file check box are also ignored.

Save Profile and Probe Lists

If the Save Setup check box is checked and  is pressed, then the profile and probe lists will also be saved for subsequent runs of Delta.

Having the Save Setup check box checked is important before running Delta to run automatically.

Profile and Probe Editor Help

Brings up the help topic for the profile and probe editor dialog.

Options Dialog

The Options Dialog allows you customize the behavior of Delta.

Text Editor

notepad.exe

Selects the Windows Notepad tool for viewing reports.

write.exe

Selects the Windows Write tool for viewing reports. This is useful when the report is too large to handle by Notepad.

other

Allows you to select your own viewing tool. Enter the pathname for your viewing tool in the edit field.

Pathnames

Backup Directory

This is the directory where files are backed up to when doing a restore.

Default Delta File

This is the path where profiles/probes are saved to. A typical value would be: "c:\delta*.dlf".

Compress Delta File

If checked, will compress the saved profile/probe file. Note that it takes considerably longer to save and retrieve a compressed file.

Default Report File

This is the path where Compare and Restore reports are saved to. A typical value would be: "c:\delta*.txt".

Restore Options

Create Backups

Allows you to copy a file to the backup directory before deleting it.

Prompt on Backing Up

Asks if you want to back up a file before deleting it.

Prompt on Replacing Backup

Asks if you want to replace an existing file that is already in the backup directory. It will also give you a chance to give the file a new name if desired.

Prompt on Deleting a File

Asks if you want to delete an added file.

Prompt on Replacing a File

Asks if you want to replace a modified file. For example if the AUTOEXEC.BAT file was modified, this will ask if you want to replace it with the original one.

Prompt on Deleting a Section in a *.INI file

Asks if you want to delete an added section.

Prompt on Restoring a Section in a *.INI file

Asks if you want to restore a deleted section.

Prompt on Modifying a Section in a *.INI file

Asks if you want to restore a modified section.

Prompt Delete File Dialog

The Prompt Delete File Dialog allows you to choose which actions occur to a file during a restore operation when a file is being asked to be deleted. This is prompted for whenever a file has been added and needs to be removed.

The name of the file to act upon appears near the top of the dialog. Clicking on OK will accept the actions chosen. Clicking on CANCEL will result in no action taken to the file (i.e. It will not be deleted or backed up).

Delete File

If this item is checked then the file will be deleted.

Create Backup

If this item is checked then the file will be backed up before deleting.

Backup Filename

The name of the backup file. This field can be edited. The backup file will be placed in the backup directory as selected from the [options dialog](#).

Replace Existing Backup File

If this item is selected then the existing backup file will be replaced. If you do not want to replace the backup file then place a new filename in the Backup Filename field.

Note: Drag and drop is implemented, so you can click on the file and drag it to a drag and drop aware application, such as notepad, write, etc, to view its contents.

Registered users of Delta can take this a step further by dropping the file on the optional cross reference tool DLL Check. DLL Check allows you to identify which DLLs an executable depends on and visa versa (which executables call a particular DLL).

Prompt Replace File Dialog

The Prompt Replace File Dialog allows you to choose which actions occur to a file during a restore operation when a file is being asked to be replaced. This is prompted for when a text file has been modified and needs replaced.

The name of the file to act upon appears near the top of the dialog. Clicking on OK will accept the actions chosen. Clicking on CANCEL will result in no action taken to the file (i.e. It will not be replaced or backed up).

Replace File with Original

If this item is checked then the file will be replaced with its original.

Create Backup

If this item is checked then the file will be backed up before deleting.

Backup Filename

The name of the backup file. This field can be edited. The backup file will be placed in the backup directory as selected from the [options dialog](#).

Replace Existing Backup File

If this item is selected then the existing backup file will be replaced. If you do not want to replace the backup file then place a new filename in the Backup Filename field.

Note: Drag and drop is implemented, so you can click on the file and drag it to a drag and drop aware application, such as notepad, write, etc, to view its contents.

Registered users of Delta can take this a step further by dropping the file on the optional cross reference tool DLL Check. DLL Check allows you to identify which DLLs an executable depends on and visa versa (which executables call a particular DLL).

Prompt Modify *.INI File Dialog

The Prompt Modify File Dialog allows you to choose which actions occur to a file during a restore operation when a file is being asked to be modified. This is prompted for whenever a *.INI file has been modified and needs to be restored.

The name of the file to act upon appears near the top of the dialog. Clicking on OK will accept the actions chosen. Clicking on CANCEL will result in no action taken to the file (i.e. It will not be modified or backed up).

Modify *.INI File

If this item is checked then the file will be modified.

Create Backup

If this item is checked then the file will be backed up before deleting.

Backup Filename

The name of the backup file. This field can be edited. The backup file will be placed in the backup directory as selected from the options dialog.

Replace Existing Backup File

If this item is selected then the existing backup file will be replaced. If you do not want to replace the backup file then place a new filename in the Backup Filename field.

Note: Drag and drop is implemented, so you can click on the file and drag it to a drag and drop aware application, such as notepad, write, etc, to view its contents.

Registered users of Delta can take this a step further by dropping the file on the optional cross reference tool DLL Check. DLL Check allows you to identify which DLLs an executable depends on and visa versa (which executables call a particular DLL).

