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Installing and Running WinCap with the DOS NewsReady program

This document is for original WireReady customers trying to preserve / use their existing stand-alone DOS-based systems, but who are adding the windows capture program (WinCap32). If you are doing a new installation, contact WireReady for instructions on new installations.

If you receive wire services, the computer will be the wire capture computer in addition to a workstation. The capture station captures all incoming data on the COM port(s) and writes the news to a database file stored on the local hard-drive. The wire capture client may be run as a minimized task on the same computer someone uses as a workstation. If you currently run an original DOS based NewsReady capture station, that program is not compatible with the Windows operating systems after Windows98 (NT, 2000, XP).

WIN-Based (32-bit) Capture Client Information

Wincap.exe is a low-overhead 32-bit capture program that works with all PCI-based COM ports. If you plan to capture several wire services, we recommend and resell COMTROL brand RocketPort PCI based 4 and 8 port com cards, although all brands will work. We also support USB to COM port converters and sell adapters that can turn one USB port into one or more COM ports using a standard USB hub.

Before installing any of the new files you received, you should back up the configuration file used for the DOS capturing (\$config.wr) and the capture file (\$capture.cap). The files will be found in the c:\wire\ folder.

Before upgrading to WinCap, you will want to determine the settings used for receiving wire services. To do this, open a MS-DOS box or command prompt, and from the c:\wire prompt, type SETUP, then strike the Enter key. When asked for the installation path, make sure it shows c:\wire. From the Main Menu, highlight Select Service Type and Speed, and press the Enter key. Write down all of the information displayed in the Wire Services listing. This information is, in order:

wire service

port address
port interrupt
baud rate
parity
data bits
stop bits
connection

The \$config.wr file will need to be edited to remove the lines that tell it to capture the wire services. This can be left until the WinCap program is configured, but you do not want to run both the DOS and Windows programs together when they are both configured to capture your wire services.

After WinCap is installed, you will use the Setup program to disable the DOS capture program from capturing.

Versions of WinCap prior to 3.209 use a \$inuse.dat file to prevent multiple machines from capturing the wire feeds. Since the standalone DOS program uses the same file, this file will prevent you from running NewsReady at the same time as WinCap, if you run WinCap from the c:\wire folder.

Installing Additional COM Ports

If you are using WireReady-supplied USB to RS-232/COM port converters to connect wire services, you need to install drivers for the device. When you connect the USB converter to the USB port it will prompt for a driver. The driver can be found on the WireReady installation CD or on the drive that NewsReady for Windows was installed to in the WIRE\INSTALL\USB2COM-FTDI folder.

Do not use the drivers that came with the USB converter CD, as they are not the latest. You must use the drivers on our CD-ROM in order to use 2 or more of these adapters on the same computer. You can use a standard USB2.0 hub if you need to put more than one adapter on the same USB port.

Once configured, these devices show up in Device Manager as COM ports. Once you identify the COM port number assigned by Windows, this is the port number you use when configuring the devices to work WinCap.

Folders and Files Needed to run WinCap

The following folders will need to be created to have WinCap and NewsReady run on the same computer. They can be created from either a DOS box (go to

Start, then Run, and type "command" in the entry box) using the MKDIR command at the c:\ prompt, or using Windows (open Windows Explorer, open the c:\ drive, choose File, then New, then Folder).

c:\wincap
c:\wincap\wcapture
c:\wincap\install
c:\wincap\system

You should have received the necessary files, either via email or on a CD-ROM, for installing WinCap. Place the files in the following folders:

WinCap.exe should be in the **c:\wincap** folder.

Wcapture.ini should be in the **c:\wincap\wcapture** folder.

Setup32.exe should be in the **c:\wincap\install** folder.

\$id2.dat should be in the **c:\wire** folder. There will already be a \$id2.dat file in this folder. Rename this file to \$id2-old.dat before putting the new file in c:\wire\. This file will remove the need for a security key to run the DOS NewsReady program.

Configuring WinCap to Capture Wire Feeds

The Wincap.exe program is configured with the Setup32 program.

To Run the Setup32 Utility:

1. From the desktop double-click on the "My Computer" icon.
2. Double-click the c:\ drive.
3. Double-click the Wincap folder.
4. Double-click the Install folder.
5. Double-click the Setup32 file.

-OR-

1. Click on the Windows Start button.
2. Click on Run
3. Enter the path "c:\wincap\install\setup32.exe".
4. Strike the Enter key or click OK.

The WinCap tab in Setup32 is used to set up the wire services for the WinCap program. Up to eleven wire services can be configured here. Remember to click the *Save* button before exiting the program. An explanation of each available option follows:

To Set up the Wire Services:

1. Click on the WinCap Configuration tab.
2. Click on the WinCap Config Page 1 tab.
3. Under the Section labeled "Service 1" use the drop-down triangle to select the first wire service subscribed to.
4. Enter the COM port number for the port that receives that particular wire service.
5. Use the drop-down triangle to choose the baud rate for that wire service.
6. Use the drop-down triangle to choose the corresponding parity for that wire service.
N = None; O = Odd; E = Even; M = Mark; S = Space (M and S are rarely used).
7. Use the drop-down triangle to choose the data bits for that wire service (5, 6, 7, or 8).
8. Use the drop-down triangle to choose the stop bits for that wire service (1 or 2).
9. Repeat this process for each additional wire service subscribed to.

Note: If you are unsure of these settings contact your wire service.

10. The WinCap Config Page 2 tab provides for six additional wire services.
11. Enter the number of the COM port that the HW-Alarm ID5000 will be connected to in the Alarm Port entry box, if used. The ID5000 is used to generate an alarm when specified wire feeds are received in the wire browser.
12. Mark the checkbox in the Logging section on Page 1 to enable a text file to be created that lists the time, date, and headline of each story as it is received. The log will also show when WinCap was started and each wire service was initialized. The log is saved to c:\wincap\wcapture\log\filename.log. The filename is in the format MM-DD-YYYY.log. For example, 06-14-2001.LOG. We recommend you do not activate the log unless you have problems. It will accumulate disk space as a log is cut each day.
13. Change the path to the capture file, if necessary, in the "Capture File Location" entry box to c:\wire\capture.cap.
14. Click the Save button before exiting Setup32.

Setting DOS NewsReady for Not Capturing Wire Feeds

Before running WinCap, you will want to disable the settings used for receiving wire services in the DOS program. To do this, open a MS-DOS box or command prompt, and from the c:\wire prompt, type SETUP, then strike the Enter key. When asked for the installation path, make sure it shows c:\wire. From the Main Menu, highlight Select Service Type and Speed, and press the Enter key. Highlight Service1 and press the Enter key. Change the wire service to NONE by hitting Enter on the Service line. Strike F4 to save the changes. Edit the rest of

the services, if there is more than one. Strike F4 to save the changes to all the services.

Make a shortcut to c:\wincap\wincap.exe and put it in the windows startup folder so that capturing begins anytime the computer boots.

Remove any shortcut to the DOS program in the startup group.

TWEAKUI

We have included Microsoft's TWEAK utility under WIRE\INSTALL. You may install this utility on your wire capture computer. TWEAK lets you setup the capture station to automatically login to your network. We have included versions for Windows95, Windows98, and Windows2000 and Windows XP. Refer to the *Installing the Tweak User Interface* document to install the program.

Running WinCap

After the reboot, WinCap should come up and start capturing the wires. The DOS program should not be running.

WinCap should always be running to capture the wire services.

To exit or shut down WinCap, the password is "exit"

Once WinCap is installed, your DOS program now only has to be run when/if you want to access or print your news, since it is no longer responsible for capturing directly.

Note, the DOS program is limited in terms of how it prints from windows. We sell (separately) a complete windows product, which is a modern windows compatible system that works with all modern laser or inkjet printers and supports larger fonts or different margin/page settings. Please consider this in the future.

Lastly, if your DOS program uses a security key, and you get a key error, contact tech support at 800-833-4459, and they will email you a new \$id2.dat file for your facility (this copies to your c:\wire\ folder). It overwrites the old \$id2.dat and it removes the need to use a security key. You must UPS us back the key at your cost when everything new is working for you.