

MSIE Cache File (index.dat) format specification

Analysis of the index.dat file format

By Joachim Metz <joachim.metz@gmail.com>

Summary

The index.dat filename is used by Microsoft Internet Explorer to cache different types of information. This specification is based on the work by pasco [JONES03] and was complimented by reverse engineering of the file format.

This document is intended as a working document for the MSIE Cache File (MSIECF) specification. Which should allow existing Open Source forensic tooling to be able to process this file type.

Document information

Author(s): Joachim Metz <joachim.metz@gmail.com>

Abstract: This document contains information about the MSIE Cache File format.

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Version

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Table of Contents

1. Overview.....	1
1.1. Versions.....	1
1.2. File types and locations.....	1
1.2.1. MSIE 4 on Windows 98.....	2
1.2.2. MSIE 5 on Windows 2000.....	2
1.2.3. MSIE 6 on Windows XP SP1, Windows 2003.....	2
1.2.4. MSIE 7 on Windows XP SP2.....	2
1.2.5. MSIE 7 on Vista.....	3
1.2.6. MSIE 8 on Windows XP SP3.....	4
1.2.7. MSIE 8 on Windows 2008.....	4
1.2.8. MSIE 9 on Windows 7.....	5
1.3. Test version.....	6
2. File header.....	7
2.1. The cache directory table.....	7
2.2. Unknown data.....	8
2.3. The allocation bitmap.....	8
3. Hash table record.....	9
4. URL record.....	10
4.1. URL record format version 4.7.....	10
4.2. URL record format version 5.2.....	11
4.3. Cache entry flags.....	14
4.4. URL record types.....	15
4.4.1. Cache URL record data.....	16
4.4.2. Visited URL record data.....	17
4.4.3. InPrivate Filtering URL record data.....	19
4.4.4. Compatibility URL record data.....	19
4.4.5. TLD URL record data.....	19
4.4.6. Download URL record data.....	19
4.5. Use of the filetime values.....	20
5. Redirected record.....	21
6. Leak record.....	21
7. FAT date time.....	22
8. Notes.....	23
8.1. Cache entry control flags.....	23
8.2. Cookie state flags.....	24
8.3. Cache entry flags.....	25
Appendix A. References.....	27
Appendix B. GNU Free Documentation License.....	27

1. Overview

The MSIECF (MSIE Cache File) is used by Microsoft Internet Explorer to cache different types of information. There are MSIECF named index.dat for multiple uses, some are:

- the Temporary Internet Files;
- the History;
- the Cookies;
- the Feed Cache.

The MSIECF is also known as the WININET Cache.

These index.dat file are stored in the corresponding directories.

A MSIECF consist of the following distinguishable elements:

- file header
 - cache directory list
 - allocation bitmap
- records
 - hash record
 - url record
 - redirected record
 - leak record

Characteristics	Description
Byte order	little-endian
Date and time values	in both UTC and local time
Character string	ASCII strings are stored in extended ASCII with a codepage. Unicode strings are stored in UTF-16 little-endian without the byte order mark (BOM).

1.1. Versions

There are multiple version of the MSIECF format.

MSIE version	MSIECF version	Filename	Remarks
MSIE 3 (32-bit)		mm256.dat mm1024.dat	256 byte record size 1024 byte record size
MSIE 4	4.7	index.dat	128 byte block based record size
MSIE 5 to 9	5.2	index.dat	128 byte block based record size

This document mainly focuses on MSIECF versions 4.7 and 5.2.

1.2. File types and locations

The History (periodic) in the following sections indicates both the History (daily) and History (weekly) MSIECF file types.

1.2.1. MSIE 4 on Windows 98

Type of MSIECF file	Characteristics
Temporary Internet Files (Cache)	%WINDIR%\Temporary Internet Files\index.dat
History (global)	%WINDIR%\History\index.dat
History (periodic)	%WINDIR%\History\MSHist01yyyymmddyyyymmdd\index.dat
Cookies	%WINDIR%\Cookies\index.dat

1.2.2. MSIE 5 on Windows 2000

Type of MSIECF file	Characteristics
Temporary Internet Files (Cache)	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\index.dat
History (global)	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\History\History.IE5\index.dat
History (periodic)	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\History\History.IE5\MSHist01yyyymmddyyyymmdd\index.dat
Cookies	%USERPROFILE%\Cookies\index.dat
User data	%USERPROFILE%\Application Data\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\UserData\index.dat

1.2.3. MSIE 6 on Windows XP SP1, Windows 2003

Type of MSIECF file	Characteristics
Temporary Internet Files (Cache)	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\index.dat
History (global)	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\History\History.IE5\index.dat
History (periodic)	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\History\History.IE5\MSHist01yyyymmddyyyymmdd\index.dat
Cookies	%USERPROFILE%\Cookies\index.dat
User data	%USERPROFILE%\UserData\index.dat

1.2.4. MSIE 7 on Windows XP SP2

Type of MSIECF file	Characteristics
Temporary Internet Files (Cache)	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\index.dat
History (global)	%USERPROFILE%\Local

Type of MSIECF file	Characteristics
	Settings\History\History.IE5\index.dat
History (periodic)	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\History\History.IE5\MSHist01yyyyymmddyyyyymmdd\index.dat
Cookies	%USERPROFILE%\Cookies\index.dat
Feeds Cache	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\Application Data\Microsoft\Feeds Cache\index.dat
User data	%USERPROFILE%\UserData\index.dat

1.2.5. MSIE 7 on Vista

Type of MSIECF file	Characteristics
Temporary Internet Files (Cache)	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Low\Content.IE5\index.dat
History (global)	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\History\History.IE5\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\History\Low\History.IE5\index.dat
History (periodic)	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\History\History.IE5\MSHist01yyyyymmddyyyyymmdd\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\History\Low\History.IE5\MSHist01yyyyymmddyyyyymmdd\index.dat
Cookies	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Cookies\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Cookies\Low\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Temp\Low\Cookies\index.dat
User data	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\UserData\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\UserData\Low\index.dat
Feeds Cache	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Feeds Cache\index.dat

1.2.6. MSIE 8 on Windows XP SP3

Type of MSIECF file	Characteristics
Temporary Internet Files (Cache)	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\index.dat
History (global)	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\History\History.IE5\index.dat
History (periodic)	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\History\History.IE5\MSHist01yyyyymmddyyyyymmdd\index.dat
Cookies	%USERPROFILE%\Cookies\index.dat
User data	%USERPROFILE%\UserData\index.dat
InPrivate Filtering	%USERPROFILE%\PrivacIE\index.dat
Compatibility Cache	
TLD Cache	%USERPROFILE%\IETldCache\index.dat
Feeds Cache	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\Application Data\Microsoft\Feeds Cache\index.dat
DOM store	%USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\Application Data\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\DOMStore\index.dat

1.2.7. MSIE 8 on Windows 2008

Type of MSIECF file	Characteristics
Temporary Internet Files (Cache)	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Low\Content.IE5\index.dat
History (global)	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\History\History.IE5\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\History\Low\History.IE5\index.dat
History (periodic)	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\History\History.IE5\MSHist01yyyyymmddyyyyymmdd\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\History\Low\History.IE5\MSHist01yyyyymmddyyyyymmdd\index.dat
Cookies	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Cookies\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Cookies\Low\index.

Type of MSIECF file	Characteristics
	dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Temp\Low\Cookies\index.dat
User data	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\UserData\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\UserData\Low\index.dat
InPrivate Filtering	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\PrivacIE\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\PrivacIE\Low\index.dat
Compatibility Cache	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\IECompatCache\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\IECompatCache\Low\index.dat
TLD Cache	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\IE TldCache\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\IE TldCache\Low\index.dat
Feeds Cache	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Feeds Cache\index.dat
DOM store	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\DOMStore\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\LocalLow\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\DOMStore\index.dat

1.2.8. MSIE 9 on Windows 7

Type of MSIECF file	Characteristics
Temporary Internet Files (Cache)	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Low\Content.IE5\index.dat
History (global)	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\History\History.IE5\index.dat %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\History\Low\History.IE5\index.dat

Type of MSIECF file	Characteristics
History (periodic)	%USERPROFILE %AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\History\History.IE5\MSHist01yyyyymmddyyyyymmdd\index.dat %USERPROFILE %AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\History\Low\History.IE5\MSHist01yyyyymmddyyyyymmdd\index.dat
Cookies	%USERPROFILE %AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Cookies\index.dat %USERPROFILE %AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Cookies\Low\index.dat
User data	%USERPROFILE%AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\UserData\index.dat %USERPROFILE%AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\UserData\Low\index.dat
InPrivate Filtering	%USERPROFILE %AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\PrivacIE\index.dat %USERPROFILE %AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\PrivacIE\Low\index.dat
Compatibility Cache	%USERPROFILE %AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\IECompatCache\index.dat %USERPROFILE %AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\IECompatCache\Low\index.dat
TLD Cache	%USERPROFILE %AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\IETldCache\index.dat %USERPROFILE %AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\IETldCache\Low\index.dat
Feeds Cache	%USERPROFILE%AppData\Local\Microsoft\Feeds Cache\index.dat
DOM store	%USERPROFILE%AppData\Local\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\DOMStore\index.dat %USERPROFILE%AppData\LocalLow\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\DOMStore\index.dat
Download history	%USERPROFILE %AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\IEDownloadHistory\index.dat

1.3. Test version

The following version of programs were used to test the information within this document:

- MSIE 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

2. File header

The file header is of 72 bytes of size and consists of:

offset	size	value	description
0	28	“Client\x20UrlCache\x20MMF\x20Ver\x20#.#\x00”	The signature and version string ASCII string with a NUL-character The # characters contain the major and minor versions.
28	4		The file size
32	4		The first hash table record offset The file offset to the first part of the hash table This value always should be a multitude of 128 and greater equal 0x4000
36	4		The total number of blocks
40	4		The number of allocated blocks
44	4	0	Unknown Empty value
48	4		The cache size (quota) limit of the container Contains the number of bytes
52	4	0	Unknown Empty value
56	4		The cache size of the container Contains the number of bytes
60	4	0	Unknown Empty value
64	4		The non-releasable cache size of the container. (The size of the cache container exempt from scavenging) Contains the number of bytes
68	4	0	Unknown Empty value

The container is the cache container e.g. the files in the corresponding cache directories.

Note: Can the signature and version string be set in the registry? Is it variable of length? Or is 28 bytes the maximum length?

2.1. The cache directory table

The file header is followed by the cache directory table.

The cache directory table is variable of size and consists of:

offset	size	value	description
72	4		Number of cache directory entries A maximum of 32 ?
76	...		Cache directory entries

The cache directory entry is 12 bytes of size and consists of:

offset	size	value	description
0	4		The number of cached files in the directory
4	8		Cache directory name ASCII string without a NUL-character

Note that a cache directory can contain files besides the cached files.

2.2. Unknown data

Set in temporary internet files

offset	size	value	description
460 (0x1cc)	4		Unknown 0a 00 00 00
464	4		Unknown 02 00 00 00 04 00 00 00 9f 00 00 00
468	4		Unknown 04 00 00 00 c5 05 00 00 d2 00 00 00
472	8		Unknown Empty values
480	4		Unknown 08 40 00 00

2.3. The allocation bitmap

The allocation bitmap is situated at offset 592 (0x250). The allocation bitmap continues to offset 16384 (0x4000) but only the number of bytes necessary for the file size is used.

Every bit represents a block of 128 byte (0x80) starting at the (base) offset 0x4000. The bitmap is stored byte-wise where the LSB refers to the lowest offset, e.g.

```
base offset           : 0x4000
first allocation byte : 0xf0
unallocated range     : 0x4000 - 0x4200
allocated range       : 0x4200 - 0x4400
```

3. Hash table record

The hash table record consists of:

- the hash table header
- hash table entries

The hash table record is 4096 bytes of size.

The hash table header is 16 bytes of size and consist of:

offset	size	value	description
0	4	"HASH"	The signature
4	4	32 (0x20)	The number of blocks in hash table The block size is 128 bytes $32 \times 128 = 4096$ This value includes the size of the hash table header The hash table entry data size is: $4096 - 12 = 4084$
8	4		Next hash table record offset The file offset to the next part of the hash table or 0 if this is the last part of the hash table
12	4		The sequence number 0 identifies the first hash table record

The hash table entry is 8 bytes of size and consists of:

offset	size	value	description
0	4		Record hash
4	4		Record offset This value always should be a multitude of 128 and greater equal 0x4000 If the record offset contains the same value as the record hash the value is unused

Value with the same record hash and offset seem to be unused.

The record hash can contain different values:

Value	Description
0x#####0	Valid URL record
0x00000001	Invalid URL record Some of the record offsets might be still valid
0x00000003	unknown record only seen as unused; with a record offset of 0x00000003
0x#####5	REDR record
0x0badf00d	Hash table entry is uninitialized

Value	Description
0xdeadbeef	Hash table entry is uninitialized (MSIE 8)

The uninitialized hash table entries can occur in all hash table records not only the last one. Often the hash tables are only filled to offset 0xe00 ?

The valid URL records in the hash table do not refer to all the allocated URL records in the file.

Maybe the record hash refers to a bucket of records not a single record.

4. URL record

The URL record represents a cached entry. [JONES03] refers to this record as the URL activity record.

4.1. URL record format version 4.7

offset	size	value	description
0	4	"URL\x20"	The signature
4	4		The number of blocks in URL record The block size is 128 bytes
8	8		The secondary time value Filetime Contains 0 if not set See section: 4.5 Use of the filetime values
16	8		The primary time value Filetime Contains 0 if not set See section: 4.5 Use of the filetime values Can contain 0x7fffffff 0xffffffff
24	8		Expiration date and time Filetime Contains 0 if not set
32	4		Cached file size Contains the number of bytes
36	12		Unknown Empty values
48	4		Unknown Empty values
52	4		Unknown
56	4	104 (0x0068)	The location offset The value is relative to the start of the URL record or 0 if not set
60	1		Cache directory index

offset	size	value	description
			A value of 0 represents the first cache directory
61	3		Unknown
64	4		The filename offset The value is relative to the start of the URL record or 0 if not set
68	4		Cache entry flags
72	4		The data offset The value is relative to the start of the URL record or 0 if not set
76	4		The data size
80	4		Unknown Empty values
84	4		Last checked date and time (Last synchronization date and time) FAT date time Contains 0 if not set See section: 7 FAT date time
88	4		Number of hits
92	4		Unknown Empty values Use count used in memory?
96	4		Unknown Last cache synchronization date and time FAT date time Contains 0 if not set See section: 7 FAT date time
100	4		Unknown Empty values
<i>URL record data variable of size</i>			
(location offset) 104	...		The location ASCII string with a NUL-character Special characters are URL encoded (4 byte aligned)
(filename offset)	...		The filename in cache directory ASCII string with a NUL-character
(data offset)	(data size)		Data
...	...		Unknown Uninitialized

4.2. URL record format version 5.2

The URL record is variable of size and consist of:

offset	size	value	description
0	4	“URL\x20”	The signature
4	4		The number of blocks in URL record The block size is 128 bytes
8	8		The secondary time value Filetime Contains 0 if not set See section: 4.5 Use of the filetime values
16	8		The primary time value Filetime Contains 0 if not set See section: 4.5 Use of the filetime values
24	4		Expiration date and time FAT date time Contains 0 if not set See section: 7 FAT date time Can contain 0xffff 0xffff (seen in a Visited URL record with an about: URI) -1 => never
28	4		Unknown Empty values
32	4		Cached file size Contains the number of bytes
36	4		Upper part of a 64-bit cached file size Contains the number of bytes
40	4		Unknown set for http:// with flags 0x00000004 set. The value does not change for different items (0x00004008) Although the flag is set in some host/file it contains 0x00000000
44	4		The non-releasable time delta (exempt time delta) Contains the number of seconds Contains the number of seconds before the cached item may be released. The time delta is relative to the last access time. Often it contains the value 86400 (0x00015180) seconds or 24 hours.
48	4	96 (0x0060)	Unknown offset The value is relative to the start of the URL record
52	4	104 (0x0068)	The location offset The value is relative to the start of the URL record or 0 if not set

offset	size	value	description
56	1		Cache directory index A value of 0 represents the first cache directory 0xfe => special type (cookie/iecompat)? 0xff => ? Note: A value of 0xFF could be a special flag. There is no associated file in the cache and the URL has the a *.cdf extension. Could be Channel Definition Files.
57	1		Unknown 0x00 => 0x01 => 0x02 => 0x03 =>
58	2	0x10 0x10	Unknown Not seen in older index.dat? Value does not change (sentinal/flags?)
60	4		The filename offset The value is relative to the start of the URL record or 0 if not set
64	4		Cache entry flags
68	4		The data offset The value is relative to the start of the URL record or 0 if not set
72	4		The data size
76	4		Unknown Empty values
80	4		Last checked date and time (Last synchronization date and time) FAT date time Contains 0 if not set See section: 7 FAT date time
84	4		Number of hits
88	4		Unknown Empty values Use count used in memory?
92	4		Unknown Last cache synchronization date and time FAT date time Contains 0 if not set See section: 7 FAT date time
URL record data variable of size			

offset	size	value	description
(unknown offset) 96	4		Unknown value (8 byte aligned)
100	4		Unknown Uninitialized
(location offset) 104	...		The location ASCII string with a NUL-character Special characters are URL encoded (8 byte aligned)
(filename offset)	...		The filename in cache directory ASCII string with a NUL-character
(data offset)	(data size)		Data
...	...		Unknown Uninitialized

4.3. Cache entry flags

The cache entry flags consist of the following values:

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000001	NORMAL_CACHE_ENTRY	Normal cache entry; can be deleted to recover space for new entries.
0x00000002	STABLE_CACHE_ENTRY	
0x00000004	STICKY_CACHE_ENTRY	Sticky cache entry that is exempt from scavenging for the amount of time specified by release (exempt) delta. The default value set by the function CommitUrlCacheEntry is one day. Has extended flags (unknown value at offset 40): 0x00004008 ?
0x00000008	EDITED_CACHE_ENTRY	Cache entry file that has been edited externally. This cache entry type is exempt from scavenging. Set for iecompat: and TLD Cache entries
0x00000010	TRACK_OFFLINE_CACHE_ENTRY	Not currently implemented.
0x00000020	TRACK_ONLINE_CACHE_ENTRY	Not currently implemented.
0x00000040		Is cached/cache-able? Not set if header contains "Pragma: no-cache" or other cache related headers are present
0x00001000		HTTP request method 0 => GET 1 => POST

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00010000	SPARSE_CACHE_ENTRY	Partial response cache entry.
0x00020000	OCX_CACHE_ENTRY	OLE Control Extension (OCX) cache entry. OCX is a predecessor of ActiveX Set for PrivacIE:
0x00100000	COOKIE_CACHE_ENTRY	Cookie cache entry.
0x00200000	URLHISTORY_CACHE_ENTRY	Visited link cache entry.
0x10000000		Unkown

4.4. URL record types

The URL record values have different meanings for different types of MSIECF files.

Type of MSIECF file	Location:
Temporary Internet Files (Cache)	<URI>
History (global)	Visited: <username>@<URI>
History (periodic)	:<date range>: <username>@<URI> Date range is formatted as: yyyymmddyyyymmdd What about Host: in the visited URI e.g. :2013011020130111: test@:Host: My Computer :2013010920130110: test@file:///C:/test.txt
Cookies	Cookie:<username>@<URI>
InPrivate Filtering	PrivacIE:<URI filter expression>
Compatibility Cache	iecompat:<filename>
TLD Cache	ietld:<filename>
Feeds Cache	feedplat:<URI>
User data	userdata:<username>@<protocol>@<URI>
DOM store	DOMStore:<URI>
Download history	iedownload:<GUID>

Note both History (global) and History (periodic) set URLHISTORY_CACHE_ENTRY but global sets STICKY_CACHE_ENTRY and periodic sets STICKY_CACHE_ENTRY.

According to [BUNTING] the History (global) URL record type contains:

```
<username>@<URL>
```

This has not been seen in MSIE 4 - 9 cache files.

4.4.1. Cache URL record data

flags: 0x00000001

HTTP/1.0 200 OK^M

Content-Type: image/gif^M

Pragma: no-cache^M

Content-Length: 43^M

^M

~U:username^M

flags: 0x00000005

HTTP/1.0 200 OK^M

ETag: "13e-411e677a07f80"^M

Content-Length: 318^M

Content-Type: image/x-icon^M

X-Cache: MISS from sq25.wikimedia.org^M

X-Cache-Lookup: HIT from sq25.wikimedia.org:3128^M

X-Cache: MISS from knsq26.knams.wikimedia.org^M

X-Cache-Lookup: HIT from knsq26.knams.wikimedia.org:3128^M

X-Cache: HIT from knsq3.knams.wikimedia.org^M

X-Cache-Lookup: HIT from knsq3.knams.wikimedia.org:80^M

^M

~U:username^M

flags: 0x00000041

HTTP/1.1 200 OK^M

Content-Length: 1445^M

Content-Type: image/gif^M

ETag: "096398e49cc81:bd5"^M

X-Powered-By: ASP.NET^M

^M

~U:username^M

flags: 0x00000045

HTTP/1.1 200 OK^M

Content-Length: 25214^M

Content-Type: image/x-icon^M

ETag: "931c9030e226c61:284"^M

X-UA-Compatible: IE=EmulateIE7^M

X-Powered-By: ASP.NET^M

^M

~U:username^M

flags: 0x00001001

HTTP/1.0 200 OK^M

P3P: CP="NOI DEVo TAIa OUR BUS"^M

X-Function: 101^M

Pragma: no-cache^M

Content-Type: application/x-javascript^M

Content-Length: 209^M

^M

~U:username^M

HTTP/1.0 200 OK^M

P3P: CP="NON NID PSAa PSDa OUR IND UNI COM NAV STA",policyref="/w3c/p3p.xml"^M

P3P: CP="NON NID PSAa PSDa OUR IND UNI COM NAV STA",policyref="/w3c/p3p.xml"^M

```

ETag: "c9e504-2b-428a378f"^\M
Content-Length: 43^\M
Content-Type: image/gif^\M
^\M
~U:username^\M

flags: 0x00001041
HTTP/1.1 200 OK^\M
Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8^\M
Transfer-Encoding: chunked^\M
^\M
~U:username^\M

HTTP/1.1 200 OK^\M
Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8^\M
P3P: CP="ALL IND DSP COR ADM CONo CUR CUSo IVAo IVDo PSA PSD TAI TELo OUR SAMo
CNT COM INT NAV ONL PHY PRE PUR UNI"^\M
X-Powered-By: ASP.NET^\M
X-UA-Compatible: IE=EmulateIE7^\M
X-AspNet-Version: 2.0.50727^\M
Transfer-Encoding: chunked^\M
^\M
~U:username^\M

```

4.4.2. Visited URL record data

The visited URL record contains information which user visited what URI.

The URL record location consists of the following string

```
Visited: <username>@<URI>
```

If set the URL record data contains multiple entries in the following format:

offset	size	value	description
0	2		The entry size
2	1		The entry type
3	1		The value type
4	(entry size - 4)		Value data

The last entry is an empty entry consisting of 4 zero-bytes.

Entry type	Value type	Identifier	Description
0x02	0x00		Unknown
0x0e	0x1e		Unknown A GUID formatted as a string {000000-0000-0000-0000-00000000} with NUL character (5 trailing empty bytes)

Entry type	Value type	Identifier	Description
0x10	0x1f		Page title with NUL characters (4 trailing empty bytes)
0x11	0x01		Filenames Special characters are URL encoded (4 trailing empty bytes)
0x14	0x03		Unknown (4 trailing empty bytes)
0x15	0x1e		HTTP URI of favicon with NUL character (4 trailing empty bytes)
0x16	0x1f		File URI with NUL characters Special characters are URL encoded (4 trailing empty bytes)
0x17	0x13		Unknown (4 trailing empty bytes)
0x18	0x40		Unknown Contains a filetime (4 trailing empty bytes)
0x1c	0x03		Unknown (4 trailing empty bytes)
0x1e	0x40		Unknown Contains a filetime (4 trailing empty bytes)
0x20	0x03		Unknown (4 trailing empty bytes)

The value types are similar to the values used by the OLE variant types (VT) and MAPI data (property) types (PT):

Value type	Identifier	Description
0x00	VT_EMPTY	Empty
0x01		Multi value UTF-16 string?
0x03	VT_I4	Integer 32-bit signed

Value type	Identifier	Description
0x1e	VT_LPSTR	Extended ASCII string NUL terminated
0x1f	VT_LPWSTR	Unicode string (UTF-16 little-endian) NUL terminated

What about the first entry it has an empty value type but contains values.
Perhaps it's some kind of header? It is present in every validation data.
first 32-bit value contains:

```
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 (0 or 1 entries)
00 00 00 10 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 (0 or 1 entries)
00 00 00 10 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 (multiple entries)
00 00 00 10 00 00 00 00 03 00 00 00 00 (multiple entries)
```

4.4.3. InPrivate Filtering URL record data

data does not change between items

```
libmsiecf_url_read: data:
00000000: f1 ff 00 00 01 00 00 00 04 00 00 00 81 41 33 21 .....A3!
00000010: 00 00 00 00
```

4.4.4. Compatibility URL record data

data does not change between items

```
libmsiecf_url_read: data:
00000000: 58 49 71 17 00 00 08 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 X!q.....
```

4.4.5. TLD URL record data

data does not change between items

```
libmsiecf_url_read: data:
00000000: 01 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
```

4.4.6. Download URL record data

```
iedownload:{7EAE5A0A-00F9-11E2-8E4F-705AB642E02F}
```

GUID related to GUID in URL location?

FILETIME (same as primary time? Sep 17, 2012 18:57:26.719662000)

downloaded file size

```
00000000: 85 00 00 00 0b 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00000010: e9 fd 00 00 45 88 5d 33 f9 00 e2 11 8e 4f 70 5a ....E.]3 .....OpZ
00000020: b6 42 e0 2f cc 7e 99 47 06 95 cd 01 00 00 00 00 .B./~.G .....
00000030: 91 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 .....
00000040: 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 28 cc 04 01 00 00 00 00 ..... (.....
00000050: 59 b5 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 Y.....
00000060: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00000070: 06 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 19 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00000080: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 .....
```

```

00000090: 02 00 00 50 17 40 0f 1a 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ...P.@.. ....
000000a0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
000000b0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
000000c0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
000000d0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
000000e0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
000000f0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00000100: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00000110: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00000120: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00000130: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....

00000130:                                4d 00 69 00 63 00 72 00                M.i.c.r.
00000140: 6f 00 73 00 6f 00 66 00 74 00 20 00 43 00 6f 00    o.s.o.f. t. .C.o.
00000150: 72 00 70 00 6f 00 72 00 61 00 74 00 69 00 6f 00    r.p.o.r. a.t.i.o.
00000160: 6e 00 00 00                                         n...

00000160:                                68 00 74 00 74 00 70 00 3a 00 2f 00                h.t. t.p.../.
00000170: 2f 00 77 00 77 00 77 00 2e 00 6d 00 69 00 63 00    /.w.w.w. .m.i.c.
00000180: 72 00 6f 00 73 00 6f 00 66 00 74 00 2e 00 63 00    r.o.s.o. f.t...c.
...
000001c0: 77 00 6e 00 6c 00 6f 00 61 00 64 00 2e 00 61 00    w.n.l.o. a.d...a.
000001d0: 73 00 70 00 78 00 00 00                                s.p.x...

000001d0:                                68 00 74 00 74 00 70 00                h.t.t.p.
000001e0: 3a 00 2f 00 2f 00 64 00 6f 00 77 00 6e 00 6c 00    :././d. o.w.n.l.
...
000002c0: 2e 00 6d 00 73 00 75 00 00 00                                ..m.s.u. ..

000002c0:                                43 00 3a 00 5c 00                                C...\.
..
00000340: 68 00 50 00 6b 00 67 00 2e 00 6d 00 73 00 75 00    h.P.k.g. .m.s.u.
00000350: 00 00                                         ..

```

4.5. Use of the filetype values

The filetype values in the URL record have different meanings for different types of MSIECF files.

Type of MSIECF file	Primary time value	Secondary time value
Temporary Internet Files (Cache)	Client last accessed date and time in UTC	Server modification date and time in UTC
History (global)	Last visited date and time in UTC	Last visited date and time in UTC
History (weekly)	History creation date and time in UTC Contains the creation date and time of the MSIECF index.dat file	Last visited date and time in local timezone
History (daily)	Last visited date and time in UTC	Last visited date and time in local timezone
Cookies	Cookie last accessed date and time in UTC	Cookie modification date and time in UTC
InPrivate Filtering	UTC	empty
Compatibility Cache	UTC	empty
TLD Cache	UTC	empty

Type of MSIECF file	Primary time value	Secondary time value
Feeds Cache	UTC	empty
User data	UTC	Empty
DOM Store	UTC	Empty
Download history	Downloaded file creation time in UTC (download start time)	Empty

Note on Windows 7 the MA.B times of the downloaded file are the same as the downloaded file creation time.

5. Redirected record

The redirected record represents a redirected entry. [JONES03] refers to this record as the REDR activity record.

The redirected record is variable of size and consist of:

offset	size	value	description
0	4	“REDR”	The signature
4	4		The number of blocks in redirected record The block size is 128 bytes
8	4		Unknown Seems to be an offset into a HASH record (However it does not seem to be the corresponding URL record, perhaps run-time remnant data)
12	4		Unknown Record hash of the corresponding URL record? perhaps run-time remnant data
16	...		The location ASCII string with a NUL-character

6. Leak record

The leak record represents a cached entry. [JONES03] refers to this record as the LEAK activity record.

The leak record mainly contains uninitialized values. [BUNTING] describes 'LEAK' being a term used by Microsoft to indicate an error.

The leak record is variable of size and consist of:

offset	size	value	description
0	4	“LEAK”	The signature
4	4		The number of blocks in URL record

offset	size	value	description
			The block size is 128 bytes
8	24		Unknown Uninitialized
32	4		Cached file size in bytes
36	8		Unknown Uninitialized
44	4		Unknown File offset of some kind?
48	8		Unknown Uninitialized
56	1		Cache directory index A value of 0 represents the first cache directory
57	3		Unknown Uninitialized
60	4		The filename offset The value is relative to the start of the URL record or 0 if not set
64	24		Unknown Uninitialized
88	4		Unknown Empty values
92	4		Unknown Last cache synchronization date and time FAT date time Contains 0 if not set See section: 7 FAT date time
<i>LEAK record data variable of size</i>			
96	8		Unknown Uninitialized
(filename offset) 104	...		The filename in cache directory ASCII string with a NUL-character (8 byte aligned)
...	...		Unknown Uninitialized

7. FAT date time

The FAT date time consists of 4 bytes:

offset	size	value	description
0	2		date

offset	size	value	description
2	2		time

In little-endian the 16-bit date value corresponds to:

offset	size	value	description
Bit 0 (LSB)	5 bits		Day of the month
Bit 5	4 bits		Month 0x01 => January
Bit 9	7 bits		Year 0x00 => 1980

In little-endian the 16-bit time value corresponds to:

offset	size	value	description
Bit 0 (LSB)	5 bits		Seconds in 2 second intervals
Bit 5	6 bits		Minutes
Bit 11	5 bits		Hours

8. Notes

```
INTERNET_CACHE_ENTRY_INFO Structure defines 4 time stamps
FILETIME LastModifiedTime;
FILETIME ExpireTime;
FILETIME LastAccessTime;
FILETIME LastSyncTime;
```

```
typedef struct _INTERNET_CACHE_TIMESTAMPS {
    FILETIME ftExpires;
    FILETIME ftLastModified;
}INTERNET_CACHE_TIMESTAMPS, *LPINTERNET_CACHE_TIMESTAMPS;
```

8.1. Cache entry control flags

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000004	CACHE_ENTRY_ATTRIBUTE_FC	Sets the cache entry type.
0x00000010	CACHE_ENTRY_HITRATE_FC	Sets the hit rate.
0x00000040	CACHE_ENTRY_MODTIME_FC	Sets the last modified time.
0x00000080	CACHE_ENTRY_EXPTIME_FC	Sets the expire time.

Value	Identifier	Description
	FC	
0x00000100	CACHE_ENTRY_ACCTIME_FC	Sets the last access time.
0x00000200	CACHE_ENTRY_SYNCTIME_FC	Sets the last sync time.
0x00000400	CACHE_ENTRY_HEADERINFO_FC	Not currently implemented.
0x00000800	CACHE_ENTRY_EXEMPT_DELTA_FC	Sets the exempt delta.

8.2. Cookie state flags

The InternetCookieState enumeration defines the state of the cookie.

Syntax

```
typedef enum {
    COOKIE_STATE_UNKNOWN    = 0x0,
    COOKIE_STATE_ACCEPT     = 0x1,
    COOKIE_STATE_PROMPT     = 0x2,
    COOKIE_STATE_LEASH      = 0x3,
    COOKIE_STATE_DOWNGRADE  = 0x4,
    COOKIE_STATE_REJECT     = 0x5,
    COOKIE_STATE_MAX        = COOKIE_STATE_REJECT
} InternetCookieState;
```

Constants

COOKIE_STATE_UNKNOWN

Reserved.

COOKIE_STATE_ACCEPT

The cookies are accepted.

COOKIE_STATE_PROMPT

The user is prompted to accept or deny the cookie.

COOKIE_STATE_LEASH

Cookies are accepted only in the first-party context.

COOKIE_STATE_DOWNGRADE

Cookies are accepted and become session cookies.

COOKIE_STATE_REJECT

The cookies are rejected.

COOKIE_STATE_MAX

Same as COOKIE_STATE_REJECT.

8.3. Cache entry flags

res://

- location
- filename
- flags: 0x00000001

http://

- location
- filename
- data (string)
- flags: 0x00000001
- flags: 0x00000005 (Has unknown value at offset 40)
- flags: 0x00000041
- flags: 0x00000045 (Has unknown value at offset 40)
- flags: 0x00001001
- flags: 0x00001041

Cookie:

- location
- filename
- flags: 0x00100001

Visited:

- location
- data (binary)
- flags: 0x00200000
- flags: 0x00200001

PrivacIE:

- location
- data (binary)
- flags: 0x00020004 (Has unknown value at offset 40)

iecompat:

- location
- data (binary)
- flags: 0x00000009

ietld:

- location
- data (binary)
- flags: 0x00000009

feedplat:

- location
- filename
- data (string)
- flags: 0x00000001

userdata:

- location
- filename
- flags: 0x00000001

iedownload:

- location
- filename
- data (binary)
- flags: 0x00000009

Appendix A. References

[JONES03]

Title: Forensic Analysis of Internet Explorer Activity Files
Author(s): Keith J. Jones
URL: <http://sourceforge.net/projects/odessa/>

Title: Microsoft Windows Browser Cache system info
URL: http://www.conknnet.com/~w_kranz/mswinbrz.txt

Title: Reverse Engineering Index.dat
URL: <http://www.latenighthacking.com/projects/2003/reIndexDat/>

[BUNTING]

Title: Understanding index.dat Files
Author(s): Captain Stephen M. Bunting
URL:
http://web.archive.org/web/20090605202325/http://128.175.24.251/forensics/index_dat1.htm
http://web.archive.org/web/20090605200839/http://128.175.24.251/forensics/index_dat2.htm

[MSDN]

Title: Microsoft Developer Network
URL: <http://msdn.microsoft.com/>

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