Aeco Zip Explorer Pro for Windows 95 & Windows NT 4.0

ZIP manager for Windows 95

User's Guide

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Aeco ZIP Explorer PRO for Windows 95

Introduction

Aeco ZIP Explorer PRO brings the ease of Windows Explorer to archives (compression files)

. As a shell extension software, Aeco Zip Explorer PRO extends the Windows 95 Explorer to ZIP/TAR files

management. With ZIP Explorer, you can

- create ZIP/TAR files using context sensitive right hand menu pop-up
- selectively extract and compress files by drag n' drop
- view a ZIP/TAR file hierarchically
- instantaneously view compressed file in ASCII or HEX mode with close to zero decompression time
- be instantaneously productive with the familiar Windows 95 UI
- rename files and directories within an archive file
- Create and extract encrypted ZIP files
- Automatic support for UUENCODED archives

About ZIP Explorer PRO

Unlike other ZIP managers, ZIP Explorer PRO was written from the ground up to be Windows 95 compliant. Structured as a Shell Extension, ZIPPRO fits into the Windows 95 explorer seamlessly.

Getting started

System requirements

A PC running Windows 95

Installation

Put the ZIPPRO floppy in a disk drive and type A:\setup if your 3½ floppy is in A:. Enter the path to install ZIPPRO and press ENTER.

What's NEW in v2.03

- New installation program now supports configuration of file associations
-) Bug fixes
-) File icons in Zip Explorer
-) Support for ZIP Exploration in Windows Explorer

Unique Features of Aeco Zip Explorer PRO

InstantView

Viewing a compressed file within an archive is a simple process. Open or expand an archive by clicking on the '+' sign on the left hand panel. Now select a file within the archive, the contents will appear instantly on the right. You can use the arrow key to navigate to different files and browse files consecutively. To use keyboard navigation in the contents pane, use the <TAB> key to switch focus. You can now page up and down in the contents pane.

Renaming files or directories within an archive

Aeco Zip Explorer has the unique capability to rename files and folders within an archive. To rename a file or folder, select it, pause and select it again with the left mouse button; in the usual Windows 95 Explorer fashion. An edit box will appear, rename and press enter. To make the change permanent, select from the main menu File – Save or Ctrl+S to save the change to the archive.

You can also rename a file or folder by using the context menu (Right mouse click) and select 'Rename'.

Built-in creation and extraction of multi-disk ZIP archive

Create a multi-disk span archive by selecting folders and files in the Windows 95 Explorer, right click to context menu and select "Compress file to zip". Enter name of archive on A: drive and check the multi-disk check box. Press <ENTER> and insert disk as prompted. No other setups needed as this feature is built-in to Aeco Zip Explorer. Extraction of multi-disk ZIP file is the same as extracting any ZIP file. (See "Archive Extraction below") Except with Aeco ZIP Explorer, there is no disk shuffling like you used to with PKZIP or WINZIP. Simply insert the first disk and extract, the next floppy will be prompted when needed.

Built-in PKZIP 2.04 compatible encryption/decryption

Aeco Zip Explorer supports PKZIP 2.04 compatible encryption/decryption. In fact, it even goes one step further, you can for example, open an encrypted file and save as an unencrypted file; or open any .ZIP file and save as an encrypted file. You can even save an encrypted file as another encrypted file with a different password.

Encrypt/decrypt regular ZIP files

Use the enhanced Save-As command to encrypt or decrypt a ZIP file. For example, you could open a encrypted ZIP file and save it unencrypted or vice-versa.

Features of Aeco Zip Explorer PRO

Extensive Drag 'n Drop support

Selected files can be drag into and out of Zip Explorer for automatic compression and decompression. When dropping files into Zip Explorer, remember to save the archive. Files can be selected and dropped onto the Windows 95 Explorer.

- Entire archive can also be extracted while in the Windows 95 Explorer by dragging the archive with the right mouse and dropping on selected target folder. A context menu will pop-up, select the 'Extract ...' option. From the pop-up dialog, select the target folder where you want the extracted files to be.
- Files can be automatically added into an archive while in the Windows 95 Explorer by dragging files to compress into archives.

Integration with the Windows 95 Explorer

Right click on a supported archives (ZIP/TAR/GZ/TGZ/TZ/LZH) and proper context menus will be displayed. Select "Quick View" to bring up Aeco Zip Explorer to display the contents of the archive, or double click to "Open" the archive.

The difference between "Quick View" and "Open" is archives are added temporarily to the main "Archives" tree in "Quick View" while archives that are "Open" ed will appear again in the next invocation of ZipPro.

Compressing files from Windows 95 Explorer

Select files on Windows 95 Explorer, right click and select "Compress file to zip". Enter a target archive name and press enter.

Archive Extraction from Windows 95 Explorer

See "Extensive Drag 'n Drop support" above.

Using Aeco Zip Explorer PRO

Adding files to archive

There are numerous ways to add files to archives. See Quick tips below for some of them.

Extracting files from archive

From Zip Explorer, select files on left pane and push the 'Explode' Toolbar button.

Sorting the directory view

Press header button to sort according to "Name", "Size" and etc.

Changing widths

Change widths of columns by dragging the sides on the header.

Changing fonts in file display

Click on icons on the toolbar to:

- 1. select a bigger font
- 2. select a smaller font

ZipPro will increment and decrement the point size of a font. Select a TrueType font to get a more gradual increase or decrease in font size.

3. changing fonts

Changing display mode

Click on icon marked "Switch to binary view" and "Switch to ASCII view" to select the most appropriate view for the current file.

Un-installing Zip Explorer

To uninstall Zip Explorer:

- 1. Select Win95 'Start' button
- 2. Select Settings Control Panel Add/Remove Programs Zip Explorer Pro for Windows 95

Acknowledgments

Aeco Zip Explorer PRO incorporates compression code which was originally written by the INFO-ZIP group. We have drastically enhanced the code to support features found in Zip Explorer. More information and original sources can be obtained and downloaded from "http://quest.jpl.nasa.gov/Info-ZIP"

Aeco Systems would like thank the following people:

Dominique Pulvin for his work on the French version of Zip Explorer PRO. Takako Y. Ewe on the Japanese version. Hock Hian Wong for art design. Cathy Holewinski, Ollivier Civiol, James Payne, Kevin Fleet and Bruno Fernandes for their constant support and unending suggestions.

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If you have any questions, comments or suggestions for improvements, send them to:

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Common Answers and Questions

Q: Does Zip Explorer PRO run on Windows NT?

A: Yes, ZIPPRO has been tested with Windows NT 4.0 beta and it runs flawlessly.

Q: Does Zip Explorer PRO support Long File Name (LFN)?

A: Yes, on Windows 95 and Windows NT, ZipPro supports LFN.

Q: Is ZIP files created and/or encrypted by ZipPro readable by PKUNZIP?

A: Yes, Aeco ZIPPRO is completely compatible with PKZIP. Care should be taken with LFNs as PKUNZIP does not support them.

Q: Does ZIP Explorer PRO support feature XYZ?

A: Aeco Systems is committed to upgrading and supporting Aeco Zip Explorer PRO. Check the readme.txt file on the installation directory to see information concerning this release. For latest information, visit us in http://www.creative.net/~aeco or email to 70324.3557@compuserve.com or AecoSys@aol.com.

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- To extract a compression file

 1. In the explorer, right click on an archive file and select "Extract this zip file". Select folder to extract to
 2. Drag the archive file to any folder using the right mouse button and select the "extract" option.

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- To create a new zip file

 1. Right click and select New->ZipPro ZIP file. Drag and drop any file into the archive file. This will work for both .ZIP and .TAR files.

 To create a multi-disk span ZIP archive, select "Multi-disk span" check box.

 To create an encrypted ZIP file, select "Encrypt" check box.

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1. From the explorer, select files; right mouse click and select "Compress file(s) to zip"

To add files into an already existing compression file 1. In the Windows 95 explorer, select file and drop into archive files

- 2. Quick View the file, drag any file or folders and drop into ZIPPRO's left hand panel. Remember to save the file so that changes are reflected in the file
- 3. While in Zip Explorer PRO, click on 'Add files to archive' button or press Ctrl-I, select files and press
- 4. From the Windows 95 Explorer, select files, right click and select 'Compress file to Zip', now select an already existing archive and press ENTER.

To rename file or folder in a compression file
Select the file or folder and click once in the label. An edit box will pop up. Rename the file or folder as appropriate and select File->Save to save changes.

To view a file without first decompressing itSelect the file on the left hand pane. The contents of the selected file will be displayed on the right hand pane.

To launch an application associated with fileDouble click on the file. The file will be uncompressed to the temp directory and the associated program launched.