File Hound

A Law Enforcement First Response Tool

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Objectives

- Background
- Program Goals
- Program Design & Features
- Results
- Future Roadmap

Background

• Most "First Responder" software relates to Incident Response.

- First Responder Software
 - Designed for Law Enforcement First Responders
 - Fulfills a small set of functions

- Encase and FTK
 - Case Management



Background (cont.)

- NIJ Study (March 2001)
 - Electronic Crime Needs Assessment for State and Local Law Enforcement

 Most law enforcement agencies do not have the resources (people & money)

• Software was needed for the summer NW3C Conference @ Purdue

What is File Hound?

- "Field Analysis Software"
 - Custom software developed at Purdue
 - Designed for Law Enforcement First Responders
 - VB.NET (due to time and client requirements)

- Free and supported for law enforcement
 - 18+ agencies use it
 - 14+ CP cases & 1 tax fraud

FH Goals

- Create an affordable (i.e. free) package that...
 - Search hard drive for images
 - Identify images relevant to investigation
 - Generate a report of the results
 - Minimal training for user
 - Work with hardware write blockers

FH Design

- Modular Program Structure
 - Search
 - Identification
 - Reporting

Search

Identify

Report

Search

• Recursive directory search

- Search for images based on header information
 - Examples: PNG, GIF, JPG, TIF, WMF, BMP

- Search filenames for a pattern
 - Examples: *.xls (Excel Documents)
 - *.doc (Word Documents)

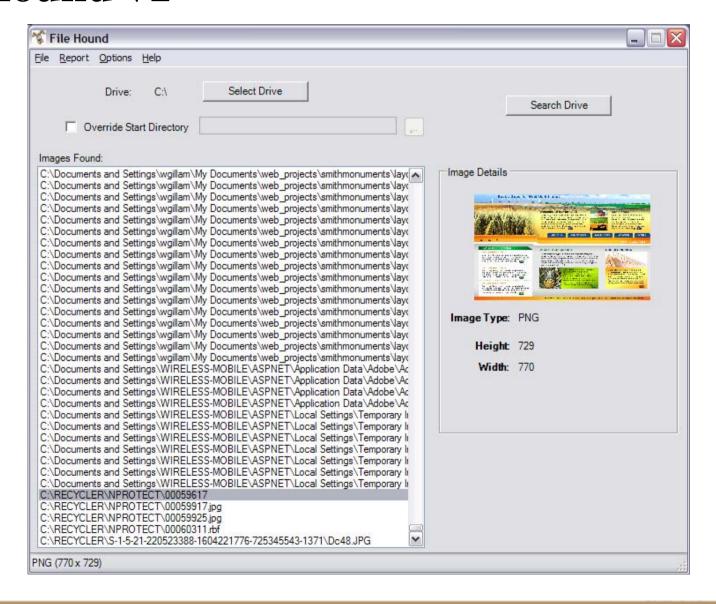
Identify & Report

- View image thumbnails
- Select images for further investigation

- Report should include:
 - Logical path
 - Thumbnail image*
 - Modified, Accessed, & Created times*
 - MD-5/SHA-X hash*



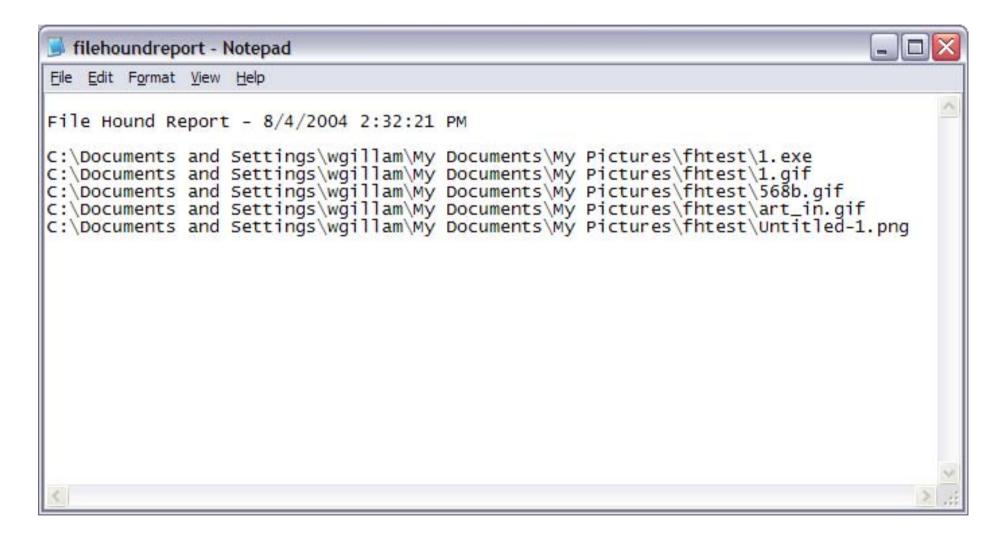
File Hound v1







File Hound v1 - Report

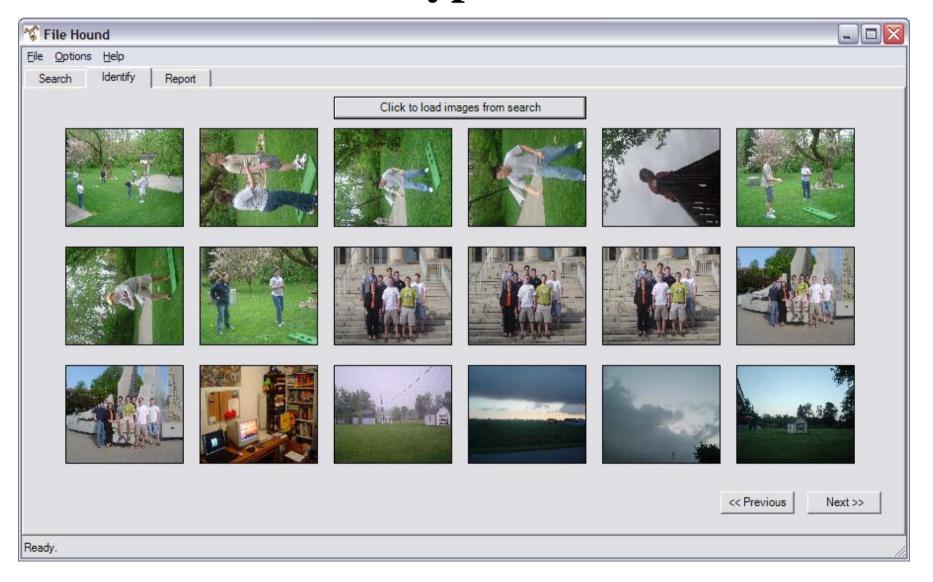


FH v1 Results

- Released at the NW3C Training Conference at Purdue (August 2004)
- Heard from the people requesting the program
- 13 feature requests
 - Cancel if you have seen enough
 - View 8+ thumbnails at once
 - Report
 - MAC Times
 - MD-5/SHA-X hash
 - Print thumbnail on report

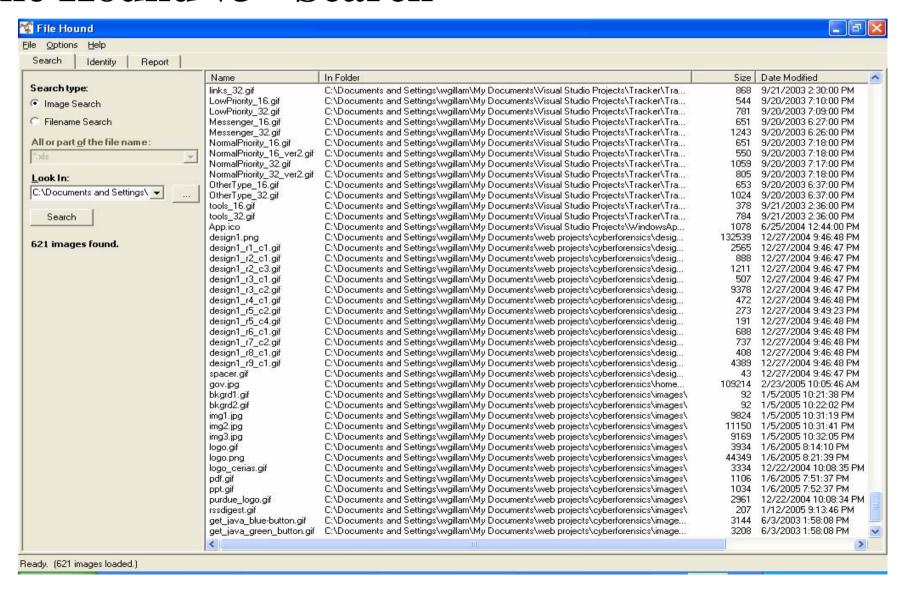


File Hound v2 - Prototype



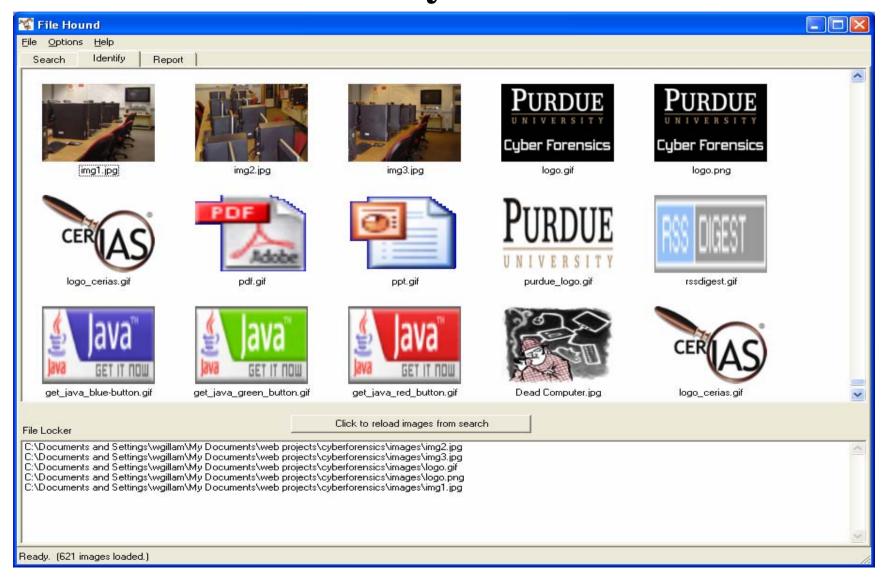


File Hound v3 - Search



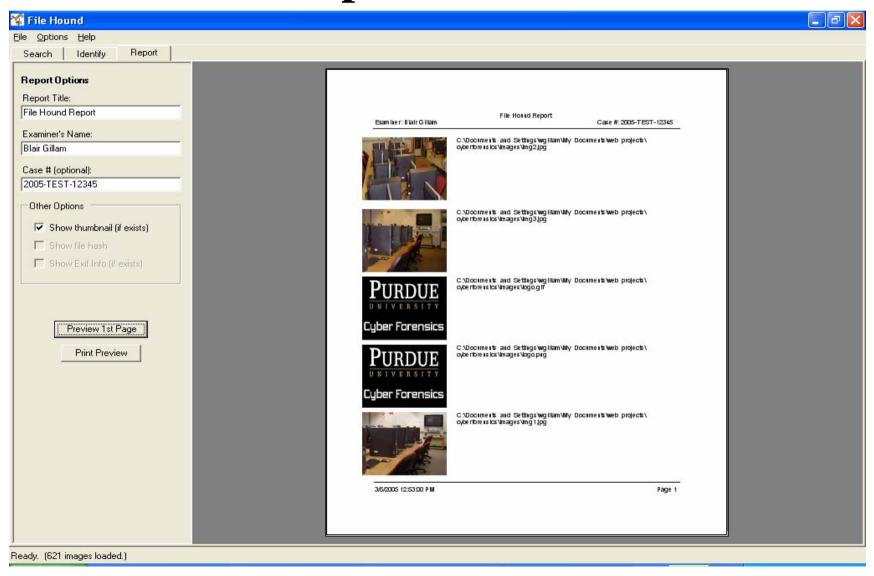


File Hound v3 - Identify





File Hound v3 - Report







First Responder Equipment

- Suspect's Hard Drive
- Hardware Write Blocker
- Examiner's Laptop
- File Hound Software







File Hound Roadmap

- Platform independent
- Timeline Viewer
- Hash comparisons
- Skin Color Analysis Algorithm
 - Michael Hoeschele



Future Research

- Skin Color Analysis Algorithm (SCAA)
 - Detect flesh tones
 - Sort based on temporal data
 - Issues
 - Ethnic Diversity
 - Limiting scope?

Questions?

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