**User Guide for the AutoScrapper Program**

**Introduction**

The AutoScrapper program is a robust software solution, designed to automate the processing and uploading of files in specified directories to a Box.com storage account. This application scans through directories, performs operations on the files therein (such as keyword categorization and table of contents creation), and then compresses and uploads these files to Box.com for easy access and safekeeping. This guide is intended to aid users in understanding how to operate and maximize the functionality of the AutoScrapper program.

**Pre-requisites**

Before you can use the AutoScrapper program, please ensure:

1. You have installed .NET Core runtime.
2. You have a Box.com account with necessary access credentials.
3. You have the console application executable files for operations you wish to perform on your files.

**Configuring the AutoScrapper Program**

The AutoScrapper program uses the App.config file for its configuration. It expects the following keys in the configuration file:

1. **ConsoleAppPaths**: The paths to console applications that should be run on the files.
2. **CombinedTextFilesToWordPath**: The path to the directory containing text files to be combined into a Word document.
3. **TableOfContentsPath**: The path to the directory where the program will create a Table of Contents.
4. **KeywordsCategorisedWordPDFPath**: The path to the directory for keywords categorization.

Here's an example of how the configuration should look in your App.config file:

<appSettings> <add key="ConsoleAppPaths" value="C:\Path\To\ConsoleApp1.exe;C:\Path\To\ConsoleApp2.exe"/> <add key="CombinedTextFilesToWordPath" value="C:\Path\To\Directory1"/> <add key="TableOfContentsPath" value="C:\Path\To\Directory2"/> <add key="KeywordsCategorisedWordPDFPath" value="C:\Path\To\Directory3"/> </appSettings>

**Using the AutoScrapper Program**

1. **Starting the program**: Run the AutoScrapper executable.
2. **Running the program**: Once all paths and credentials are set, you can run the AutoScrapper program. It will automatically perform the following steps:
   * Read the provided paths from the App.config file.
   * Run the specified console applications on the files in the given directories. This might include operations like categorizing words by keywords or creating a table of contents, depending on the console applications you've provided.
   * Create a .zip archive of each directory.
   * Upload these .zip files to your Box.com account.

**Notes**

* The program requires console applications to perform operations on the files. The input these console applications expect should be known and provided in the methods **RunConsoleAppKeywordsCategorisedWordPDF** and **RunConsoleAppDharmawheelTableOfContentsCreator**.
* The program currently supports uploading to Box.com. If you wish to use another cloud storage service, you will need to modify the upload code accordingly.
* The program will either create a new file or update an existing file on Box.com depending on the file's presence.

**Scheduled Execution with Batch Scripts**

AutoScrapper is equipped with batch scripts to schedule and automate its execution. Two main batch scripts are included in your installation:

1. **MakeStartupAp.bat**: This script creates a startup script that runs CreateScheduledTask.bat every time your computer starts. **This is the most important one, just run this once and the rest will take care of itself to automate the weekly running to AutoScraper.**
2. **CreateScheduledTask.bat**: This script creates a task in Windows Task Scheduler that will automatically run AutoScrapper at a scheduled time.
3. **RunAutoScrapper.bat**: This script is used to execute the AutoScrapper program directly.

**MakeStartupApp.bat**

**MakeStartupApp.bat** is a batch script that creates a shortcut of the **CreateScheduledTask.bat** script and places it in the Startup folder of the Windows operating system. This enables the **CreateScheduledTask.bat** script to be automatically run each time the Windows system starts. Run this once to make sure that the scheduled task to run AutoScraper weekly will not be lost (I have created this script after the scheduled task mysteriously disappeared from my task scheduler).

Here is a breakdown of its operations:

* The **@echo off** command turns off the command echo in the script, keeping the command line output clean.
* **set SCRIPT=C:\Users\cyber\source\repos\AutoScrapper\CreateScheduledTask.bat** sets the location of the **CreateScheduledTask.bat** script as an environment variable.
* **set STARTUP=%APPDATA%\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup** sets the location of the Windows Startup folder as an environment variable.
* The **echo** commands create a new script **CreateShortcut.vbs** which is a Visual Basic Script. This script uses the Windows Script Host to create a shortcut.
* **cscript CreateShortcut.vbs** runs the **CreateShortcut.vbs** script that was just created, which then creates the shortcut to **CreateScheduledTask.bat** in the Startup folder.
* **del CreateShortcut.vbs** deletes the **CreateShortcut.vbs** script as it is no longer needed after the shortcut has been created.

This script is useful when there is a need to automate the running of a specific script (**CreateScheduledTask.bat** in this case) whenever the Windows operating system starts.

**CreateScheduledTask.bat**

The **CreateScheduledTask.bat** script uses the **schtasks** command to create a new task in the Windows Task Scheduler. When you run this script, it will create a task named "ScrapeAppTask" that will execute the **RunAutoScrapper.bat** script every Sunday at 09:00.

Additionally, if the scheduled start is missed (for example, if the computer was off at the scheduled start time), the task scheduler will automatically start the task as soon as possible.

To run the **CreateScheduledTask.bat** script:

1. Open a Command Prompt window.
2. Navigate to the directory containing the **CreateScheduledTask.bat** script using the **cd** command, for example:

cd C:\Users\cyber\source\repos\AutoScrapper

1. Run the **CreateScheduledTask.bat** script by typing its name and pressing Enter:

CreateScheduledTask.bat

Once you've run this script, the "ScrapeAppTask" will be created and scheduled to run at the specified time.

If you want to delete the scheduled task, you can do so using the following command in a Command Prompt window:

schtasks /delete /TN "ScrapeAppTask" /F

**RunAutoScrapper.bat**

The **RunAutoScrapper.bat** script is the script that gets executed by the scheduled task. It simply runs the **AutoScrapper.exe** executable file.

You can also run this script manually if you want to run AutoScrapper without waiting for the scheduled task. The steps to run it are the same as the steps to run **CreateScheduledTask.bat**, but you type **RunAutoScrapper.bat** in step 3 instead.

**Note:** These scripts run with the permissions of the user account they're scheduled under. If AutoScrapper or any of the console applications it runs require administrative privileges, you'll need to run the scripts as an administrator or schedule the task to run under an account with the necessary privileges.

**Conclusion**

The AutoScrapper program is a versatile tool that can automate the processing and uploading of files from specific directories to Box.com. By customizing the console applications used and the directories targeted, you can make this program perform exactly the operations you need. Remember to keep your Box.com credentials secure, and happy automating!