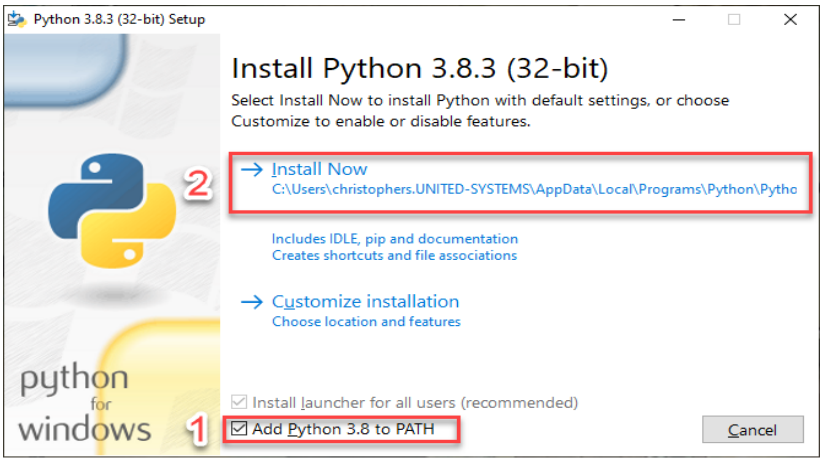
How to install and use the USS .dat File Tool

The following guide demonstrates how to install and use the USS .dat File Tool for help with testing and analyzing download files.

Step 1. Installation

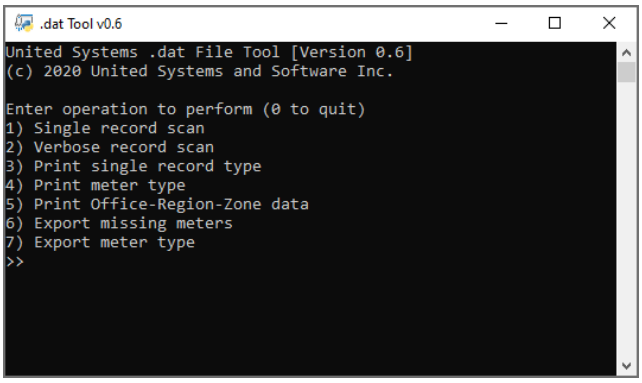
To use the tool, simply download the Python programming language from www.python.org/downloads to install it.

It is important to ensure that "Add Python 3.X to PATH" is checked during installation. This allows the program to run at the command line without issues.



Step 2. Running the Program

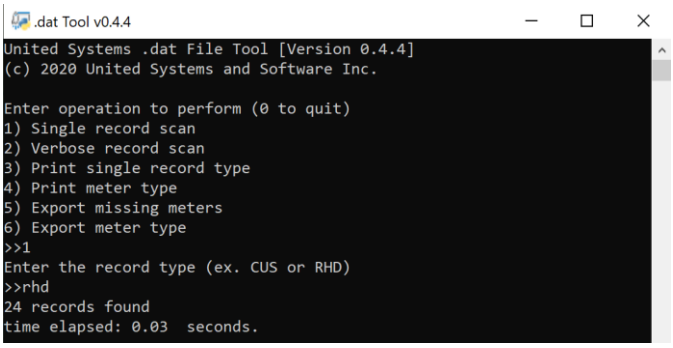
After installation, we can ensure that the program is working properly by simply double-clicking on the tool. It should open a command prompt window like the picture shown below.



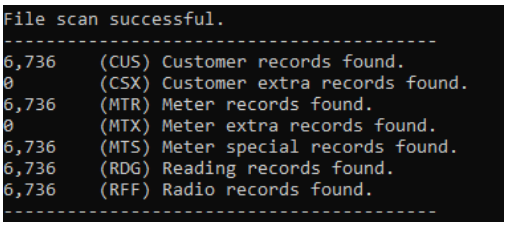
Step 3. How to use the tool's features

Before using the program, ensure that the download file you would like to scan is in the same directory as the tool. The tool looks for any file named 'download.dat' and uses that by default. Below is a quick description of each operation the tool can perform.

1. **Single record scan**: Searches for the number of instances of a single type of record within a download file. An example would be searching for the number of RHD records, shown below.



2. **Verbose record scan**: Searches the entire download file and print the number of the most common types of records.



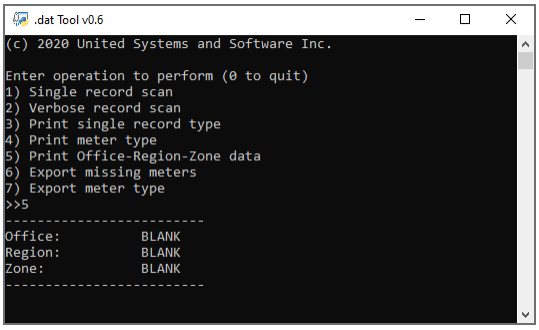
3. **Print single record type**: Prints every instance of a specified record to the console.

```
21) RHD07001801NN00000256000000000000000002560256000000000000000000000000000      00000
000

22) RHD07001900NN00000001000000000000000000010001000000000000000000000000000      00000
000

23) RHD07001901NN00000387000000000000000003870387000000000000000000000000000      00000
000

24) RHD07002001NN00000385000000000000000003850385000000000000000000000000000      00000
000

24 records printed.
time elapsed: 0.04  seconds.
```

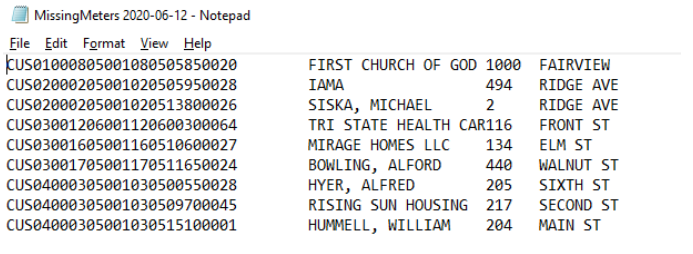
4. **Print meter type**: Prints the customer record for every customer who has a specified meter type in the RDG record.

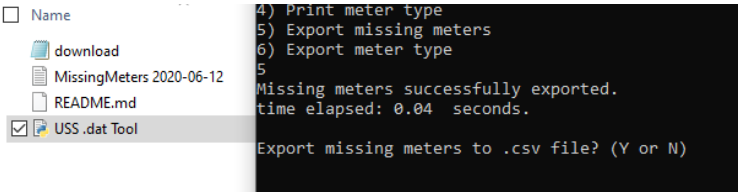
```
Enter the meter code to print (ex. 00 or 01)
>>02
CUS0100010500101050010000 7        GLENN, COURTNEY     21259 ALPINE DR

CUS0100010500101050015002 0        FITCH, MRS ROBERT   12    E US RT 50

CUS0400030500103050385000 2        GAMING ENTERTAINMENT777   RISING STAR DR

3 records printed.
time elapsed: 0.06  seconds.
```

5. **Print Office-Region-Zone data:** Finds the first instance of Office-Region-Zone fields in the file and prints them to the console.



6. **Export missing meters**: Searches the download file, finds every instance of a missing meter type, then exports the associated customer record to a text file in the same directory. An example text file is shown below.

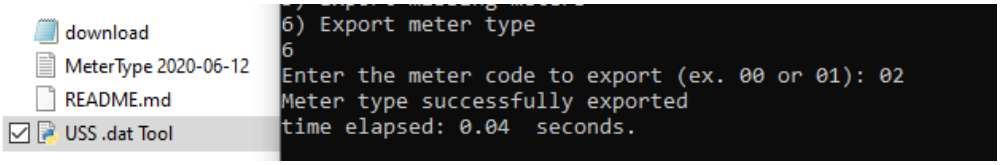




Once the text file has been exported, the user is given the option to export the same list of customers as a .csv file for easy sorting. An example of such a file is shown below.

	A	B
1	CUS0100080500108050585002O	FIRST CHURCH OF GOD 1000
2	CUS0200020500102050595002S	IAMA
3	CUS0200020500102051380002S	SISKA
4	CUS0300120600112060030006A	TRI STATE HEALTH CAR116
5	CUS0300160500116051060002T	MIRAGE HOMES LLC
6	CUS0300170500117051165002A	BOWLING

7. **Export meter type**: Searches the download file and exports the customer record of every customer who has a specified meter type in the RDG record to a text file.



For example, we want to find every customer with a meter number ‘02’, so we export that meter type, and this is the text file we get: