

# **SORT SOLUTION - Readme**

## **Sort Solution and the Sort Solution Tools**

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**The complete text of this document can also be found in the Sort Solution Online Manual.**

## **INSTALLATION**

Sort Solution comes with a full setup program. Start the applet "setup.exe" to start the installation. You can also remove Sort Solution at any time with the "Software" applet in the control panel or the "Deinstall Sort Solution" entry in the Sort Solution program group.

## **WHAT IS SORT SOLUTION?**

Sort Solution is a 32-Bit Sort Library and ActiveX control with extremely powerful sort routines for Windows 95 and Windows NT 4.x.

With the tools included in the package, Sort Solution can be immediately utilized as a general purpose sorting tool. Programmers can include the Sort Solution technology into their applications with just a few simple function calls.

Some of the most important features are:

- Maximum file size only limited by the Operating System (biggest file sorted yet: 20.3 Gigabytes!)
- Sort millions or even billions of records
- Sort files of any size with only 2-3 megabytes of RAM. Use more memory to increase the sort performance
- Flexible and easy-to-use scripting language to meet even the most complex sort requirements
- Supports four basic file types: fixed, delimited, counted and explicit
- Over 20 different key types, including textual numbers, date/time (with user-defined masks), fixed decimal, floating point
- Use up to 64 keys in one Sort
- Stable sort technique
- Merge several input files into one output file
- Define filters to remove duplicate records
- Use ranges to limit the number of output records to create ranking lists
- Handle file headers comfortable with many options
- Make use of all system processors on your Windows NT SMP machines to increase sort speed
- Use up to 64 disks to maximize system throughput
- Run Sorts in batch over night using the Windows 95 / Windows NT scheduling service
- Complete Online-Manual with about 100 pages, packed with samples, reference information and tips
- Extend the library with your own key types for maximum flexibility
- The full sorting power in a 32-Bit ActiveX control
- Easy to integrate into all applications written with a 32-Bit language like Visual Basic, Visual C++, Delphi, C++-Builder and others.

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You are not allowed to distribute the header files and libraries that are part of the Sort Solution package to your customers without an explicit written agreement of the author.

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## Restrictions in the Shareware version

The free available shareware version of Sort Solution comes with all functions enabled and the complete manual, libraries, and samples. The only limitation is that **some of the records in the output file are skipped by intention**. This means, that all output files created with the unlicensed version have 1 to 10 records less than the input file. The records that are skipped are selected randomly.

This restriction of course **does not apply** to the licensed version.

Additionally, the unlicensed version of Sort Solution prints an informative message to the screen on every run. The licensed version does not print this message.

## Distributing Sort Solution

The **unregistered** version of Sort Solution can be distributed freely under the fact that the complete package (sosoXXX.exe) remains unchanged and complete. Also there should be a notice that the newest version of this Software can be found on the authors homepage at

<http://www.mwllabs.de>

If you want to distribute Sort Solution together with your own applications, you are required to license a copy of Sort Solution. If you work in a development team, every person that works on the project that incorporates the Sort Solution technology also needs a licensed version of Sort Solution.

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