ROBUST FILE COPY FRONT END

User Manual

November 2010

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Chapter 1

Prerequisites

In order to run the *Robust File Copy Front End (RFCFE)* one must have *robocopy* installed and configured in the system path and Microsoft .NET Framework 4.
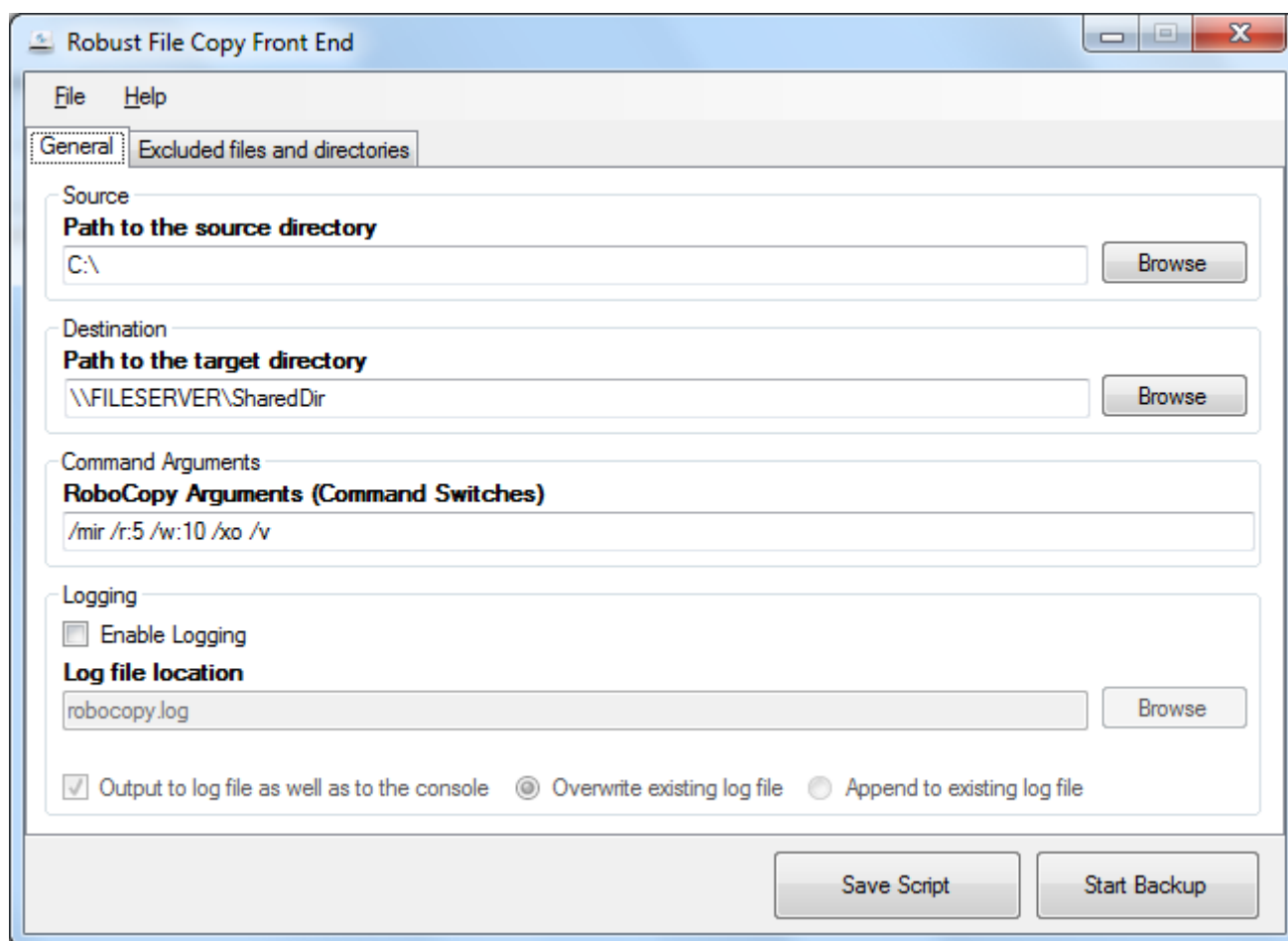
Robocopy was introduced as a standard feature in Windows Vista, 7, Server 2008 and Server 2008 R2. For older releases of Windows it can be installed as a part of the Windows Resource Kit.

If one doesn't have it installed already the Microsoft .NET Framework 4 can be downloaded from the Microsoft website or through the Windows Update service.

Chapter 2

Usage

RFCFE was meant to be as user friendly as possible, hence here will be listed only a few things that the user should pay attention to.
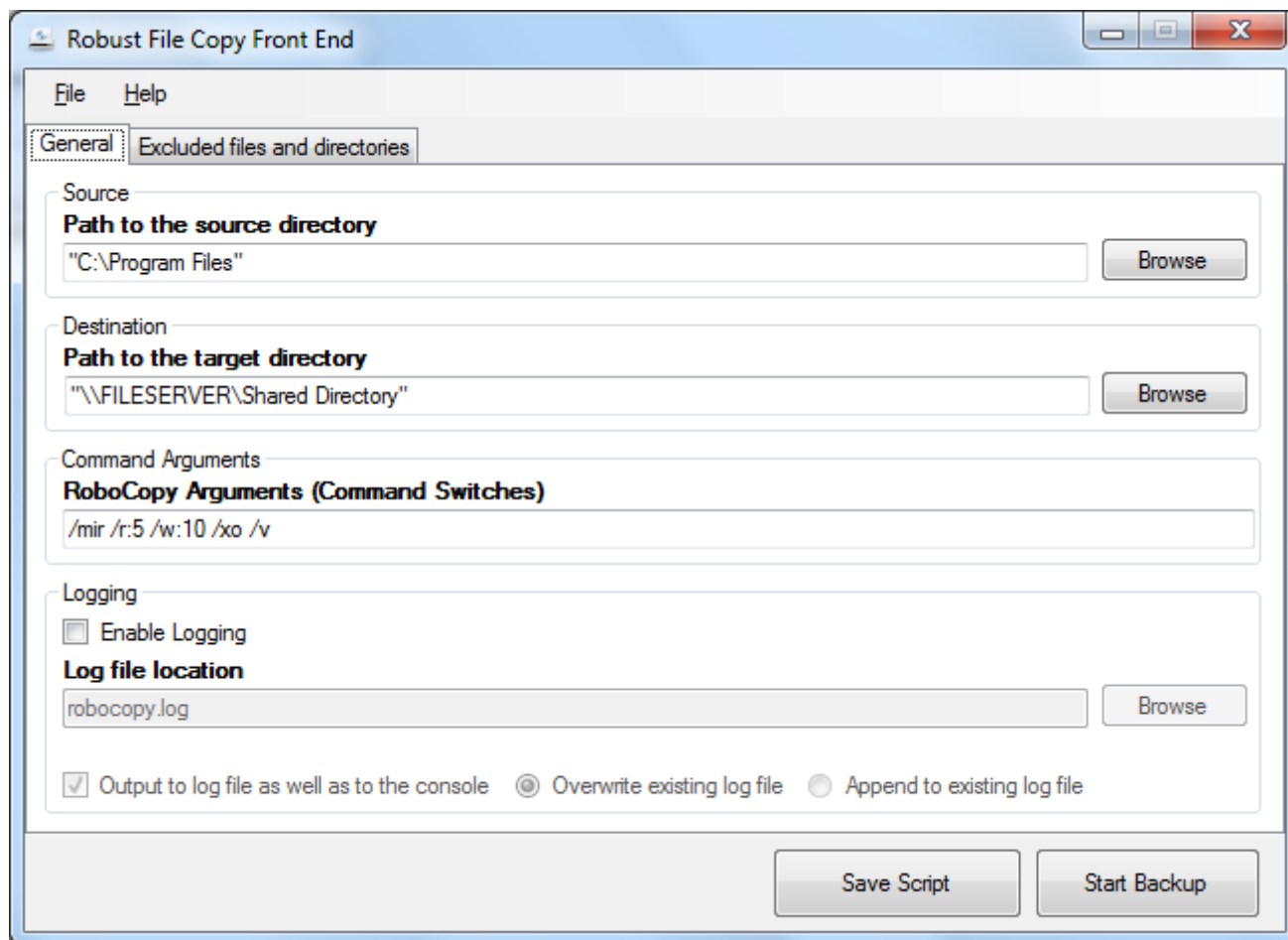

In the above picture the user interface with the *General* tab selected is shown.

The first field is a text box in which the source, or the directory from which the files should be copied, has to be entered. The mentioned directory (or drive) can be entered manually, or browsed for by using the *Browse* button.

The second field is the same as the previous one but with the exception that this one should contain the destination, or the directory to which the files should be copied. This field's input can also be entered manually, or browsed for.

IMPORTANT: The paths to the source and destination directories have to be put inside the quotation marks if the path itself contains spaces.

The example is shown on the picture below:

The third field represents the arguments, or command switches, that should be sent to the robocopy command. The full list of robocopy switches can be found by choosing the *Robo-copy Help* option located within the *Help* menu.
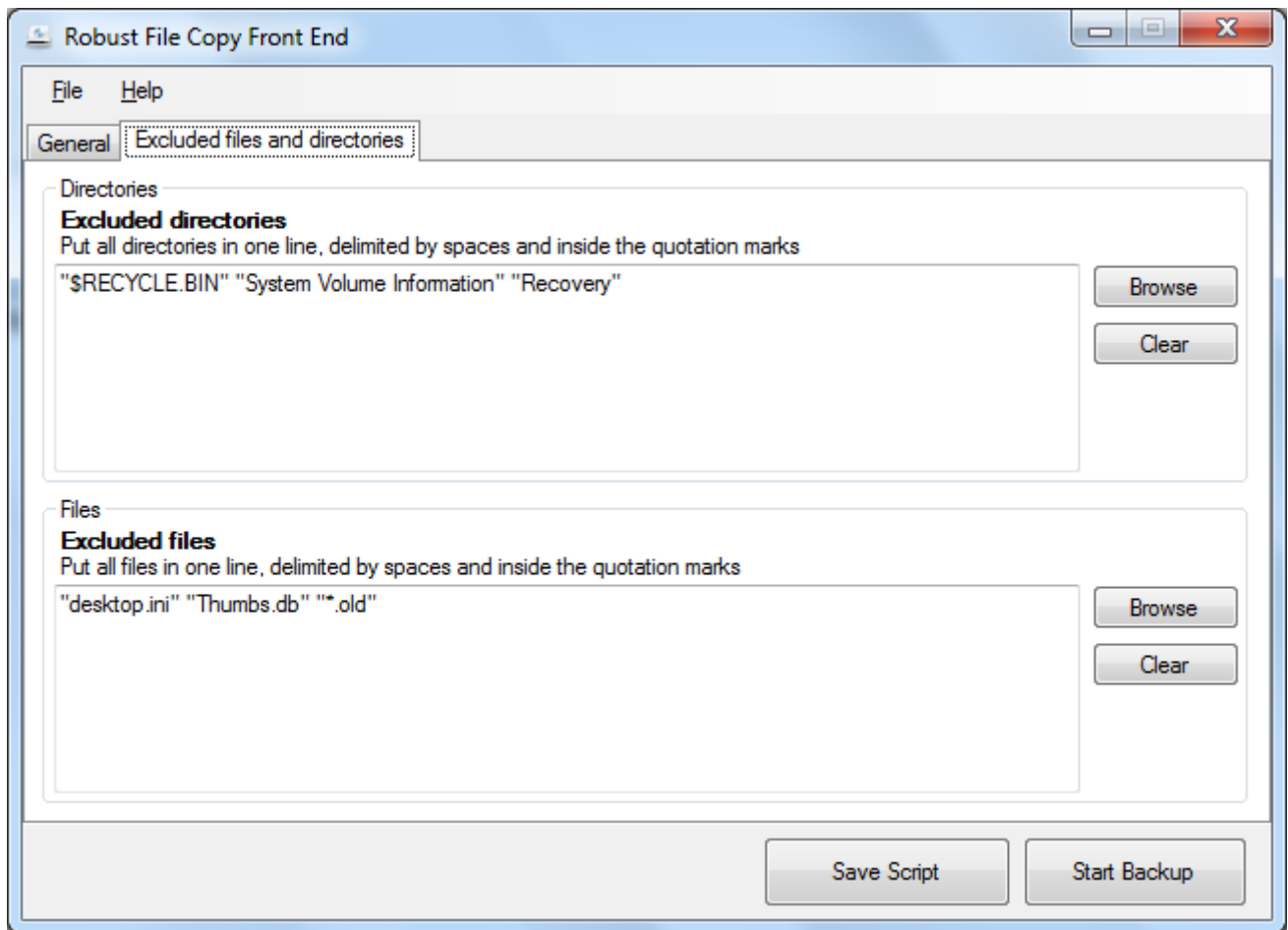
Note that the mentioned list was retrieved from the output of "`robocopy /?`" command on Windows 7, and the switches may differ accross the different Windows versions, so the most accurate way of getting the switches one can use is to run previously mentioned command to list them for their current platform.

By default the logging is disabled altogether, but one can enable it by ticking the *Enable Logging* check box.

Once this check box is checked the field which should contain the location of the log file will be enabled. If nothing is changed the output of the robocopy command will be stored inside the file *robocopy.log*, located within the application directory. If the *Browse* button is clicked the *File Save* dialog will be opened providing the option to choose the location and name for the log file.

Other options are to send output to log file overwriting the existing one or appending it to it, and to send command output to the console window as well as to the log file.

Options to exclude files or directories from copying are located on the *Excluded files and directories* tab.
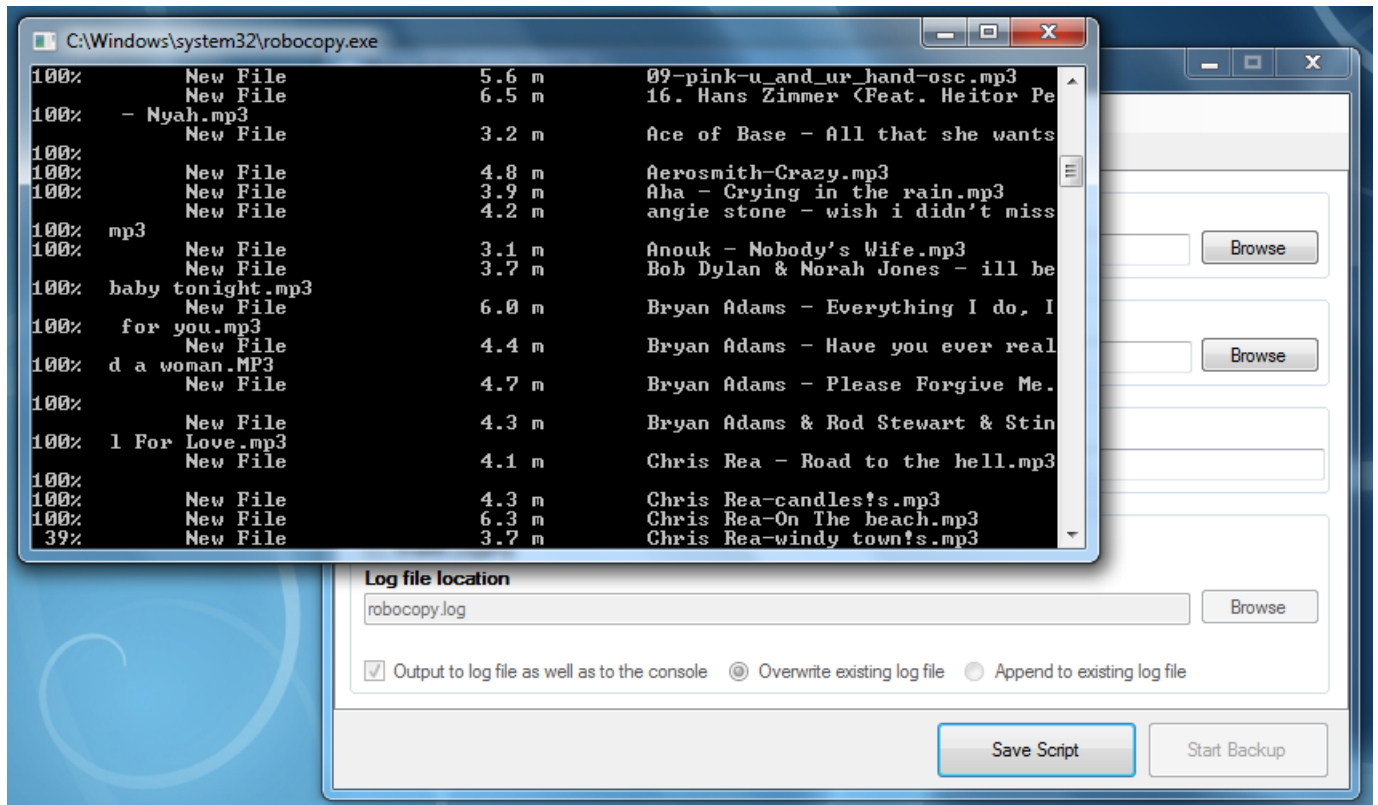
Each file or directory has to be entered inside the quotation marks, and all of them have to be put on the same line, delimited by spaces.

There are options to browse for files or directories using the *Browse* buttons, and the option to clear the content of the text boxes by clicking on the *Clear* button for each text box.

Once all the parameters are set there is option to create Windows batch file, which can be used later, by clicking on the *Save Script* button or by choosing the *Save Script* option from the *File* menu.

The final option is to run *robocopy* command using the chosen parameters by clicking on the *Start Backup* button.

If everything is configured correctly the application will start copying files and the *robocopy* console window will be shown, as on the picture below.

Chapter 3

License

Robust File Copy Front End is copyrighted by Almir Dzinovic, and is released under the GNU/GPL v3 License.

The whole text of the license is distributed along with the application, and can be found inside the application directory, stored within the License.txt file.