Simtel Database Viewer
Version 1.0
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This Windows 3.x program allows you to search the Simtel20 public domain and shareware database for filename, directory or description. In this document 'this software' refers to the WSIMTEL.EXE and OPENDLL.DLL files.

How to install it

Copy the files wsimtel.exe and opendll.dll to a directory of your choice. You can insert this program in a Program Manager group, including a specification of the database file.

How to use it

The startup syntax is
        wsimtel <database file>
If the database file is omitted, no database is opened. By installing it in a Program Manager group with a database file included the database will be opened.

The screen consists of two main areas: The search results and the search criteria. To initiate a search you type in the criteria you want to search for (filename, directory and description), then click on Go. The search will try to match what you typed as substring (DO NOT TYPE * WILDCHARACTERS). All searches are currently not case sensitive. After the search is completed the descriptions are listed in a list box. Clicking on a description will show all the information of the selected file.

You can download (ftp) the latest simtel index (.idx) from the PD1:<MSDOS.FILEDOCS> directory with the name SIMIBM.ARC.
To convert this file to a .dbf (yes 'real' DBase III), select File|Import new .idx file. You will then be prompted to select you .idx file and to name your new .dbf file. Converting can take a while, and Windows will seem to hang, but eventually everything will be back to normal. You will only have to do this when you download a new index file.

A DOS based tool cica2sim.exe is included to convert the cica windows index from ftp.cica.indiana.edu:pub/pc/win3/INDEX to a simtel-like .idx file. This file can then be imported to a .dbf file with File|Import new .idx file. Then is can be searched by the Simtel Database Viewer.

Popular mirror sites of the simtel archives include oak.oakland.edu and

wuarchive.wustl.edu.

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Registration

Registering this software is encouraged, and is as simple as sending a picture postcard to :
    Hans van Oostrom
    1520 S.W. 16th PL
    Gainesville, FL 32608
    U.S.A.
If you include an E-mail address (any net will do) I will add you to my electronic mailing list and will keep you posted on updates.   You CANNOT register this program via E-mail. A little effort from your side (sending a card) is required for the effort from my side.

Liability

Under no circumstances will I be liable for damages that may occur by running this software. This is a free program that may contain bugs. By running this software you agree to take responsibility.

Bugs

There are no known bugs. There may be some unknown bugs and undesired features. I would like to hear about them and you can send them via Email to hans@pine.circa.ufl.edu (internet) or hans@ufpine (bitnet) or via Mail to the address above.

This software was developed on a 386/25 machine using Borland C++ 3.0. It was tested with Windows 3.0 and the final beta release of Windows 3.1.

Hope you enjoy using this program.

Hans van Oostrom.