



InterLog© - Internet LogMeter (v 2.2a)

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This HELP file contains the installation procedures, a quick setup summary as well as more detailed information for those who are curious and want to find out more about **InterLog**.

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This program is **FREEWARE** and may be freely distributed.

Introduction

InterLog is a small program that monitors your time on the Internet and gives you an instant readout of your actual session time, your remaining time (based on your monthly allowance) as well as a total usage time since your monthly renewal. This is also recorded in a log file. This information is available even when the program is reduced to an ICON (Window 3.1) or a BUTTON on the taskbar (Windows 95).

The top display will indicate either your **Present Session** or **Daily Session** time depending on which option is selected from the the main dialog.

As well, an option is provided in the Setup dialog to have the ICON remain on top of your BROWSER if you so wish, allowing for a constant readout.

Version 2.2(a) now features adjustable timed backups that will maintain accurate on-line recording and logging in the event of a system crash while connected to the Internet. As well, this revised version may now be called and activated from a script (i.e. from Trumpet Winsock Login script) and de-activated and removed from the Bye script for those who prefer not keeping it on the desktop. See the [installation](#) menu for details on how to use this new feature.

Installation

InterLog needs to be installed and active before you connect to the Internet. To ensure this, it should be copied to your STARTUP group; so that whenever you start Windows, it will be active and will appear as an icon at the bottom of your screen. Exiting Windows will automatically close **InterLog**.

To install **InterLog** from a script, simply add the name "**InterLog**" in the login part of the script (before the dialing instruction) using the **Exec** or equivalent command. To have **InterLog** remove itself at the end of a session add a delay of approximately 3 seconds following the **Hangup** command (to permit proper logOff) and then the name "**InterLog Quit**" at the end of the Bye script (using the **Exec** or equivalent command) Refer to your dialer manual for instructions on using script language particular to your dialer.

Note: When **InterLog** is first called, (either directly or through a script) it loads normally. Subsequent calls to **InterLog** are simply ignored. If **InterLog** is loaded but called again with the word "quit" on the command line (without the ditto) it will close without warning, as if you were exiting Windows. This feature makes it possible to close **InterLog** from a script, which otherwise would not be possible.

Setup

InterLog will default to using **Carrier Detect** only, to identify when you are connected to the Internet. If you are using Windows 3.1, 3.11 or Windows 95 and Trumpet Winsock as your dialer, you can set Trumpet Winsock as a trigger to start counting your on-line time after detecting a carrier from your modem. This can be changed using the Setup button in the main window and selecting the options under **Triggers**. Selecting <NONE> in the trigger window will tell **InterLog** to start counting following a carrier detect only from your phone line. If the **Seek IP Address** option is not selected, **InterLog** will wait 20 seconds after it detects a carrier before starting to count to compensate for the time it normally takes to obtain a valid address from your provider on the Internet.

If you are using Windows 95, in order to prevent **InterLog** from counting your on-line time when you are using your modem for other purposes, select your DialUp application from the Drop List in the Trigger Group. For example, if you are using the DialUp network from inside Windows 95, minimize **InterLog**, start up a normal Internet session and while you are connected, double click on **InterLog**, go to the Setup window and select the Drop List in Triggers to view all of the applications active at the time. You will see a list of titles such as Connect, Connect To and Connected To ??????? which indicates the name you have given to your Connection. Click on this selection and minimize **InterLog** again.

The next time you will log on, **InterLog** will watch for a carrier detect and wait until it sees the Connect To ??????? before starting to count; this way, if you use your modem for fax or to connect to another BBS, **InterLog** will not count your logon time.

BACKUP Option

InterLog will default to making a backup of your on-line time every 5 minutes; to change this setting, select **Backup Option** from the setup menu and adjust the counter from 01 to 60 minutes (a setting of 00 will de-activate backups)

STATUS

From the Icon menu list (or right mouse button on the taskbar for Windows 95) select **Status** for a description of your present configuration. Options are changed through the Setup dialog from the Main dialog.

General

DOUBLE CLICKING on the icon will get you the **Main** dialog for more detailed statistics as well as give you access to a **Setup** menu where various parameters may be entered to reflect the term of your Internet provider's contract. A **Status** dialog shows your present configuration.

To program **InterLog** to remain on top select **Stay On Top** from the system menu that comes on when you SINGLE CLICK on the ICON, or from inside the **Setup** window. In Windows 95, click the right mouse button to view the System menu. The **Stay On Top** feature is somewhat redundant in Windows 95 since the whole taskbar can be programmed to remain on top. **InterLog** also maintains an on-going log (INTERLOG.DAT) of each call made to your Internet provider. Selecting the **Stay on Top** feature from the **Setup** dialog will be remembered internally as the default on subsequent use of **InterLog**.

To access the Log, press the **Readlog** button. The LOGON line shows the time you were given access to the Internet as well as the address that your SLIP or PPP connection assigned to your request if that option was selected in the **Setup** screen under **Seek IP Address**.

At **LogOFF**, the total session time is computed and recorded. If your computer freezes (or crashes) during an Internet session, InterLog will use backup information (that it saves on a regular basis) to determine your LogOff time to an accuracy dependent on the Time Between Backups as determined by your setup.

The log readout is in fact a small text editor from which you can cut and paste to and from the Clipboard. The size of the log is limited to approximately 32K; a warning will appear when this limit is reached; you may then elect to remove earlier entries (using Edit from the menu) or rename the ASCII file (interlog.dat) to save its content or else print it. A new (interlog.dat) will automatically be created.

NOTE: Although interlog.dat is a pure ASCII file, if the file is read and subsequently saved under Notepad, line-feeds will be removed by Notepad making the reading difficult under ReadLog. It is therefore preferable to make changes using ReadLog directly.

Normal Operation

InterLog will default to the date you install it for the purpose of computing your monthly usage and will use a monthly allowance of 50 hours. You can change this using the **Setup** window and adjusting the parameters to reflect your particular situation. If you are on a monthly schedule, **InterLog** will automatically reset your allowance at the end of the month and increment the start date to the new month. Note that if you change the date, **InterLog** will reset the monthly total to the indicated monthly allowance unless you cancel the operation. You may use the **Preset** function to adjust the Cumulative Time to a value other than zero if necessary.

If your Provider offers free access during a certain period, use the **Option** button in the Provider Services to access a secondary dialog, select **Free Time** and either the **From/To** or the **Daily** option (or both) and enter the time you want **InterLog** to stop and start counting using the incrementers.

If your monthly allowance is unlimited, you may select **Unlimited** at which point the monthly hours will default to the maximum number of possible hours for the given month. After a month, the usage time will revert to zero and start the upward count to the maximum again.

In the ICON mode, the top row indicates the session time in Hours:Minutes and the bottom row indicates your remaining monthly time in Hours:Minutes as well. Should your monthly usage exceed your allowance, the readout will start counting up and colour will change to red to indicate a surcharge mode. In Windows 95, the **InterLog** button on the taskbar will show the session time on the left and the remaining monthly time on the right; in the surcharge mode, a minus sign will appear next to the remaining time.

The **Statistics** window is a convenient way to see at a glance the percentage of time used versus the number of days left in the month. It is particularly useful when you approach the end of the month and you realize that you have enough hours left to download those lengthy files that you have been wanting to do but kept putting off. On the other hand, it will also tell you at a glance when you are down to 20% of your total allowance and you still have 25 days to go in the month...

How it Works

InterLog checks the carrier detect function of your modem (if selected) and, optionally, the presence of an active application that you use to connect to the Internet such as Trumpet Winsock or DialUp Network. If Seek IP Address is selected, **InterLog** will send a call for your TC/IP address using your Host Name and proceed to register your LOGON time, continue to monitor your session until you disconnect, at which time it will record your LOGOFF time, compute your total session time and record it the file InterLog.DAT.

Initially, **InterLog** scans your communication ports to detect a MODEM. Once detected, the location will be recorded internally. If it cannot find your MODEM, it will warn you and ask that you go into SETUP to specify the location (Com port) of your MODEM.

Note that **InterLog** cannot test for a MODEM, using "TestModem" if the Com port is already in use; make sure TCPMAN or any other dialer are inactive before trying the test.

(**InterLog** is written in C and includes in line assembly code. It was compiled using the Turbo C++ 4.5 compiler.)

Uninstalling

Should you wish to uninstall **InterLog**, delete all the files in directory INTERLOG and the file INTERLOG.INI from the windows directory as well as the ICON in the INTERNET LOGMETER group. Other files used by **InterLog** are of the DLL variety and are only installed on your computer if they do not exist. They are the standard BORLAND public domain DLLs and are most likely used by a good number of programs already installed on your computer; these files should not be removed unless you are certain that they are not used by other programs.

The following files are included in the ZIP:

- readme.txt** (this file in ascii format)
- InterLog.exe** (the executable)
- gauge.vbx** (used by the executable)
- InterLog.hlp** (the file you are reading now)
- bivbx11.dll** (borland VBX support)
- ctl3dv2.dll** (Microsoft 3d resources)
- bwcc.dll** (Borland resources)

The last three files will only be installed if they do not exist on your computer already.

Problems, bugs, comments, suggestions...

Click [here](#) for a list of Frequently Asked Questions on Trouble Shooting.

If you find **InterLog** useful, or wish to report problems installing and using it, send an E-Mail to rcote@inasec.ca. or at rcote@sympatico.ca or on CompuServe at 74022.1303@compuserve.com

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Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
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Trouble Shooting

Frequently asked questions and possible solutions:

Q. When I start **InterLog, I get a message saying that it cannot find the file "winsock.dll" or that one of its component is missing...**

A. The file "**winsock.dll**" must be in a directory specified in the path specified in your autoexec.bat. If you are using Trumpet Winsock (TCPMAN), either make sure that the directory where Trumpet Winsock resides (and **winsock.dll**) are in the path or move **winsock.dll** to the "**windows**" directory.

Q. I get a Dynalink Error upon trying to load **InterLog, what is causing this?**

A. A dynalink error occurs when a function from within a DLL is called and the DLL cannot be found. Make sure that the files: bivbx11.dll, bwcc.dll and ctl3dv2.dll are in Windows or Windows\system directories. If necessary, delete these files and re-install **InterLog**.

Q. I get a message saying that ctl3dv2.dll is not properly installed, **InterLog loads ok but looks funny!**

A. This problem occurs because ctl3dv2.dll is in the same directory as interlog.exe. It must be removed from this directory and moved to the Windows directory. This is often the case if **InterLog** was started directly after unzipping INTLOG; the file Setup.exe must be called from Windows in order for **InterLog** to install properly and ensure that the DLL files are at the right location.

Q. When I am into Setup and call TestModem, I get a message saying that no modem was found on that port, why is this (I know my modem is on this port)?

A. There are a number of reasons for this; first, make sure your modem is On if its an external modem, second click on another port and try **TestModem** again, third, make sure that your dialer or another communication program is NOT using this port, **InterLog** cannot test the modem if another application is using the same port.

Q. **InterLog does not start counting after I have connected to the Internet, what's wrong?**

A. First, go to the main dialog and press **Status**. Take a look at the **Triggers** and make sure that the application selected is actually the one you are using to establish contact on the Internet (e.g. Trumpet Winsock, Connected to, etc.) for your type of operation. Second, look under **options** and if **Yes** appears following **Seek IP Address**, go back to **Setup** and disable the **Seek IP Address** option. (Under certain circumstance, **InterLog** may have problem obtaining your IP address from your provider and won't start counting until it receives a valid address). Operating **InterLog** with **Seek IP Address** disabled only means that it will start counting as soon as a **carrier detect** is identified and (if **trigger** is different than **<None>**), when it detects that the application listed under **Trigger** is active.

As a final test, select **<None>** for triggers and disable **Seek IP Address** and **Carrier Detect**; **InterLog** will start counting immediately, logging on and off as if you were actually connected. By enabling the triggers one at a time, you should find a configuration that will work with your particular setup.

If you are using the **FreeTime** feature, make sure the period selected does not coincide with actual time, thereby stopping **InterLog** from counting!

Q. **InterLog counts my on-line time ok but does not stop counting when I disconnect from the Internet, what's wrong?**

A. Check the **Status** screen; one possibility is that you are operating with no triggers (or a trigger that is always present i.e. Program Manager) and with the **Carrier Detect** unselected. This combination causes **InterLog** to start counting correctly once it obtains a valid IP Address but since it does this check only upon starting, it has no means of knowing when to stop!

Q. **InterLog starts counting when I send a FAX or when I call a BBS not related to the Internet, how can I prevent that?**

A. This is where the **Trigger** becomes important; in order for **InterLog** to differentiate between a **Carrier**

Detect from an Internet call or from a FAX or a BBS, it uses the **Trigger** identified in your setup. Refer to Setup for more information about the **Trigger** option.

To change this delay, open **Interlog.ini** with notepad and modify the default entry under **[Status]**, **CdDelay** =. This value is expressed in milliseconds (a delay of 15 seconds would show as **CdDelay** = 15000)

Multiple Providers

Access to the Internet through more than one provider may be monitored separately by adding command parameters when calling **InterLog**.

This is accomplished by adding a name (up to 8 characters) following the "Interlog.exe" entry in the **property** box of the Icon used to call **InterLog**. For example, let say you are connecting to a provider called "Star" and a copy of **InterLog** resides in a directory called c:\interlog\interlog.exe. Select **properties** for the **InterLog** icon, and at Command Line: add the word "Star" so that the command line now reads: C:\interlog\interlog.exe star. Under **Windows 95**, right click the Icon, select **properties**, select **shortcut** and add the word "Star" to the **Target** so that it now reads: C:\interlog\interlog.exe star. The name added to the command parameter will now appear in the title with the **icon** in the **Taskbar** when **InterLog** is inactive.

Note: A seperate .INI file will be maintained for every new services created and will take the name identified on the Command line. The same holds true for the log file (.dat). Multiple instances of **InterLog** can therefore be active as long as different **Triggers** are used for each application.

If you are using **InterLog** from a script, use the same command parameters but add "Quit" to the end of the command combination like this: <Exec "interlog.exe star quit"> (refer to the [installation](#) topic for more information on using script with **InterLog**.)

