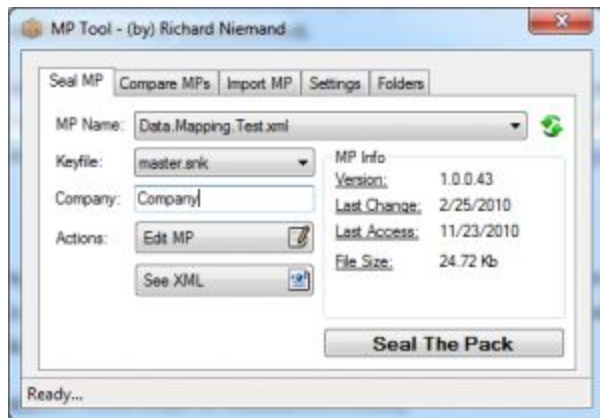# MP Sealer Tool v1.0.0

I am happy to release my first of hopefully many custom tools for SCOM (OpsMGR). Here is my attempt at a simple and quick way to manage my Management Packs in SCOM and to quickly import, compare and seal them. This is the first version of the tool that I am happy to run with, and there are sure to be a ton of revisions and bug fixes as I start using this 100% in our environment.

I have made use of AMS.Profile (http://www.codeproject.com/KB/cs/readwritexmlini.aspx) to manage all my user settings and information, so I better give credit there for some code I did not write.

Installation

Installation is pretty simple. Extract all the files in the MPSealer.zip file to any folder and voila. To run it just open MP Sealer.exe. Before you can seal your first Management Pack you will need to complete a few more steps in this post (I will be automating this in the next version). You will need to create a folder to store the executables that I reference for the sealing and comparison of the Management Packs. These files can be found on your SCOM R2 installation media and from the R2 Authoring Resource Kit.

- Support Tools folder of installation media
    - MPSeal.exe
    - Authoring Resource Kit
        - Microsoft.Mom.MpDiff.Core.dll
        - MOMv3Diff.xslt
        - MpDiff.exe

The last 3 executables come from the R2 Authoring Resource Kit (http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/en/details.aspx?FamilyID=9104af8b-ff87-45a1-81cd-b73e6f6b5

[1f0](#)) and are required if you want to use the MP Diff functionality. I will try to find out if I can distribute these files with my next revision of the tool.

Once completed your executable directory should look something like this.
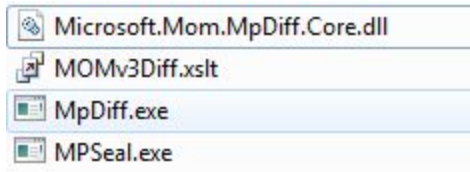
Configuration
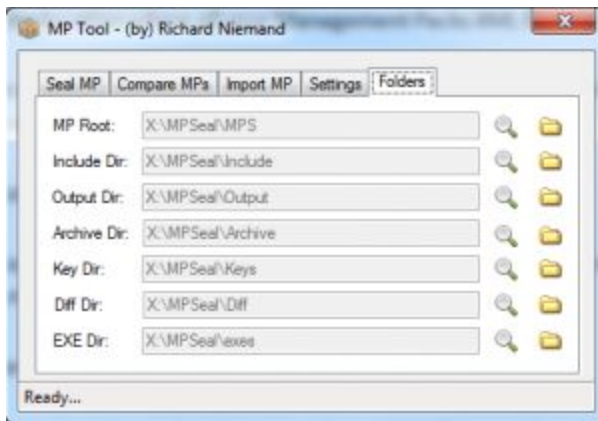
The configuration is pretty simple for this app. Most of the configuration is done under the Folder Tab. Here you will need to pint out the locations for the following directories.

- MP Root
    - The location where all your unsealed Management Packs are stored
- Include Dir
    - Include directory to use when sealing your Management Packs
- Output Dir
    - Location to save sealed Management Packs
- Archive Dir
    - Location for archiving sealed Management Packs (at the moment this is required and recommended, I will be making this optional in my next revision of the tool).
- Key Dir
    - Location to find your Key files
- Diff Dir
    - Directory to use for storing the output from MP Diff (I would recommend using a separate folder). The tool will delete all files in this folder that are older than 1 day.

- EXE Dir
    - This is the folder that stores the MP Seal and MP Diff executables mentioned under the Installation section of this post.

Settings Tab

The last tab that might be worth explaining is the Settings Tab, here the following functionality is managed.

- Ability to Create and Delete profiles
- Ability to Create and Delete Management Group Connections
- Ability to Import and Export your current settings

All passwords are not stored as clear text in the config file. I default the location of the config file to "AppData\Roaming".

Archiving Of Management Packs

The Archive Dir is used to store old version of the Management Packs that you seal, giving you the ability to audit changes and restore old versions of sealed packs. I use the following logic to manage the archiving of old Management Packs (changes\suggestions are welcome). I use the version of the Management Pack as the file extension, allowing me to quickly find version 1.0.0.2 of xyz.xml. In addition to the naming convention, I store each pack in a subfolder with xyz as the name, so all ManagemetPackA files can be found in the ManagementPackA folder, and ManagementPackB files can be found in the ManagementPackB folder. After a while your archive directory should start looking something like this.
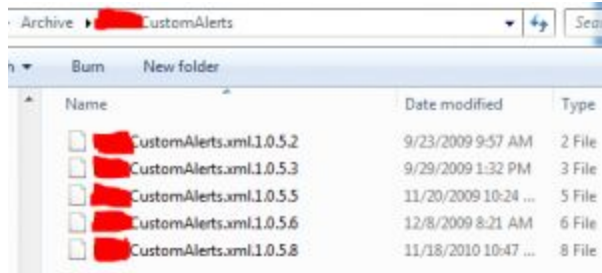
And when comparing the difference between versions should look something like this.
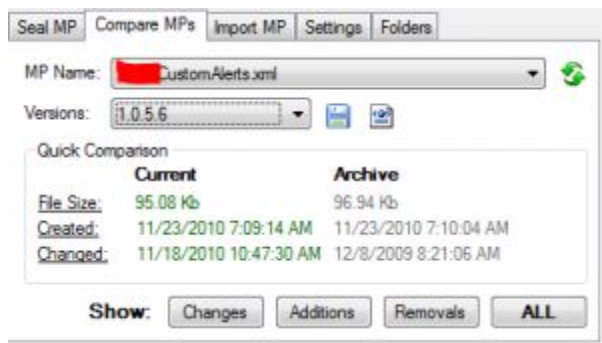
Well that concludes the quick overview for my MP Sealer Tool v1.0.0, if you would like to play around with it feel free to grab it from here (https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BwmLFltkLtlRSEdIMTBtYjcwYnc/edit?usp=sharing).

Feel free to send any comments / suggestion / changes / bugs to me :).