

## FileSpy Frequently Asked Questions

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FileSpy has received many awards from various shareware sites.  
To see some of the awards go to [http://ic.net/~kusluski/filespy\\_awards.htm](http://ic.net/~kusluski/filespy_awards.htm)

1) Will FileSpy give me Window's NT user names?

No. FileSpy was designed to work on systems using Novell Netware only. Please download FileSpy NT from my web site at <http://ic.net/~kusluski> for the Window's NT version of FileSpy.

2) FileSpy is not working with long file names. What can I do?

This may be a bug in Windows. Please read the following article for more information:

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=http://support.microsoft.com:80/support/kb/articles/Q272/1/37.ASP&NoWebContent=1>

3) I have an ascii text file open on the file server but FileSpy tells me there is no one using the file, Why?

FileSpy will not work with text files. It will, however, work with most binary files with extentions of EXE (Executable), XLS (Excel), COM (Executable), DOC (Word), DWG (AutoCAD Drawing), MDB (Access Database), etc.

4) Is there any way I can speed up the file scanning in FileSpy?

Yes. Click the Options Button and under "Connection Information" de-select one or more items. The rule of thumb is: The less items that are selected the faster the file scanning will be. Some selections that slow down scanning considerably are "Directory Rights" and "Address".

5) How come when I scan a particular file I'm getting duplicate user IDs?

Most likely because that user has that file open on more than one machine. Look at the connection number to see if this is the case.

6) Why does the Directory Rights item always show "NA"?

This is because you do not have the necessary network rights to see this information. See your LAN Administrator.

7) How do I set FileSpy so that it will scan a file every n seconds?

Simply select the check box at the lower right corner of the screen "Update every n seconds". Here you can also specify the time interval in seconds, 1 through 65.

8) How do I set FileSpy so that it will notify me when a file has been released by all users?

Click the Options Button. Under the "Notify Me When" heading select "No user has file". Next select how you want to be notified under the "Notify Me Via" heading. Finally, enable the auto-scan feature explained above in step #7.

9) How do I set FileSpy so that it will notify me when a file has been opened by a user?

Click the Options Button. Under the "Notify Me When" heading select "A user has file". Next select how you want to be notified under the "Notify Me Via" heading. Finally, enable the auto-scan feature explained above in step #7.

10) How do I set FileSpy up so that it will automatically copy a file over the one being used when all users have released the file?

Click the Options Button. Under the "Notify Me When" heading select "No user has file". Next select how you want to be notified under the "Notify Me Via" heading. Now you need to specify what file to copy from under the "Copy From" heading. Finally, enable the auto-scan feature explained above in step #7.

11) How do I enable FileSpy's file monitoring function?

Click the Options Button. Under the "File Activity Log File" caption select "Enable". If you want a new file to be created select "Overwrite". Finally, enable the auto-scan feature explained above in step #7. The log file will be stored in the same directory where the FileSpy program resides. The name of the log file will be the same as the file you are scanning but will have a file extension of TXT.

12) Is it possible to monitor more than one file at a time?

Yes. This can be accomplished by running multiple instances of FileSpy in separate directories. The initial directory where FileSpy resides is \Program Files\FileSpy. You can create your own directories and copy the file FILESPY.EXE to them. The log file is created in the same directory as FILESPY.EXE.

13) How do I send a message to all users using a file?

Click the All Button at the lower left corner of the screen to select all users. Next, click the Send Button, type a message and click the OK Button.

#### 14) Can I pass a file name to FileSpy?

Yes. Click Window's Start Button then select "Run...". Next, type in "C:\Program Files\FileSpy\filesfy.exe" [path of file on file server]. If you want to start FileSpy and enable automatic file scanning (see #7 above) include the switch "-t" after the file you want to scan. Here is an example:

```
"C:\Program Files\FileSpy\filesfy.exe" K:\MyDirectory\FileToScan.exe -t
```

Note: The double quotes enclosing FileSpy's file path are necessary because of the space in the directory C:\Program Files.

Other switches available:

To automatically clear all the connections of those using a particular file use switch "-c" as such:

```
"C:\Program Files\FileSpy\filesfy.exe" K:\MyDirectory\FileToScan.exe -c
```

To automatically clear all the connections of those using a particular file and exit the program use switch "-ce" as such:

```
"C:\Program Files\FileSpy\filesfy.exe" K:\MyDirectory\FileToScan.exe -ce
```

To create a text file containing a list of users who have a specific file open:

```
"C:\Program Files\FileSpy\filesfy.exe" K:\MyDirectory\FileToScan.exe > c:\temp\users.txt
```

To append to a text file containing a list of users who have a specific file open:

```
"C:\Program Files\FileSpy\filesfy.exe" K:\MyDirectory\FileToScan.exe >> c:\temp\users.txt
```

#### 15) Can I add FileSpy to the "Send To" menu item in Window's Explorer?

Yes. To add FileSpy to your SendTo folder follow the steps below:

- a) Create a shortcut to FileSpy on your desktop.
- b) Copy this shortcut to the Window's Clipboard. To do this select the shortcut, click the right mouse button, and select "Copy" from the drop down menu.

- c) Fire up Window's Explorer and open directory "\\Windows\SendTo" if you're using Window's 95 or 98 else if you're using NT open the directory "\\Winnt\Profiles\\SendTo".
- d) Paste the shortcut into the directory by selecting "Paste" from the Edit Menu.

Now when you're using Window's Explorer you can launch FileSpy by selecting a file, clicking the right mouse button, selecting "Send To" from the drop down menu, and finally selecting "FileSpy".

## 16) What FileSpy settings are stored in the Window's Registry?

### Main Screen

- 1) Drive
- 2) Directory
- 3) File Pattern
- 4) Seconds

### Options Screen

- 1) Notify Me When Options
  - a) Don't notify me
  - b) No user has file
  - c) A user has file
- 2) Notify Me Via Options
  - a) Beep
  - b) Message
- 3) File Activity Log File Options
  - a) Enable
  - b) Overwrite
- 4) Copy From Options
  - a) Drive
  - b) Directory
  - c) File
- 5) Connection Information
  - a) Connection No.
  - b) Task No.
  - c) File Open Status
  - d) File Rights
  - e) Directory Rights
  - f) File Lock Status
  - g) Login Date/Time
  - h) Address

## 6) Show Hidden Files

Note: You can view these settings in the Window's Registry by running RegEdit and looking at the following key:

HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Software\VB and VBA Program Settings\FileSpy\Options

## 17) How do I unlock locked files with FileSpy?

After scanning a file click the Locks Button and answer the following questions appropriately.

## 18) Can FileSpy save my company some money and allow me to relax a little more?

If you are responsible for installing new releases of applications then the answer is a resounding "YES"! FileSpy allows you to see from your computer exactly who has specific files open - no more running around from PC to PC! Once you determine who has the file open simply send messages with FileSpy and tell them to close the file so you can install the update.

## 19) Can I change the size of FileSpy's main screen?

Yes, and the screen size settings are stored when you exit FileSpy.

## 20) How do I automatically clear connections of users who have a file open beyond a specific date and time?

This is a nice feature for companies that run batch processes at night which require users to have specific files released (Opened files can cause batch processes to fail)

- a) From the main screen click the Options button
- b) On the Options Screen select "Auto-clear connections of users who have file open"
- c) Enter a valid date in the Date field
- d) Enter a valid time in the time field
- e) Click the Close button to go back to the main screen
- f) Setup FileSpy for auto-scanning (see #7 above)

When the specified date and time have passed FileSpy will attempt to clear the connections of anyone who has the specified file open.

Note: It is not required to enter both fields (date and time) on the Options Screen. You may fill in either the date or time field.

## 21) How do I purchase FileSpy?

When you purchase FileSpy I email you a special code which you use to register it thus allowing you to use FileSpy indefinitely (i.e. the 40-day time constraint is removed).

At the present time methods of payment include credit card with RegNow ([www.regnow.com](http://www.regnow.com)) and PayPal ([www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com)), check, money order, or wire transfer of funds to my bank account. Pricing for FileSpy is only \$19.95 for a single-user license or only \$99.95 for a site license. If you want to purchase by check, money order, or wire transfer please email me for details at:

[kusluski@mail.ic.net](mailto:kusluski@mail.ic.net)

Note: If you purchase FileSpy with RegNow you will receive the registration code immediately. If you purchase using PayPal you will receive the registration code within the same day. If you use any other method of payment you will receive the registration code in a few days.