

DArc32 - Log & Audit File Archiver

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Welcome to DArc32

Part



DArc32 is an application designed to make the task of archiving files used and produced by DCS™, Maestro™ or XStudio systems easier.

These audio delivery systems use a log, which is the source document produced either by your traffic system or is a "merged" file that combines your music scheduling system's music log content and your traffic system's commercial content.

They also automatically create an "audit" file, which includes information on what the system did, including the playing of audio, information on receipt of outside stimuli (like a network "tone" or "relay"), and other useful information on what the system did.

These two general file types are day-oriented. A unique log date file is used, and similarly, a unique audit file is created. Each of the files has a unique name. Both types of files have a naming syntax of **mmddySx** where the "mmddy" part is month, day, year (2-digit), the "S" is for "Station", and the "x" value is station number. Where the two types differ is in the file extension - logs are .LOG and audit files are .ADT. So, for a date of, say, February 14, 2000, and a station designated as station one, the two files we'd be interested in archiving would be 021400S1.LOG and 021400S1.ADT.

Instead of having to remember how these files are named, and then picking the correct ones for a given date range, DArc32 presents you with a calendar from which to select a beginning and ending archive date. You may elect to archive either log or audit files - or both types. You may choose to simply move the files to an archive location, or you can "zip" the files, reducing the space required for archiving.

Overview

Part



2.1 What's New

v1.02

1. **Fix.** Modified the archive process so that whenever a user starts the archive process, a final check and refresh of the selected files is done. This corrects the situation where a user changes either the begin date or end date and does not exit the field before running the archive. The effect prior to this change was that the last date change made was not seen by the application, which could result in an inaccurate date range to archive.

v1.01

1. Initial release.

2.2 Features

- Easy-to-use interface for archiving log and audit files.
- Use defaults make the archive process easy to run any time.
- Select archive begin and end dates either by entering dates or selecting from a calendar.
- Normal, or "default", archive options can be changed at run time for special archive sessions.
- UNC addresses are supported, both for retrieving files and target archive locations.
- A handy zip file viewer/editor is included for viewing, extracting, or modifying archives that have been zipped.
- Archive sessions are logged, including user name and machine for the session. The log can be viewed from the main dialog.
- The user interface can be organized by the user to suit individual preferences. The tool bars and status display can be moved to positions of the user's choosing and will be remembered next time DArc32 is launched. This includes main dialog size and location on the screen.
- Spanning of diskettes is supported (zipped archives only).

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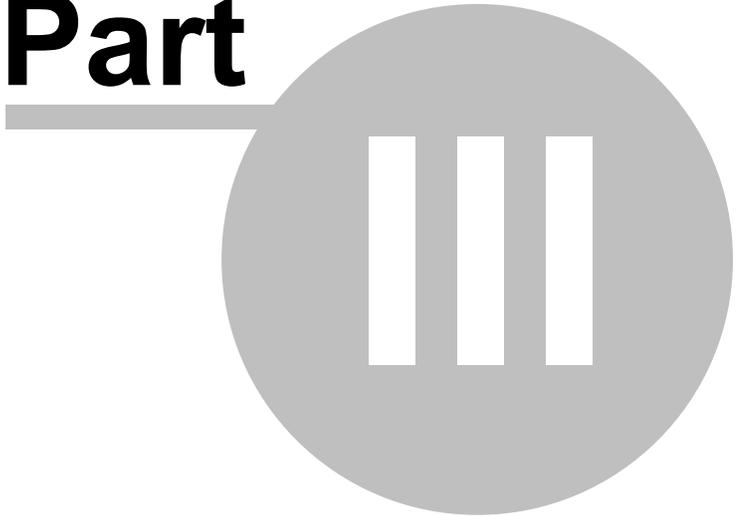
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Updated: Dec 23 2007

Setup

Part



3.1 Hardware Requirements

The user needs a PC that supports Microsoft Windows™ 95, 98, 2000 or NT.

- a 100% IBM-compatible Pentium™ personal computer with a hard disk and a floppy drive.
- 16MB RAM (Windows 95, 98), 32MB RAM (NT), 64MB RAM (Windows 2000)
- 2MB free disk space (for this application only)
- compatible VGA, super VGA, XGA or 8514/A monitor, with adapter, running 800x600 minimum display resolution
- Microsoft mouse or compatible pointing device.
- A LAN connection for archiving files from the DCS or Maestro work directory

You may archive files to any location, however, recommended target media include Zip™ drives, Jazz™ drives, and floppy drives.



If you are using floppy drives for archiving, the zip archive method is recommended, as diskettes can be spanned (that is, more than one diskette can be used for an archive).

3.2 Installing DArc32

Installation of DArc32 is straightforward. Simply run the setup program from the supplied diskettes, or, if you downloaded DArc32 from the Internet, double-click on the downloaded file. As a part of the setup process, you'll be prompted where to install DArc32. Usually, the default location is fine, but you can choose the location of your preference if desired.

Once installed, launch DArc32. The application is unregistered at this point and you'll be asked if you want to register. If yes, the [registration dialog](#) will appear and you can complete registration and go on to the main display. If you choose not to register, you can still do so at any time by using the **Help | Register** DArc32 menu item.

One launched, select [Edit | Configuration](#) from the main menu to set your preferences. DArc32 must be configured before you try to archive files.

Configuring DArc32

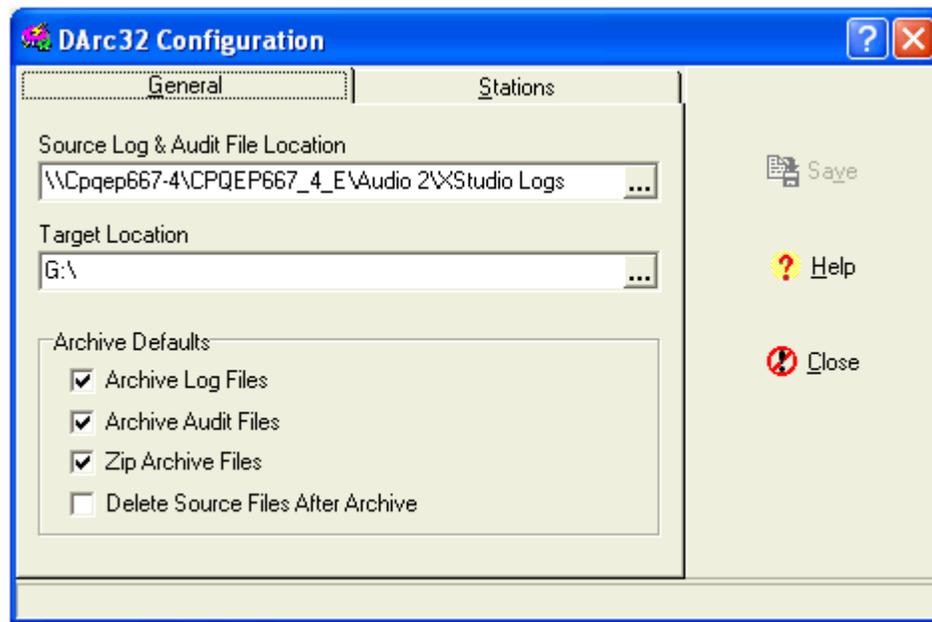
Part



To configure DArc32, select the **Edit | Configuration** menu item. The preferences dialog contains a notebook-style set of pages that display and allow you to change various application settings.

4.1 General Settings

The **General** tab allows you to configure general settings for DArc32. You will need to select a location from which the logs and audit files will be selected, known as the **Source Log & Audit File Location**. This typically is the DCS or Maestro work directory or an XStudio source log directory. You can use the ellipse (...) button to the right of the directory display to launch a directory picker. UNC addresses are supported by DArc32.



The **Target Location** entry is the default location you will archive log and/or audit files to. For instance, you could choose a Zip™ drive or floppy drive. This is where the files that are archived will be placed, either individually or zipped to a single file in a session.

There are several "checkbox" items that determine the default behavior of DArc32, including whether or not to archive log files, archive audit files, zip the files you archive and perhaps delete the files from the source location after archiving.

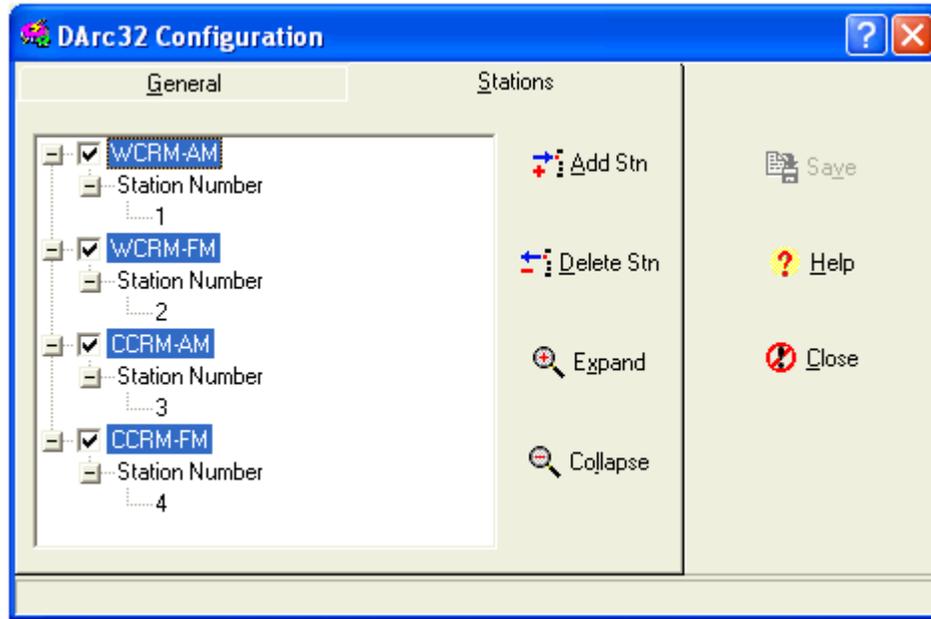


These settings are default values - they can be changed from the main dialog as needed for a particular archive session.

The **[Save]** button will be enabled if you change any settings and should you try to exit without saving your changes, you'll be asked to confirm that you wish to exit the preferences dialog without saving any changes.

4.2 Station Settings

The **Stations** tab defines the stations for which you will be archiving files.



To add a station to the list, click on the **[Add Stn]** button. You'll be prompted for a station name. Typically, you'd enter the call letters or some other identification that's meaningful to you. Note that the Station Number text is fixed and cannot be edited.

Once the station has been added, edit the station number by clicking on the branch below the **Station Number** text. The station number is the number that corresponds to the station number you entered when you configured either DCS, Maestro or XStudio. Remember, this is not the node number, but rather the station number. If you're unsure what the station number is, you can look at the log files in the work directory. You'll find that the log files all have a naming convention of mmddySx.LOG, where the "x" value is the station number.

If you want a given station to be selected for archiving as a default, check the box adjacent to the station identification. Note this is a default value and can be changed from the main dialog for each session if desired.

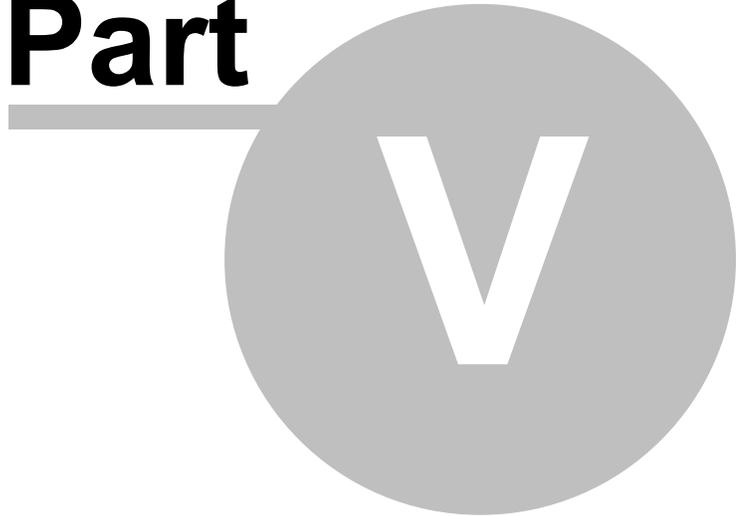
In order to archive logs or audit files for a station, **the station must be defined** in this setup dialog.



When you have completed configuration, be sure to save your changes!

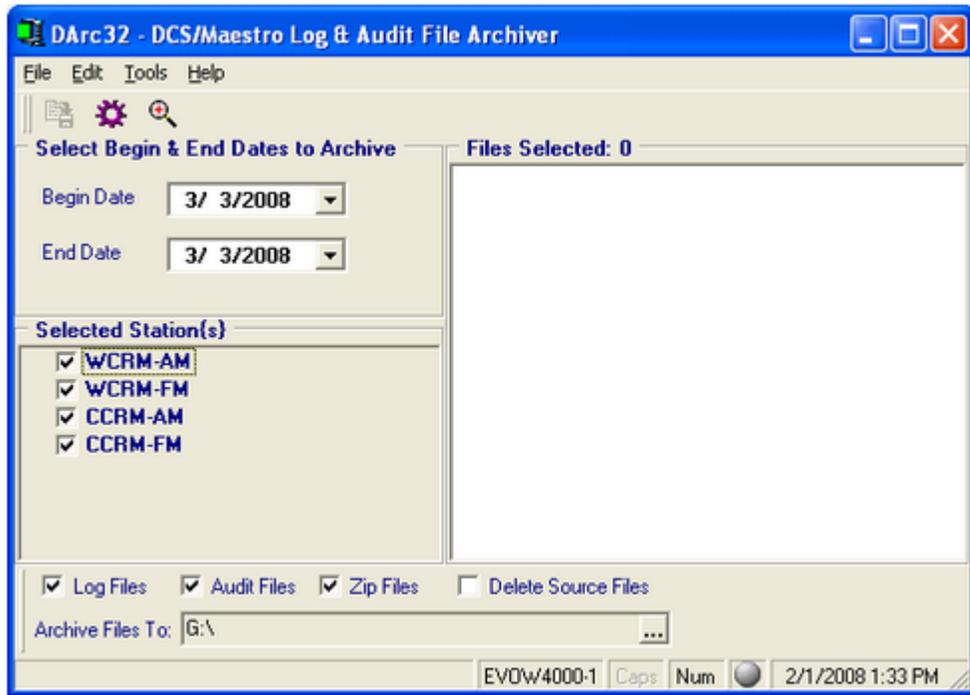
Using DArc32

Part



5.1 User Interface

DArc32's user interface can be reorganized to suit individual preferences. The first time you run DArc32, the visual appearance is as below:



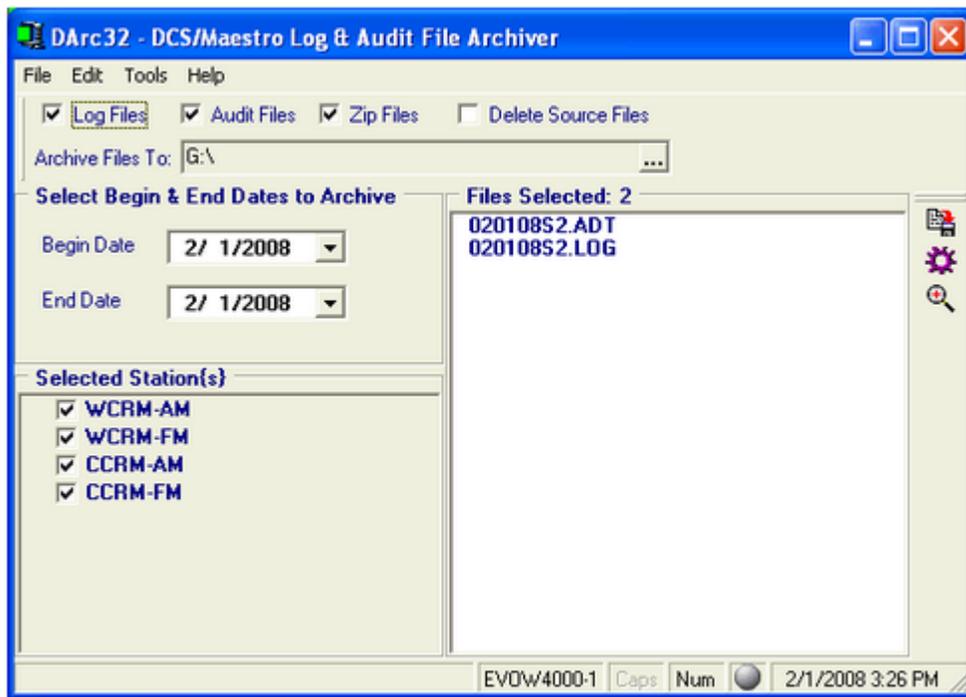
Notice there's a toolbar panel at the top of the display area and a combination check-off/status panel near the bottom. These two panels are "**dockable**". They can be moved by left-clicking your mouse on the drag-bar and moving the panel. The panels can be docked or floating. If the organization of the main display is not to your preference, move these panels around to suit your preference.

DArc32 will remember the location of the panels next time you launch the application.



DArc32 will place the panels in the last "docked" location on the next launch of the application. It will not restore floating panels.

Below is an example of a reorganized interface:



Notice the toolbar has been moved to the right side of the main display and the check-off/status panel has been moved to the top of the main display. Experiment to see what you like best.

5.2 Archiving Files

The process of archiving files is fairly straightforward. You must select a beginning and ending date range at a minimum. Once the date range is selected, DArc32 will display a list of log and/or audit files that meet the date range and are to be included in the archive.

Selecting Files to Archive

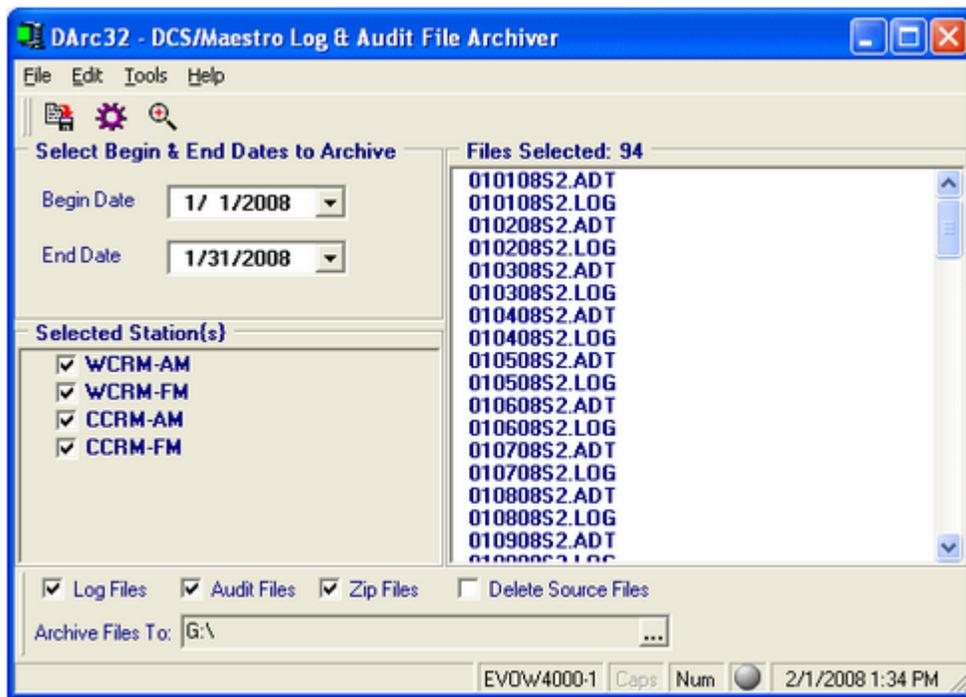
This list of files to be included will be updated each time you:

- A. Change either the beginning or ending date.
- B. Select or de-select one of the stations to be archived (check it or uncheck it).
- C. Select or de-select the archive logs option.
- D. Select or de-select the archive audit files option.

A count of the matching files is displayed and updated each time you change one of the parameters for the archive session. You may also scroll the list of files to be included.

You can change the options relating to zipping the files and deleting the source files on completion of the archive process. You can also change the default archive target location by clicking on the ellipse button (...) to the right of the target location text display.

An example display for an archive session with dates, stations, logs and audit files selected will look similar to:

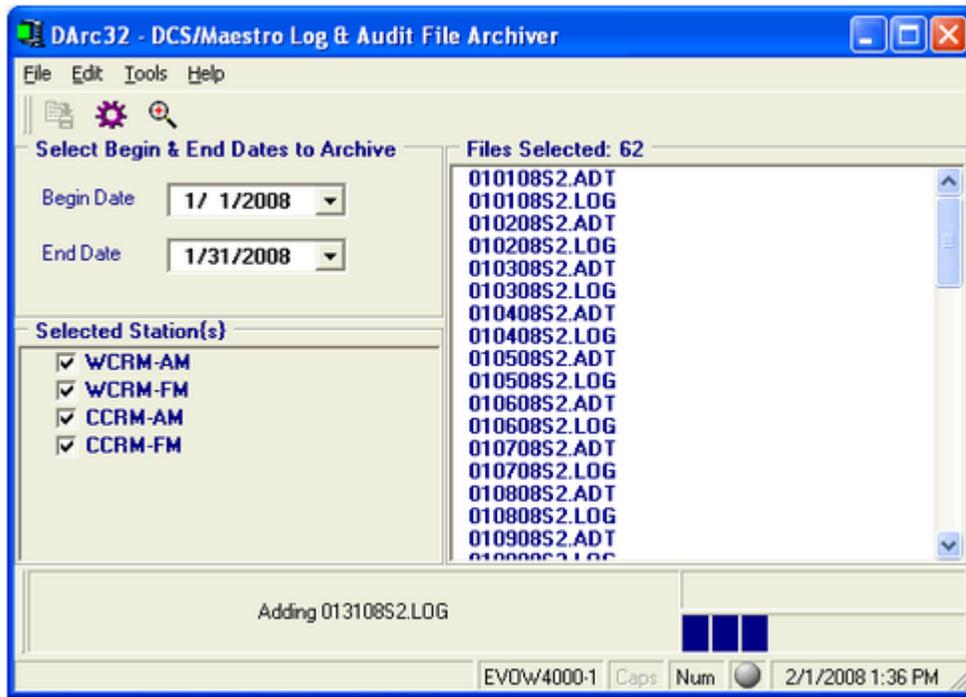


In this example a total of 94 files have been found that match the date range, stations, log and audit parameters.

Running the Archive Process

Once everything is the way you want it, either click on the tool bar's **[Archive Selected Files]** button or choose **File | Archive Files** from the main menu. Note that the **[Ctrl-A]** key combination will also start the archive process.

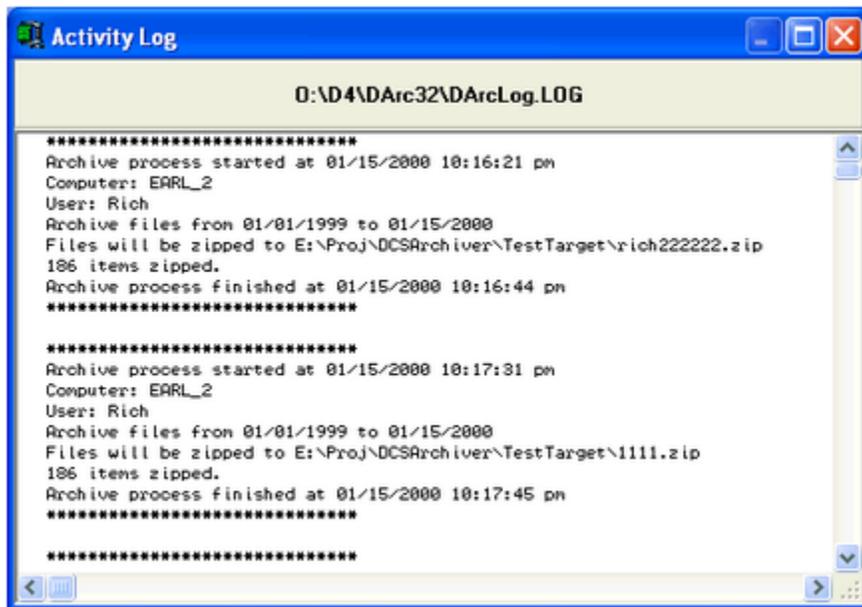
As the archive process runs, the check-off/status panel display changes to reflect current activity and progress, as depicted in the screen shot below:



Once the job is complete, the lower status light (the item immediately left of the date/time display) will indicate success by becoming green, or failure by becoming red.

5.3 Activity Log

If you wish to see archive activity information, select the menu item **Tools | View Activity Log** from the main menu. A display similar to the following will appear:



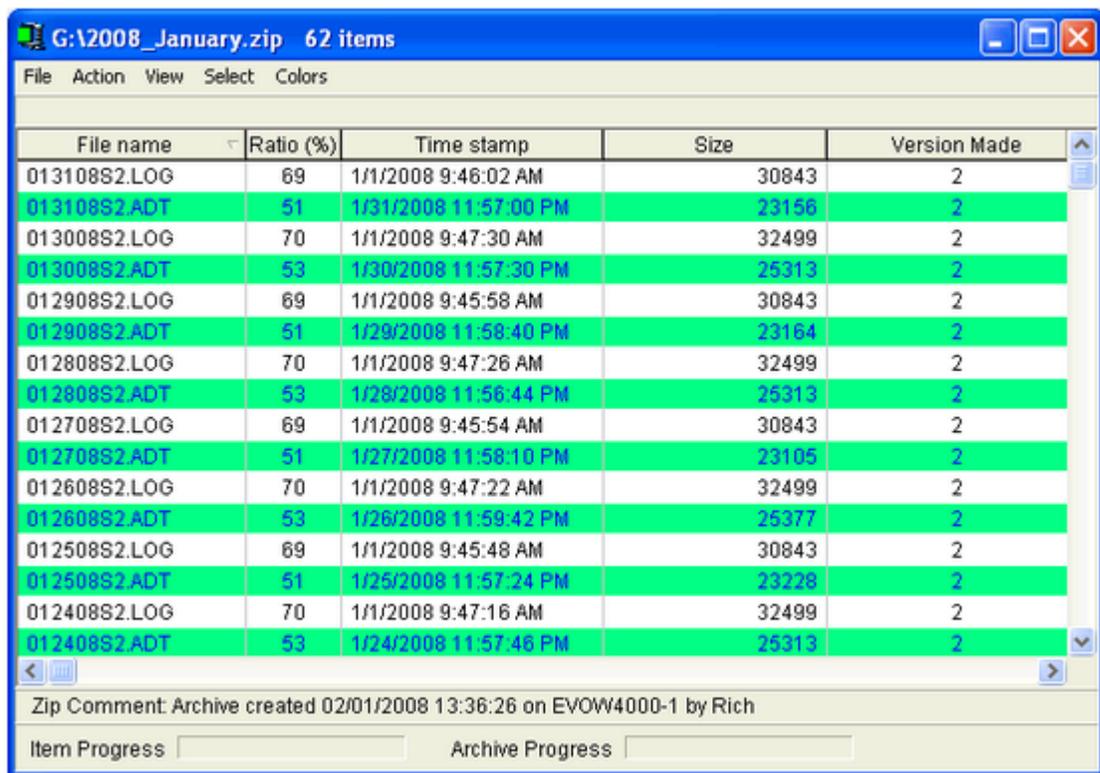
The activity log describes:

- i. When the archive process began.
- ii. The name of the machine on which the process was run.
- iii. The logged-on user who initiated the archive process.
- iv. The date range of the archive.
- v. Where the files were archived.
- vi. How many files were archived.
- vii. When the process completed.

5.4 Working with Zipped Archives

DArc32 includes a zip file viewer and editor for viewing, extracting and maintaining your log and audit file archives. Select **Tools | View/Extract a zipped archive file** (you can also use the [CTRL-V] keystroke) from the main menu, or click on the tool bar button that looks like a magnifying glass with a plus sign (+) within the glass. The zip viewer/editor display will be launched.

Select the menu item **File | Open** to select an archive file for viewing. The file will be opened and displayed. The display will appear similar to the following:



From this display, you can select files and extract them. You could also delete files from the zipped archive or even add files if you wish.

Much of the visual appearance can be changed by selecting options from the main menu, including your color preferences and how you want the archive file information to be displayed.

5.5 Archiving to a Zip Drive

Many users will choose to archive logs and audit reports to a Zip™ drive or some other removable storage device, mainly because of the higher capacity than standard floppy disks, plus the convenience of being able to store several months, maybe even years, of archive files on a single Zip™ disk or similar media.

For this reason, to assist in making it more convenient to organize the files, the menu item **Tools | Create a New Directory in Archive Path** allows you to create a subdirectory off the main target directory location.

You might, for instance, have the target location set up as "D:\\" (no quotes), and then use this feature to create a new subdirectory each month in which to place the archive files. You might make the new directory name "2008-01" (no quotes) to hold archived logs and/or audit files for the month of January, 2008, for instance. By using a 4-digit year, a dash, and a 2-digit month, the information on the disk will be displayed in chronological order if you are viewing the disk in Windows Explorer. Choose any scheme you wish that might make the archive files easier for you to locate if you need to go back and extract or restore them.

Appendices

Part



6.1 Appendix A - Registering DArc32

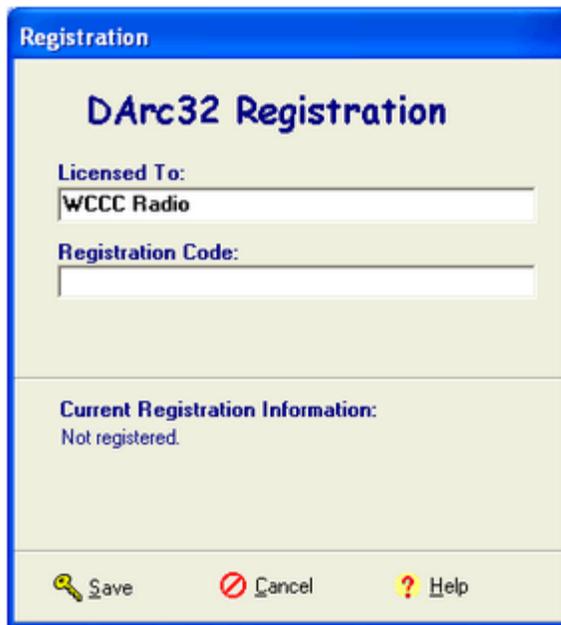
DArc32 requires a valid registration code to enable unlimited usage. The first time you run DArc32 after installing, you'll be prompted to enter the registration information. You should have received a registration code with your DArc32 installation materials.

If no registration code is entered or available, you will be able to run DArc32 15 times. The application will no longer launch after 15 trial runs.

DArc32 registration information can be entered in either of two ways:

1. Select "Yes" when prompted to register at program startup, or;
2. Select **Help | Register DArc32** from the main menu after starting up.

In either case, you'll be presented with a dialog similar to the following:



Enter the company name and/or call letters in the "**Licensed To**" field. Then, enter the code you were supplied with in the "**Registration Code**" field.

If you received the registration code electronically, you may use standard Windows cut and paste methods to paste the code in the field.

After entering the information, click on the [**Save**] button to save the information.



If you wish to change your company name and/or call letters at a later date, you will need to re-enter the registration code.

6.2 Appendix B - Troubleshooting

The majority of problems you might have with DArc32 are related to ensuring that you have the correct source file location and target file location set up properly. These items are set up from the [Edit | Configuration](#) menu item on the main dialog.

Ensure that you are trying to retrieve log and/or audit files from the proper location, typically a LAN (Local Area Network) drive. For DCS, the location will be the work directory you've specified in the DCS configuration file using the DCS utility CMCF. For Maestro, the source file location may be different, but would match what you've configured for Maestro as the log directory using the Maestro configuration program. For XStudio, use the log folder you selected when setting up a station.

Other possible causes of problems include:

- Bad target media (floppy drive, Zip™ drive).
- Target media doesn't have enough space when copying files.
- Media not inserted in target drive location.

These causes will generally be reported to you in the form of an error message, indicating what the problem is.

File Copy Problems

When the log and/or audit files are archived using the copy files method, be aware that the operating system's copy routines are used. Errors that occur during the copy are coming directly from the operating system, as DArc32 "hooks" the OS copy routines. Most errors in this area are fairly self-explanatory and will be familiar to users who use Windows 95, 98, 2000 or NT to copy or move files around on their system.

Zip File Problems

Zip files are created when you select the Zip Files option. In short, all the selected files are placed in a single, industry-standard "zip" file. The most common problem with zip files occurs when the archive of selected files exceeds the capacity of a single target disk media and the zip file is "spanned", meaning uses more than one disk. It's been noted that if the second or subsequent disks used in an archive process are not blank, formatted disks (meaning having nothing else on them), the zip routine will occasionally fail with errors that not all data could be written.

This is because the zip file generator looks at the first disk and determines how much data can be placed on each of the target disks, if more than one disk will be required. If the first disk is blank and has a capacity of 1.44MB, the zip generator believes that each subsequent disk will have the same capacity.

Similarly, starting a zip file archive with a partially filled target disk and then needed to span to another disk will create a problem in that only the amount of storage that could be used on the first disk is used on subsequent disks, thus wasting available space on the second and subsequent target disks.



If you are using floppy disks to archive with zipped files, ensure that **all disks are formatted and blank** before you start the process.

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