



Live File Backup

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Thank you

Thank you very much for using Live File Backup.

"I do not fear computers. I fear the lack of them!"

Isaac Asimov, US science fiction novelist

1 Introduction



Live File Backup

The constant safeguard of your most valuable data.

Clever. Easy. Reliable.

Version 2

www.livefilebackup.com

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1.1 Description

Live File Backup is the user-friendly real-time/live backup program for your home or office PC!

While you are working the software backups your important data continuously to external storage media (locally as well as over the network). If required, the backup software restores your lost or corrupted data including older versions as well.

Have you ever experienced minutes of horror when your text file did not contain anymore the thoughts you laboriously worked out during the last hours? Or your presentation went unexpectedly lost short before completion?

You might have deleted the data by mistake or amended the file accidentally (most common issue of data loss) or the program failed to store the file due to inexplicable reasons. There are also bugs or viruses which could maliciously destroy your data while working. In such situations neither daily nor weekly backups nor an expensive RAID-System are of help, as the saved files are either too old or are also missing on the redundant storage media. In addition there is also the omnipresent threat of data loss due to a read fault on the hard-disk or its complete crash, even though today's hard-disks are more reliable than in the past.

Daily, weekly and monthly backups provide often obsolete data only and the expensive RAID hard-disk systems protect only from technical failures of the hard-disk, what happens relatively seldom. Furthermore, in the most common cases the backups are not done regularly or too rarely. This might be due to time conflicts or technical difficulties - or due to simple laziness.

The only solution here is an additional real-time (continuous data protection CDP) or live backup which continuously saves the working files in the background and keeps several older versions of each file for restoration. Even more, **Live File Backup** does its tasks in an outstanding straightforward and user-friendly way so that you never again have to bother about your most valuable data - namely your working files.

1.2 Benefits

- **Simple and reliable protection** of your most valuable data running automatically and continuously in the background, e.g. for your work files such as letters, documents, tables, presentations, emails, financial charts, designs etc.
- **Intelligent algorithms** save also open files (e.g. of Word and Excel), what by similar real-time backup programs relying on the internal Windows® ChangeNotification does not always work properly.
- **No loss of valuable work time** since in case of necessity the backed up data of the day or the data between regular backups can be restored instantly. Often there is no need of a system administrator due to the easy-to-use file recovery solution.
- **Also of help in case of accidentally deleted files** or incautiously modified data/content.
- **Older versions of your files (generations)** can be restored too. Possibility to backup several versions (generations) of your files and to restore the requested versions when required.
- **Most simple installation** of the software on your Windows®-PC.
- **No special hardware** needed.
- **Flexibility in choosing storage media** for the saved data; as for example local and external drives, USB memory sticks, network drives (also universal naming convention paths UNC), network attached storage (NAS), as well as Internet or Intranet FTP server (fast internet connection provided)
- **Possibility to choose various data sources** to backup; e.g. internal and external drives, USB memory stick, network drives (also universal naming convention paths UNC) etc. Each of the data sources can be backed up to several backup destinations at the same time.
- **Possibility to define the number of** backup copies of the same file and the maximum number of days these copies should be stored.
- **Saving disk space** due to possible data compression in ZIP format which, in case of emergency, even enables data recovery with the Windows®-Explorer only.
- **Data security** due to possible data encryption which allows to store the backup files on public accessible drives.
- **Overview of all backup files** listed in chronological order in a log file.
- **Easy and fast data recovery**; even if the *Live File Backup* program is not available anymore the data can easily be restored with Windows®-Explorer.
- **Minimal system load** during backup process in the background.
- **Additional personal data backup** in case you do not want to rely on the nightly or weekly backup only established by your company.

- **Suitable for any user**; equally for novices and experts due to the intuitive user interface.
- **Extensive help system**, online/offline as well as printable manual.
- **Support** by email within 48 hours in the languages German and English.

1.3 Features

- **Run the backup program automatically when Windows® starts** and you do not have to think about it anymore. Your data will be backed up automatically in the background.
- **Backup by time schedule**, start/stop manually, activate permanently.
- **Flexibility in setting the data sources**; internal and external drives, USB memory sticks, network drives (also universal naming convention paths UNC).
- **Support of UNICODE characters** in file and directory names (e.g. Asian and special characters).
- **Subdirectories** can be included or excluded.
- **Data filter** in order to include or exclude certain file types.
- **Data compression** in order to save disk space on storage media.
- **Data encryption by password** to protect backup data (ZIP 2.0, AES-128, AES-256).
- **Flexibility in choosing backup location**; local or external drive, USB memory stick, network drives (also universal naming convention paths UNC), network attached storage (NAS), as well as Internet or Intranet FTP server (fast internet connection provided).
- **Backup locations can be synced to DropBox, OneDrive, GoogleDrive** if their synchronization program is installed locally.
- **Each of the data sources can be backed up to several backup destinations.**
- **Easy restoration** of saved data to the original or any other location.
- **The backup as ZIP file format as well as the clear directory structure** enable a data restoration without the original backup software, even with the Windows®-Explorer.
- **Possibility to filter the backup data** in order to select it by name and date.
- **Automatic "cleaning-up" feature** in order to vacate space on storage media by defining number of backup copies and number of days the backups should be stored.
- **Manual "cleaning-up"** of storage media by deleting files by size and age.
- **Backup interval** adjustable.
- **Number of backup generations** of same file can be defined (1-999).
- **Storage time** of backups can be defined (1 - 9999 days).
- **Maximum file size** of backups can be defined.
- **Detailed log** of backed up files.
- **Monitor** shows constantly current processing of Live File Backup.

- **Command Line Interface** to control Live File Backup in a batch script to set the backup state to active or inactive and to start the backup cycle immediately.
- **Update-Feature** for an easy updating of the program via Internet (only when requested and confirmed by user).
- **Straightforward help system** with the possibility to get detailed information about each function.
- **Extensive manual** and online help in German and English.

1.4 Case Studies

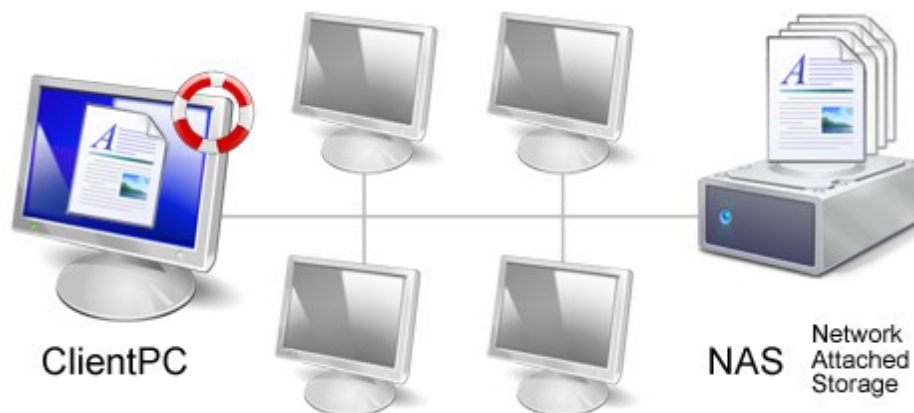
Single-user PC with external hard drive

Data backup with *Live File Backup* to an external hard drive plugged directly to the PC. This solution is installed very fast and provides a good and individual protection of the current work.



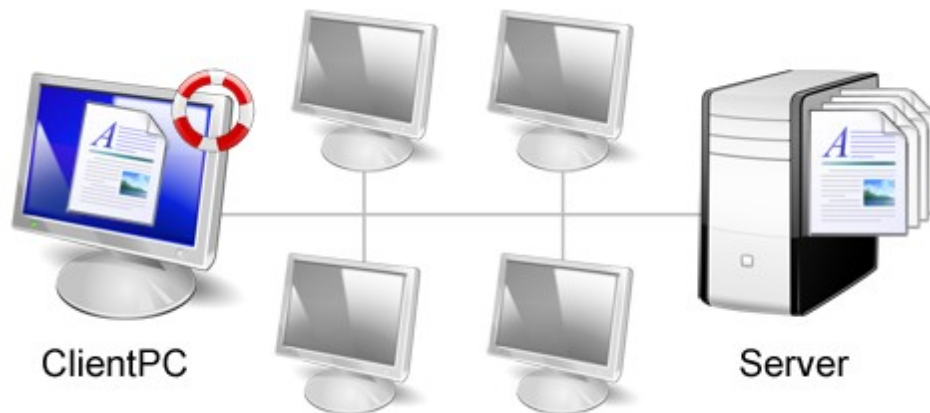
Client PC in a network with NAS (Network Attached Storage)

Data backup with *Live File Backup* to a network attached hard drive (Windows network or by FTP). NAS (Network Attached Storage) offers sufficient space for the live backup of several clients. Each client has his own backup directory on the NAS device.



Client PC in a network with file server

Data backup with *Live File backup* to a server in the network (Windows network or by FTP). For each client PC with *Live File Backup* installed an own backup directory will be set up on the (file) server.

**Laptop with USB memory stick**

Data backup with *Live File Backup* to an USB memory stick plugged into the laptop. This solution provides a good protection of your current work even on the road.



1.5 System Requirements

Operating System: Microsoft Windows® 7/8/10

Main memory RAM: about 20 MB

Program space on disk: about 4 MB

Backup space on storage media: of any choice (for files and file generations)
(please see point A.2 at '[Frequently Asked Questions](#)⁴⁷' FAQ)

Supported drives: internal and external hard disks, USB memory stick, network drives (also universal naming convention paths UNC), network attached storage (NAS), as well as Internet or Intranet FTP server (fast internet connection provided)

Components: Data compression uses parts of 7-Zip licensed under GNU LGPL. They are supplied automatically. Information available at www.7-zip.org .

2 Purchasing / Support

The program **Live File Backup** has been developed by Infonautics GmbH Switzerland and is distributed as shareware, i.e. after the testing phase a licence key per PC/user has to be purchased for a regular use of the software.

During the testing phase, as long as no valid licence key has been entered, following restrictions of the software apply:

- Backup-process is going to be interrupted after 60 minutes
- Backup copies will be stored for 2 days only
- Only 5 generations of backup copies will be stored

Licence types

- **Single:** The software can be installed as single licence on one PC. The licence refers to the name of the user. For any further PC an additional licence is requested.
- **Business:** The software can be installed on up to 10 PCs maximum within the same company. The licence refers to the name of the company.
- **Corporate:** Within the same company the program can be installed on any number of PCs. The licence refers to the name of the company.

For further information see: [Buy Licence](#)¹⁶⁾

2.1 Buy

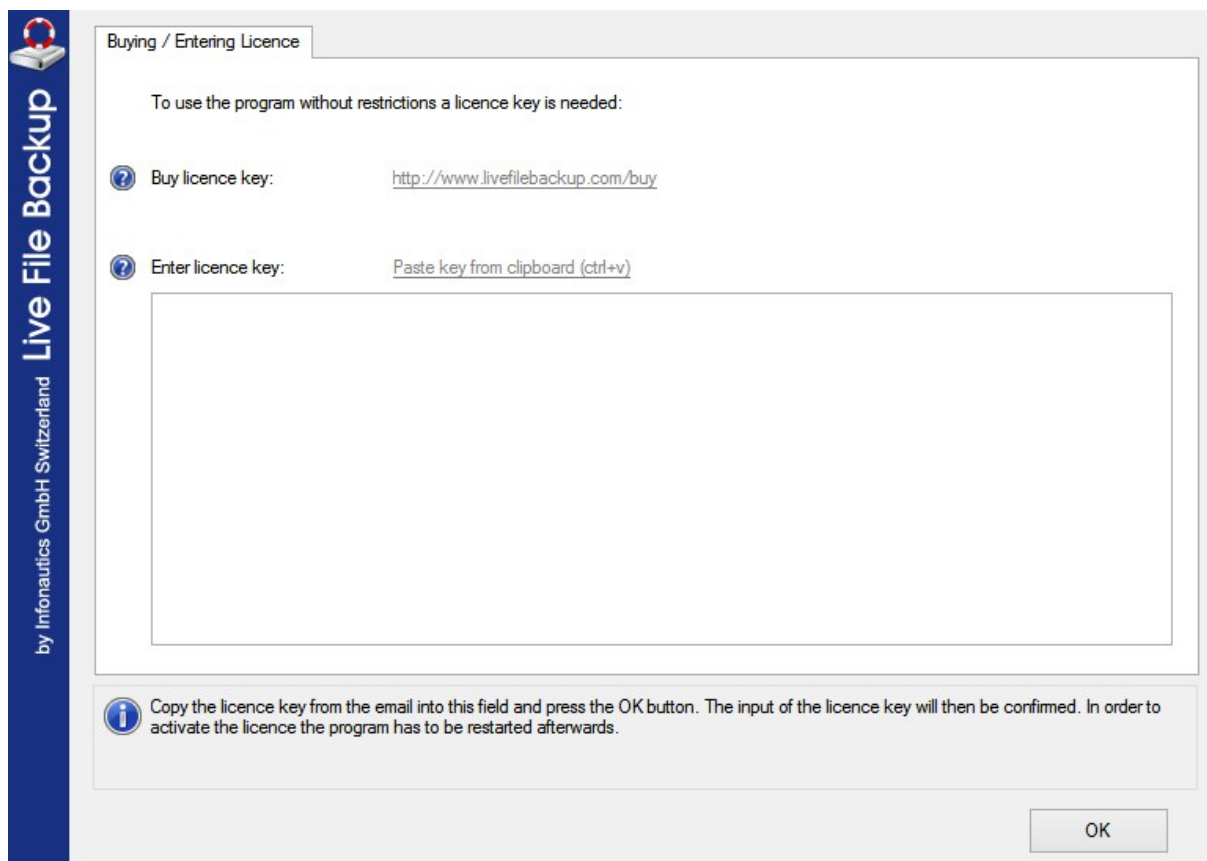
The software **Live File Backup** is shareware. It can be downloaded and tested free of charge at:

<http://www.livefilebackup.com>

For a regular use a **licence key** is needed which can be bought online and will be forwarded by email:

<http://www.livefilebackup.com/buy>

Copy the licence key which has been forwarded by email into the licence window available in the main menu 'Buy Licence'. Then restart the program.



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Buying / Entering Licence" with a vertical sidebar on the left containing the text "by Infonautics GmbH Switzerland" and "Live File Backup". The main area of the dialog box contains the following text:

To use the program without restrictions a licence key is needed:

Buy licence key: <http://www.livefilebackup.com/buy>

Enter licence key: [Paste key from clipboard \(ctrl+v\)](#)

Below the input fields is a large empty rectangular box for pasting the licence key.

At the bottom of the dialog box, there is an information icon and the following text:

Copy the licence key from the email into this field and press the OK button. The input of the licence key will then be confirmed. In order to activate the licence the program has to be restarted afterwards.

An "OK" button is located at the bottom right of the dialog box.

For further information see: [User manual](#)^[21] / [Installation](#)^[22]

2.2 Testimonials

"We had just installed a RAID system and I assumed that any data loss would not be possible anymore. But I didn't count on a fault of the controller! The RAID system control device didn't work properly. When we finally noticed the problem, a full week of work was lost. From now on we play it safe. In addition to our RAID system and the weekly backups we use the program **Live File Backup**. With this solution our data is also saved during the day between the regular backups."

Kurt Moser, Contourismo

"Every night our data is saved by an automatic system backup. But since daily several people work on one and the same document/project the regular nightly backup is not sufficient, as even a loss of a few hours would be a small catastrophe already. With **Live File Backup** software we have this problem solved. While we are working our work files are automatically backed up in the background without having to interrupt our work. Additionally, these files are stored in generations and therefore simply retrievable in pre-versions."

Katharina Müllener, Führungskoaching und Qualitätsmanagement

"**Live File Backup** software is perfect for my home PC. Within a few minutes the backup software was installed and whenever I start my PC my working files will automatically be backed up in the background. Since I do a system backup every 3 or 4 weeks only, my data is still regularly saved with **Live File Backup**. Never before data backup at home was so easy and so systematic."

Stefan Balaban

2.3 Support

Support for Live File Backup is available by email. Any questions will be answered within 48 hours in English or German:

support@livefilebackup.com

Any suggestions by you regarding new program features or criticism will be appreciated too.

Please check also the latest answers at "**Frequently Asked Questions**" (FAQ); there are many questions already clearly answered:

English: <http://www.livefilebackup.com/faq>

German: <http://www.livefilebackup.ch/faq>

2.4 Producer

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INFONAUTICS GmbH was founded in 1995 and is based in Steinhausen / Switzerland. The core competences of the company are in the following fields:

- Software development
- Internet solutions
- Online booking systems
- Quality management software

Based on 20 years of experience in software development on many different operating systems the company is able to realize innovative and reliable solutions for the business of small and mid caps. Infonautics GmbH offers user-friendly, reasoned and successful solutions which can easily be integrated into already existing business transactions.

Our guidance motive reads accordingly:

Software solutions - Clever. Easy. Reliable.

3 Operating Instructions



Live File Backup

Operating Instructions

Version 2

www.livefilebackup.com

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3.1 Installation

Live File Backup can be installed fast and easily.

Installation


First download the latest installation file in the requested language to your PC:

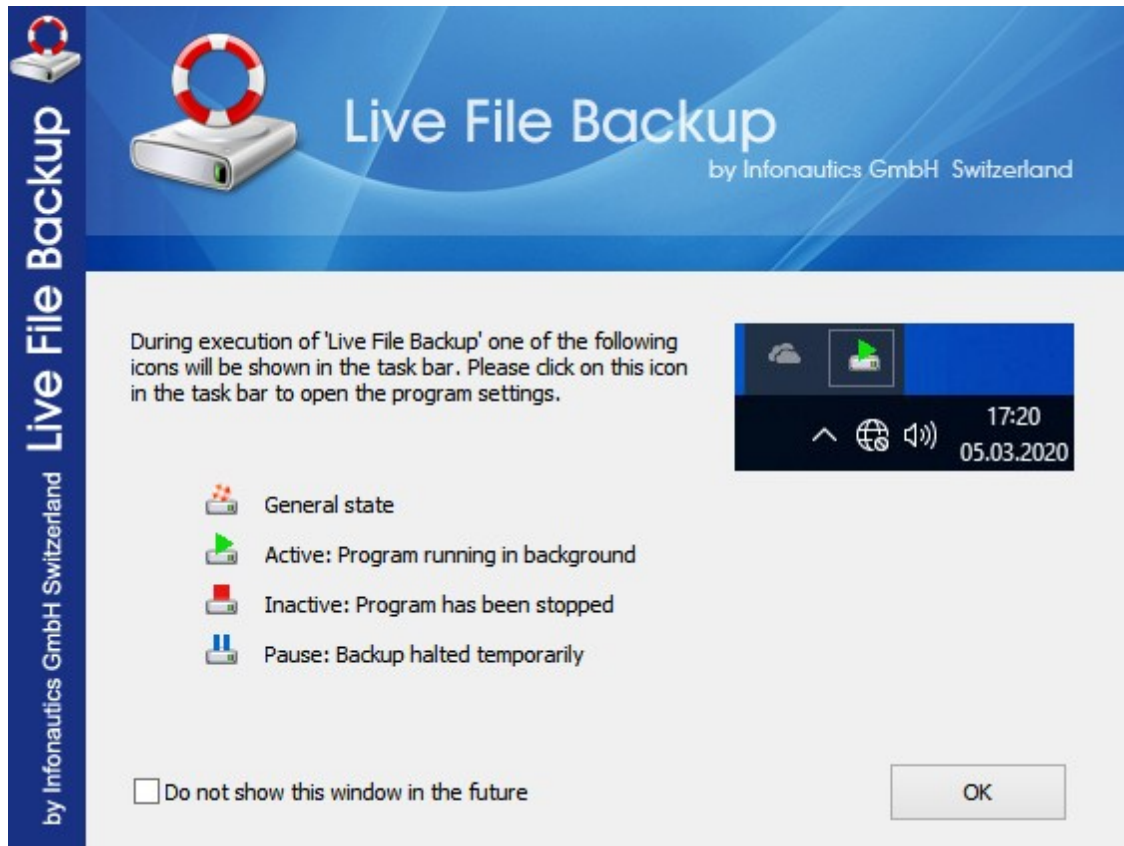
<http://www.livefilebackup.com>

Then start the installation program "LiveFileBackupSetupEN.exe" and confirm all questions and indications positively. Thereupon, a new program group "Live File Backup" will be shown in the start menu.

When you start the installed program **Live File Backup** for the first time please verify your personal '[Settings](#)'^[25] according to the operating instructions.




3.2 Start Program

After having started **Live File Backup** for the first time a general program icon  will be shown in the task bar (may be hidden behind the overflow arrow ^) as well as the following information window:



It informs about the meaning and the states of the program symbols.

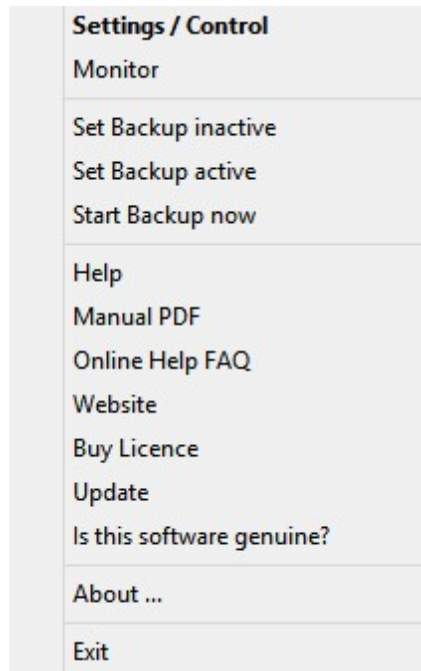
After having done the personal settings the program icon in the task bar can show following states:

-  **Active** - *Live File Backup* is running automatically in the background.
-  **Inactive** - *Live File Backup* was explicitly stopped.
-  **Pause** - *Live File Backup* has been stopped temporarily (e.g. while settings are manipulated).

The actual state can also be found in the Windows Registry at "HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Infonautics\LiveFileBackup".
Value "ActualStatusText": undefined, inactive , active, paused.
Value "ActualStatusValue": 0, 1, 2, 3

Main menu

By clicking on the program icon in the task bar the main menu of the program will be shown:

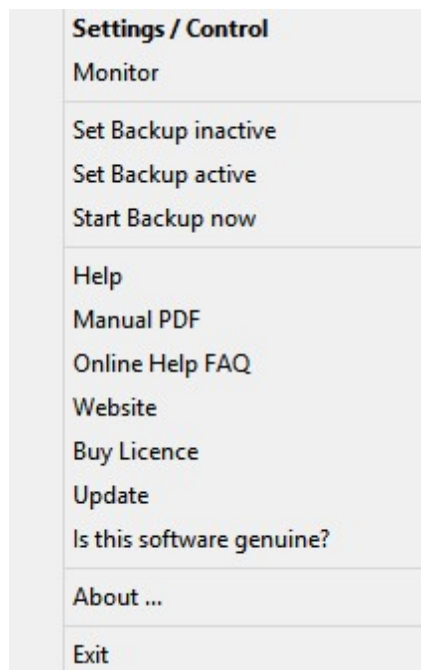



3.3 Settings / Control

The **Personal settings** and important features, as for example the data recovery, are to be defined in the **Live File Backup** program under 'Settings'.

In order to open the window 'Settings' please click on the program icon in the task bar which can show one of the following states:    .

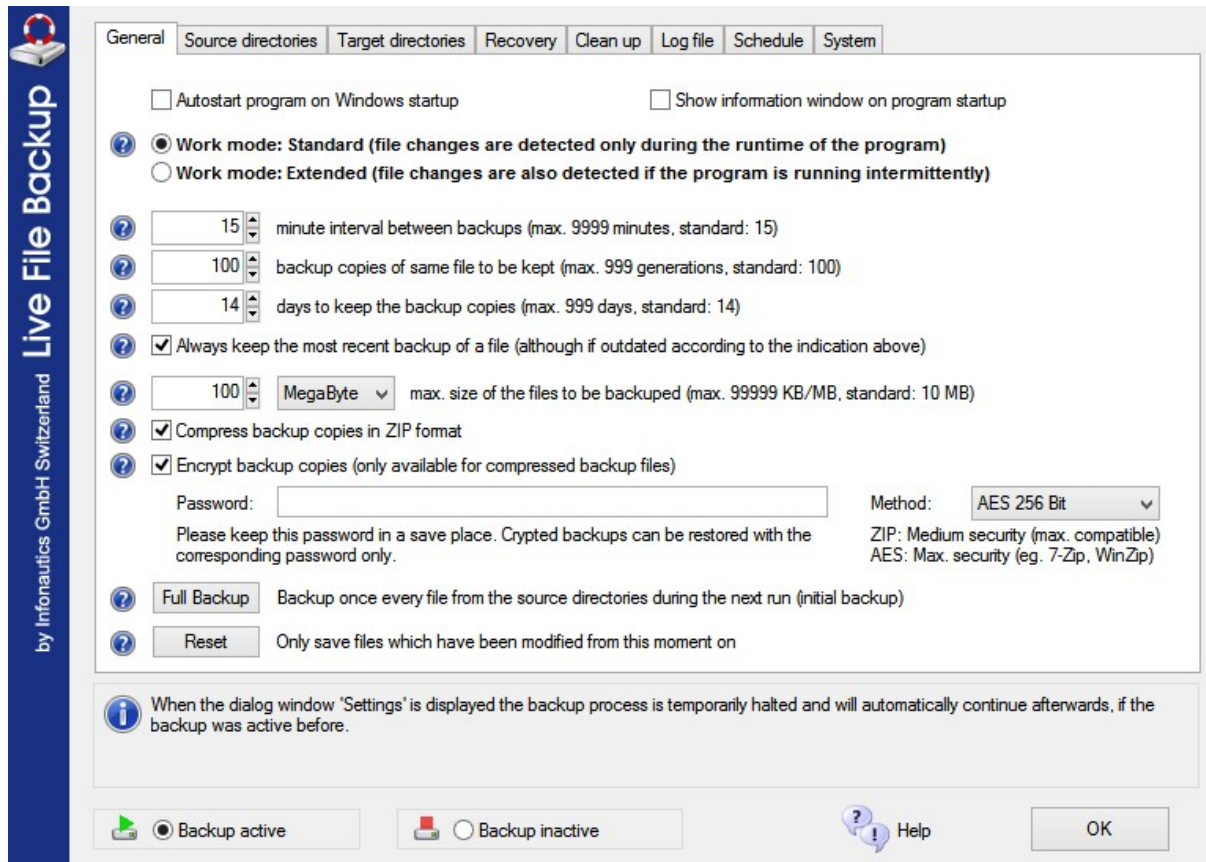
Thereupon please select "**Settings / Control**" in the program menu:





As long as the window 'Settings' is open the backup process will be paused and shown by the symbol . As soon as the window 'Settings' is closed again the backup process will continue with the new settings.

3.3.1 General Settings

The **General settings** define the general behaviour of the program.



Integrated help

Click on one of the symbols  for further information regarding this topic in the area  below.

Set backup active / inactive



Basically *Live File Backup* can be set active or inactive. This state remains still when the program or the system will be restarted again.

General settings

- **Automatic start with Windows**

If the option 'Backup active' is set the software *Live File Backup* will start automatically when booting the PC.

- **Show information window on program start**

The information window informing about meaning and state of the different icons in the task bar is shown on program start.

- **Work mode**

In 'Standard' mode, the observed source directories are examined for changed files only while the Live File Backup program is running. If the program is not running, no file changes are registered.

In 'Extended' mode, the observed state is held at the end of the program and updated when restarting the program again, so that modified files can be recognized in the meantime when the program is not running.

- **x minutes interval until next backup**

As a live backup needs some time for its data protection the program could be running constantly with a setting of 1 minute interval. This might not be useful because due to slightest data changes new backup copies with minimal differences would be stored. Preferable and resource-protecting is to let some time pass and choose a time interval of about 15 minutes between backups. If a backup process is running longer than the shortest interval set, the next backup will start when the next scheduled backup follows. (Default: 15 minutes)

- **x backup copies of same file to be kept**

Since disk space on the storage media is not infinite, the maximum number of backup copies per file can be defined explicitly; the oldest backup copy will then always be deleted automatically. With a setting of 100 the latest 100 versions of a file remain available. (Default: 100 copies)

- **x days to keep the backup files**

The backup files will be kept for the number of days set. Afterwards, older versions of the backup files will automatically be deleted from the storage media. (Default: 14 days)

- **Always keep the most recent backup of a file**

This setting prevents the automatic deletion of the latest backup of the files, even if the settings above are indicating that the retention period is exceeded. Especially recommended if the function 'Full Backup' below is used, so that outdated initial file backups will be kept always.

- **max. size of backup files**

For a live backup it is basically not useful to save repeatedly any size of file (e.g. video files); the storage media would be full within short. Since most work files are a few megabytes large, a size limit of about 10 to 20 megabytes is reasonable. (Default: 10 MB)

- **Compress backup copies in standard ZIP format (recommended)**

Most files (besides already compressed formats as JPG images or ZIP archives etc.) can be reduced by half in size through data compression; this saves space on the storage media. The format used here complies with the standard ZIP format what would allow to restore backup files even without *Live File Backup*. (Default: enabled)

- **Encrypt backup copies**

The encryption of the backup copies is only possible in combination with the data compression. Once the backup copies have been encrypted they can only be restored with the relating password valid at the time of backup. This setting is suitable in case the backup copies should be stored on a media accessible by other people too but these people should not have access to your data. For encryption there are the methods of Standard Zip 2.0 and AES with 128-bit or 256-bit key strength available. ZIP 2.0 is widely used and can be opened easily by the Windows Explorer and most of the pack programs. 256-bit AES encryption provides maximum security and can be opened also directly with the main pack programs (eg. 7-Zip, WinZip, etc.). For maximum AES security a well-mixed password (letters, numbers, special characters) from 32 to 64 characters in length is required. (Default: disabled)

- **Full Backup: Backup once every file from the source directories during the next run (initial backup)**

By default only changed files during program runtime are backed up. By pressing 'Full Backup' the program can be set to backup once every file in the specified source directories at the next backup run, not only changed files. Settings as Max. File Size, Compression, Encryption etc. will be considered. Attention: This may take a lot of time and space if there are many and huge files in the source directories.

- **Reset: Save only files which have been modified from this moment on**

In case the backup process will get into a state of a not requested ceaselessly copying routine due to an immense quantity of modified data, this process could be interrupted by simply clicking on the button 'Reset'. Afterwards, only data modified after this reset will be backed up.

The following setting has been moved to the tab "System":

- **Immediate warning message if a single file is locked during backup process (not recommended)**

Live File Backup can backup most files even if the files are currently open by another application. If in exceptional cases a file is locked in such a manner that it cannot be read under any circumstances, *Live File Backup* will try to backup that file at the next occasion possible. When this setting is enabled a message box would appear immediately to inform about the locked file. Then the backup process will only proceed after having confirmed the message box. For a continuous process of live backups in the background this setting is not recommended. (Default: disabled)

3.3.2 Source Directories

Files to be backed up can be defined under **Source directories**.

The files of the following directories will be backed up continuously by «Live File Backup»:

Directory	SubDir	Filter	TargetDirs
C:\Users\Public\Documents\	OK	xls,doc	1
E:\WORK\	OK		1,3

Buttons: New, Edit, Save, Delete

Directory: E:\WORK\ Selection Where is ?

SubDir: ☒ Include subdirectories

Filter: Only backup listed file types (example: txt,doc,xls)

TargetDirs: ☒ 1 (standard) ☐ 2 ☒ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 Targets ?

Exclude the following file types from all backups: (example comma separated: tmp,temp,log)
temp,tmp,log,exe,dll,ocx

Exclude files/folders containing one of the following strings: (example comma separated: John,C:\Directory\,temp)
C:\Windows,pagefile.sys,hiberfil.sys

The directories stated in the list are being monitored and the altered files will be automatically and continuously backed up at the intervals defined. If required, subdirectories can be included or excluded. The list is sorted alphabetically. Mark a directory entry in order to edit or delete it. Double-click to edit directly.

Backup active Backup inactive Help OK

The **table** shows the directories monitored by the live backup. If included files are modified *Live File Backup* is saving them continuously. It can be defined whether corresponding sub-directories should be included or whether only certain file types should be saved.

- **New**

By clicking on the button 'Selection' a new directory within the Windows file system can be selected to be monitored by the live backup.

Only real directories are possible, no virtual directories such as "libraries" in Windows 7/8.

There are some special Windows directories listed under 'Where is ?'.

By enabling 'Include subdirectories' all subdirectories will be included in the backup process too. If there are file types listed under 'Filter' only these file types will be included in the backup (file types are to be entered as follows: txt,xls,doc,ppt).

Each source directory can also be connected with several 'target directories' to backup the files in parallel. Under "Targets ?" the available backup destinations are listed, as they have already been defined in the settings [Target directories](#) ³².

- **Edit**

The marked directory entry in the table will be selected for editing (also by double-clicking on the directory entry).

- **Save**

The new or modified directory entry will be saved in the table.

- **Delete**

The marked directory entry will be deleted from the table.

Exclusion of certain file types and file/folder names

All listed file types under 'Exclusion' will be excluded from the backup. This is particularly useful to ignore temporary or not wanted system files. This list has always priority over the listed files under 'Filter' (file types are to be entered as follows: tmp,temp,log). Also file and folder names can be excluded by certain strings. Temporary files containing the character ~ will be excluded from all backups anyway.



Information

If a source directory being monitored is not available (e.g. because the directory is on a network drive which is not attached), then this directory will be ignored until it is attached again. As soon as the directory is identified again the corresponding files will be backed up again when being modified afterwards.



Attention

The principle of live backup to store different file versions (generations) may produce an immense amount of data in case of large backup files. The more backup copies (generations) of the same file requested and the longer the copies should be kept ([General Settings](#) ²⁶⁾) the larger the space will be needed on the storage media. This will not be a problem in case a large separate hard disk is available. If though, the backup should proceed over a slow network to a limited directory on a server, the resources might run out soon. Therefore choose to backup directories only which contain effectively your data. Simply choosing the complete drive C:, including all the system files and temporary space, would not be a very good idea (except of course, this is what you exactly wanted).



Attention

Since Live File Backup enables to restore the backed up files even without the program at any time via Windows Explorer, there are restrictions on the maximum path length of the files to be backed up if these are well over 200 characters (general limitation of path length of Windows Explorer).

The path of the backup directory (target) and the path/filename of a file to be backed up (source) may contain a maximum of 238 characters. Otherwise Live File Backup skips the backup of the corresponding file because the saved file would then no longer be accessible in Windows Explorer. It is therefore advisable to keep the path of the backup directory (target) as short as possible, e.g. "L:\Backup". Live File Backup warns with an optional message and an entry in the log if this situation occurred during the backup.

3.3.3 Target Directory

The directory where the backup should be stored can be defined under **Target directory**.

The screenshot displays the 'Live File Backup' application window with the 'Target directories' tab selected. The window title bar includes tabs for General, Source directories, Target directories, Recovery, Clean up, Log file, Schedule, and System. The main content area is titled 'For backups the following target directories can be defined:'. It lists '1. Target directory (standard) -> E:\WorkBackup\' in a dropdown menu. Below this, there are three radio button options: 'Inactive' (labeled with a large '1'), 'Local or Windows Network' (which is selected), and 'FTP Intranet or Internet'. The 'Local or Windows Network' section has a 'Directory:' field containing 'E:\WorkBackup\' and buttons for 'Save + check directory', 'Choose directory', 'Open directory', and 'Calculate space'. The 'FTP Intranet or Internet' section has fields for 'Server address' (ftp.myserver.ch), 'User ID' (myname), 'Password' (masked with dots), and 'Directory' (/mydirectory/), along with a 'Save + check server' button and a checkbox for 'Allow UTF8 encoding for filenames (Asian and special characters)'. At the bottom of the main area is a checkbox for 'Search permanently for unavailable backup directories and retry execution of backup'. A blue information icon points to a note: 'Backup copies can be stored (besides to FTP Intranet/Internet) to any directory which is directly accessible by the Windows file system, as for example external drives and network directories. The accessibility of the target directory can be verified by 'Save + check directory'. In order to check the space still available for further backups click on 'Calculate space'.' The bottom status bar shows 'Backup active' with a green play icon, 'Backup inactive' with a red stop icon, a 'Help' button with a question mark, and an 'OK' button.

The **target location** of the backup can be any directory in the Windows file system/network or any storage location in the Intranet/Internet accessible by FTP (File Transfer Protocol). For space requirements see point A.2 at '[Frequently Asked Questions](#)'⁴⁷ FAQ.

Choose the appropriate protocol for backup:

- **Local or windows network** (windows file system)

By clicking on 'Choose directory' the target directory for backup within the windows file system can be defined: internal and external hard drives, USB memory sticks, network drives and network directories according to UNC standard. *Only real directories are possible, no virtual directories such as "libraries" in Windows 7/8/10.*

The button 'Save + check directory' stores the information and simultaneously checks its validity.

The button 'Open directories' opens the defined directory and shows its content.

The button 'Calculate space' indicates the space available in the directory defined.

Select "DropBox, OneDrive, GoogleDrive" to sync the backup directory to a cloud storage.

- **FTP Intranet or Internet** (File Transfer Protocol)

For an FTP connection a server address is needed; either as IP address (e.g. 127.0.0.1) or as resolved name (e.g. ftp.myserver.com), the UserID and the Password for the FTP login as well as the name of the directory provided for backup (e.g. /User/MyBackup/).

The button 'Save + check server' stores the information, establishes a test connection and shows the content of the defined directory.

UTF8-enabled FTP servers are supported (e.g. Asian and special characters).



Information

If no target directories are available (e.g. because the directory is on a network drive which is not attached), *Live File Backup* will then try for several minutes to establish the connection again. In case of no success a warning box will show up and the state of live backup will be set to 'inactive'. In this case please verify the target directories and restart live backup afterwards by clicking on 'Set backup active' in the main menu. The option 'Search permanently for unavailable backup directories' prevents the status is automatically set to 'inactive'.



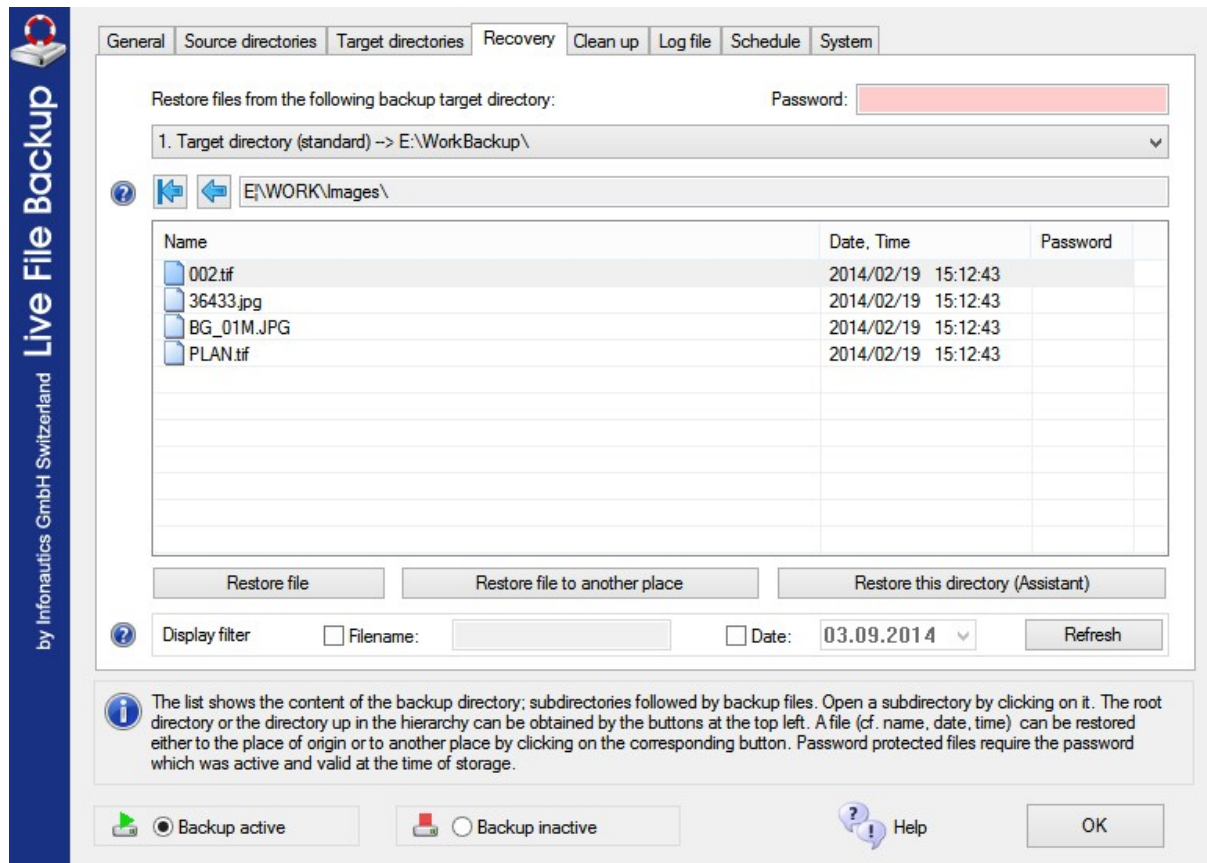
Attention

Since Live File Backup enables to restore the backed up files even without the program at any time via Windows Explorer, there are restrictions on the maximum path length of the files to be backed up if these are well over 200 characters (general limitation of path length of Windows Explorer).

The path of the backup directory (target) and the path/filename of a file to be backed up (source) may contain a maximum of 238 characters. Otherwise Live File Backup skips the backup of the corresponding file because the saved file would then no longer be accessible in Windows Explorer. It is therefore advisable to keep the path of the backup directory (target) as short as possible, e.g. "L:\Backup". Live File Backup warns with an optional message and an entry in the log if this situation occurred during the backup.

3.3.4 Recovery



The **Recovery** feature enables the restoration of files and its corresponding versions (generations).



Backup directory structure

The backup files and its corresponding older generations are stored in the target backup directory in the same directory structure as of the origin location.

In order to restore a file select the appropriate target directory, then browse through the directory structure until you find the directory where the relating file is stored. The backup files with its older generations are listed alphabetically and then sorted by date and time of backup. If a password is needed for recovery the necessary password has to be entered in the field 'Password'.

The button  directs back/up one directory level and the button  opens directly the root backup directory.

Recovery procedure

For file recovery select the requested file and press the button 'Recovery' in order to copy the file back to its origin location. The same can be effected by double clicking on the file name. The copy procedure will be protected with an explicit dialogue box against copying the backup file accidentally.

For file recovery to a different location select the backup file and press the button 'Restore to another place' in order to open the dialogue box for the selection of the target directory. The copy procedure will be protected with an explicit dialogue box against copying the backup file accidentally.

To restore the entire directory including files and directory structure the Directory Restore Assistant is available. Choose the appropriate backup directory and press the button 'Restore this directory (Assistant)'. See details below.

For the recovery a valid target directory must be set as the directory containing the backup data. Especially when restoring the backup data on another/new PC, the directory with the backup data must first be set in the tab "Target directories" as the corresponding target directory.

Display filter

As a directory may contain many backup files with its corresponding generations a selection of the requested file can be facilitated by enabling a filter for the listing.

In order to narrow down the listing to a certain filename or a part of it enable 'Filename' and enter the requested name/text in the corresponding field. Confirm the selection by clicking on the button 'Refresh'.

In order to narrow down the listing to a certain date enable 'Date' and enter the requested date or use the down arrow key to open the date selector. Confirm the selection by clicking on the button 'Refresh'.

Both filter types can be used together.

Directory Restore Assistant

The current selected directory can be restored, including subdirectories and files. The assistant allows the recovery of the latest or oldest existing files in a given period.

Restore directory (Assistant)

E:\WORK\Images\

Recover files from this directory for the following period:

☒ Latest file versions ☐ Oldest file versions from **01.01.2012** ▼ to **03.09.2014** ▼

☐ Include subdirectories and corresponding files

☐ Only restore files containing one of the following strings (comma-separated like: test,.doc,.txt,John) :

State	Date/Time	Path/Filename
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2014/02/19 15:12	E:\WORK\Images\002.tif
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2014/02/19 15:12	E:\WORK\Images\36433.jpg
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2014/02/19 15:12	E:\WORK\Images\BG_01M.JPG
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2014/02/19 15:12	E:\WORK\Images\PLAN.tif

Preview Restore to another place Cancel

Progress 4

After setting time and file version (latest/oldest in this period) press the button 'Preview' to create the restore checklist before the effective recovery begins. In this upcoming list individual files can be unselected and thereby excluded from the restore.

The preview can be filtered by specifying one or more terms. Files will then only be proposed for restore, if they contain at least one of the terms in their names.

Effective recovery to the original location begins by clicking on the button 'Restore'. Or press the button 'to another place' to restore the selected files including the whole directory structure to any other directory.

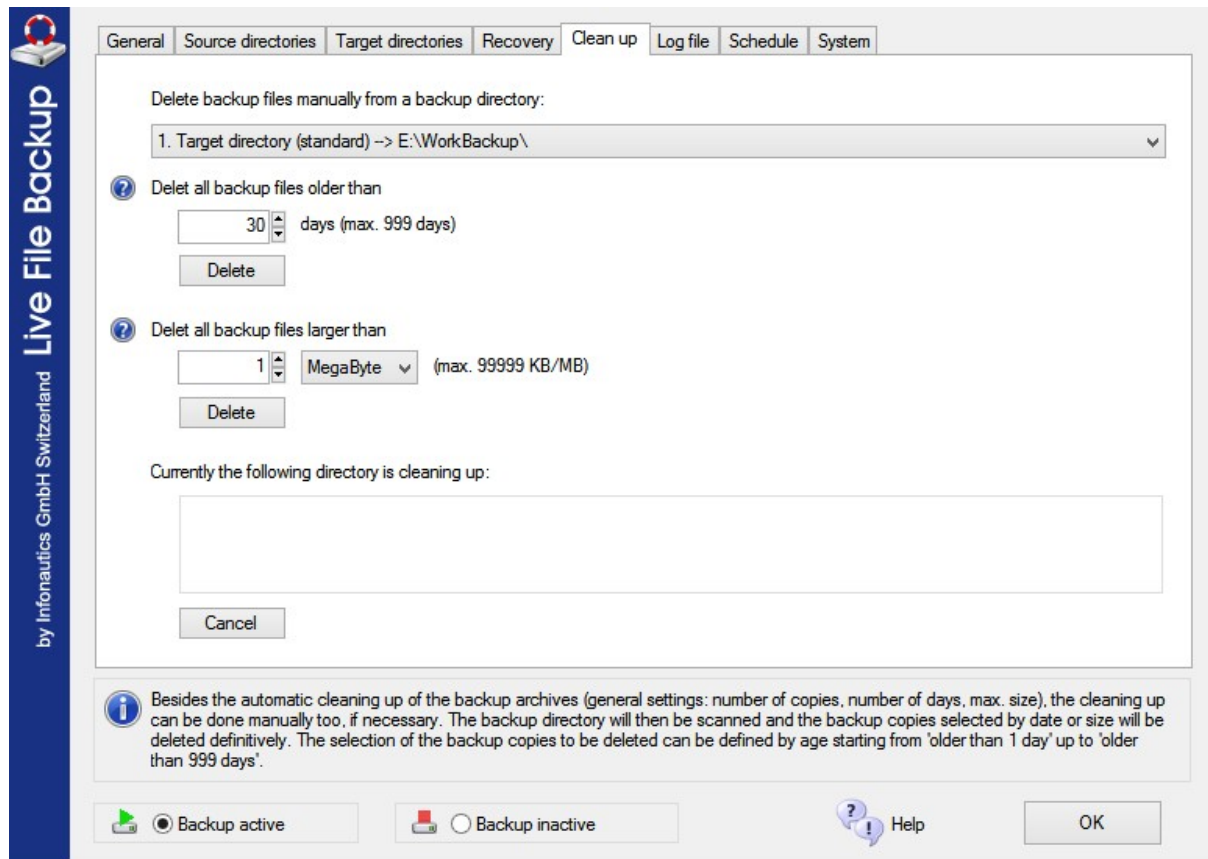
The recovery process can be interrupted any time with 'Cancel'.

During the creation of the preview list the progress bar counts the files found. During the recovery process the progress bar represents the ongoing work in proportion to the overall task.

After recovery the list shows for each file whether it was successfully restored or an error has occurred (eg. with incorrect password or missing access rights).

3.3.5 Clean Up

Backup files and older generations can be deleted manually from the storage media by the feature **Clean up**.



Delete backup files older than x days

After having entered the number of days all backup files older than the age defined can be manually deleted from storage media. The backup directory will then be scanned for old files and the currently revised sub-directory will be shown in the information field at the bottom. After completion of this process the cleared space will be indicated by the information 'Completed. x backup files deleted, x Bytes'.

Delete all backup files larger than x KiloByte/MegaByte

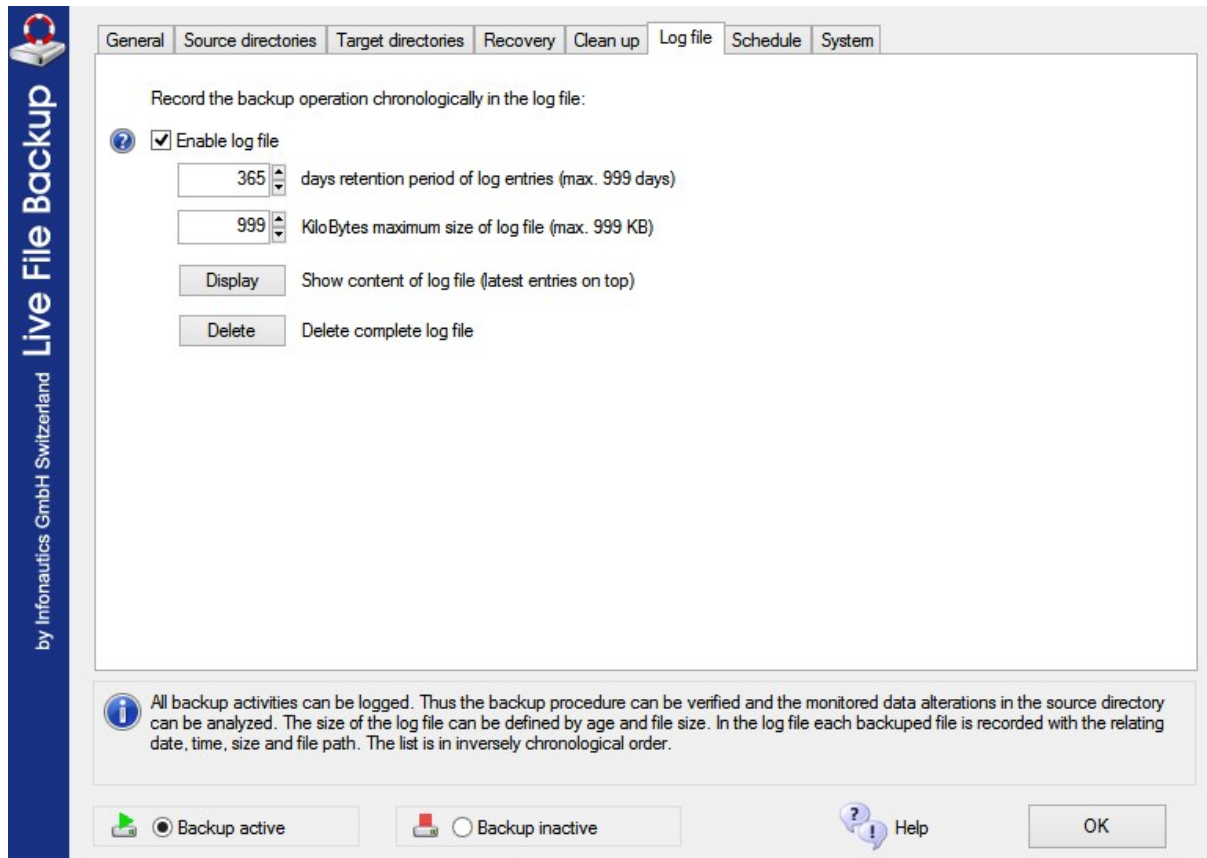
After having entered the number of KiloBytes/MegaBytes all backup files larger than the size defined can be manually deleted from the storage media (further processing see chapter above).

Cancel

The clean up process can be stopped at any time. It will be canceled as well if the window 'Clean up' is closed prematurely.

3.3.6 Log

In the **Log file** all backed up files are listed by date, time, size, directory path and name.



Enable log file

Enable 'Enable log file' in order to record all backed up files with date, time, size, directory path and name in the log file.

x days retention period of log entries

In order to prevent an immense increase of the log file, all entries in the log will be deleted again after the number of days defined.

x KiloBytes maximum size of log file

The size of the log file will be limited to the value defined. The maximum log size is about 1 MegaByte so that current log updating does not affect the system resources. This size allows to review about the last 10'000 backuped files.

Display

Click on the button 'Display' in order to view the log file.

Delete

Click on the button 'Delete' in order to delete the log file. Afterwards the log file will be rebuilt when necessary.

3.3.7 Schedule

The backup can be run or suspended according to the **Time Schedule**.

by Infonautics GmbH Switzerland

General Source directories Target directories Recovery Clean up Log file **Schedule** System

Schedule for a time-limited processing of the data backup:

☐ Schedule not active

☒ Carry out the backup according to the following schedule

☐ Suspend the backup according to the following schedule

Carry out the backup according to the following schedule

From (hh mm)	To (hh mm)	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
7:30	20:45	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
0:00	0:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
0:00	0:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
0:00	0:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
0:00	0:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
0:00	0:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
0:00	0:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The backup can be run or suspended according to the time schedule. The table will be evaluated each time a backup becomes due. 'From' always has to be earlier than 'To', therefore any schedule entry across midnight needs two separate lines, one for each day. In case of overlapping temporal indications the first appropriate row will become applicable. Blank or incomplete rows will be ignored. The fields can be edited by the mouse or the cursor/tab/space keys.

☒ Backup active ☐ Backup inactive

Help OK

Schedule not active

The time schedule is ignored. Backup is always active.

Carry out the backup according to the following schedule

Backup is active only during the times and days indicated in the table.

Live File Backup
by Infonautics GmbH Switzerland

General Source directories Target directories Recovery Clean up Log file **Schedule** System

Schedule for a time-limited processing of the data backup:

☐ Schedule not active
☐ Carry out the backup according to the following schedule
☒ Suspend the backup according to the following schedule

Suspend the backup according to the following schedule

From (hh mm)	To (hh mm)	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
22:30	23:59	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clear
0:0	6:30	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clear
0:0	0:0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clear
0:0	0:0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clear
0:0	0:0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clear
0:0	0:0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clear
0:0	0:0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clear

The backup can be run or suspended according to the time schedule. The table will be evaluated each time a backup becomes due. 'From' always has to be earlier than 'To', therefore any schedule entry across midnight needs two separate lines, one for each day. In case of overlapping temporal indications the first appropriate row will become applicable. Blank or incomplete rows will be ignored. The fields can be edited by the mouse or the cursor/tab/space keys.

☒ Backup active
 ☐ Backup inactive
 Help

Suspend the backup according to the following schedule

Backup is NOT active during the times and days indicated in the table.

Button "Clear"

The row is reset and not considered for backup timing anymore.



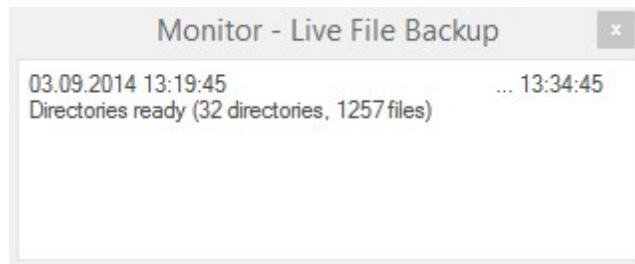
Information

The table will be evaluated each time a backup becomes due. 'From' always has to be earlier than 'To', therefore any schedule entry across midnight needs two separate lines, one for each day. In case of overlapping temporal indications the first appropriate row will become applicable. Blank or incomplete rows will be ignored.

The fields can be edited by the mouse or the cursor/tab/space keys.

3.4 Monitor

The **Monitor** informs about the current processing of *Live File Backup*.



The Monitor can be started by the entry 'Monitor' in the main menu.

The latest **started or completed action** is shown with date and time.

It mainly concerns the following procedures:

- directory analysis
- backup process
- just saved file
- backuped files
- automatic clean-up procedure

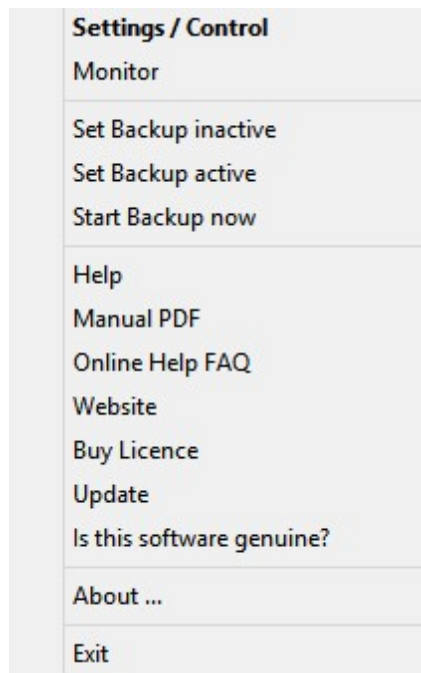
In the right upper corner the time of the **next scheduled backup** is shown.

3.5 Start/stop manually

The live backup of the software *Live File Backup* can at any time be **stopped and restarted again**.

This can be useful if, for example, you would like to conduct a system maintenance and you do not want to allow further events on the system meanwhile.

Choose corresponding 'Set Backup inactive' or 'Set Backup active' in the main menu:



If you have stopped the live backup the following program icon will appear in the task bar: 

If you have started the live backup the following program icon will appear in the task bar: 

This process does not change the preference 'Backup active / Backup inactive'



under [General Settings](#)²⁶ and remains unchanged at the next program or system start.

Command Line Interface

In addition there is a separate program "LiveFileBackupCommand.exe" available to control Live File Backup externally, provided that Live File Backup is already started. The effect is similar to clicking on the above menus "Set Backup inactive", "Set Backup active" and "Start Backup now".

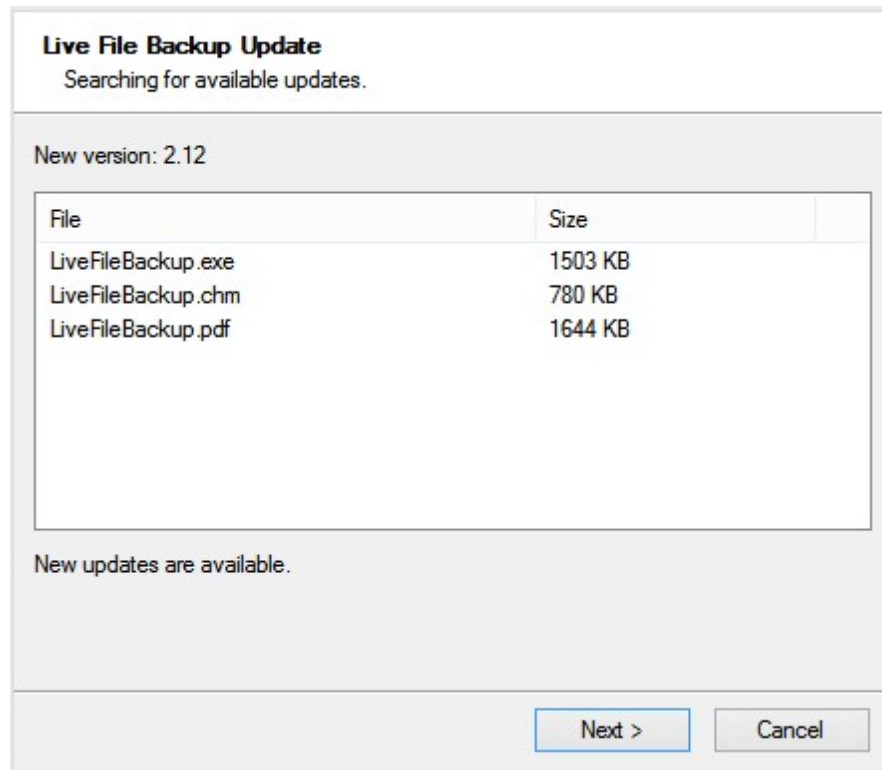
Syntax: LiveFileBackupCommand *Command*

<i>Commands:</i>	inactive	Set Backup inactive
	active	Set Backup active
	start	Start Backup now

Example: LiveFileBackupCommand inactive

3.6 Update

The program *Live File Backup* can easily be updated at **Update** in the main menu.



Start the update process with 'Update' in the main menu. *Live File Backup* will then automatically be stopped and restarted again afterwards. Above window will show up and the search for new updates will be started immediately (Internet connection necessary).

New updates are available / No new updates available / Current Version:

If a new update is detected the new version number and the corresponding files will be listed with the information 'New updates are available'. Continue by clicking on the button 'Next' in order to download and install the updates. In case you are not authorized to install program files your operating system will ask you for the administration password.

If no new update is detected the current version number will be shown with the information 'No new updates available'. Then close the update process by clicking on the button 'Cancel'.

Afterwards, *Live File Backup* will automatically be restarted again.

4 FAQ

Please find the latest version of 'Frequently Asked Questions' FAQ at:

<http://www.livefilebackup.com/faq>

A) Backup

1. What do backup generations imply with respect to the system resources?

The principle of live backup to store different file versions (generations) may produce an immense amount of data in case of large backup files. The more backup copies (generations) of the same file requested and the longer the copies should be kept ([General Settings](#) ²⁶) the larger the space will be needed on the storage media. This will not be a problem in case a large separate hard disk is available. If though, the backup should proceed over a slow network to a limited directory on a server, the resources might run out soon. Therefore choose to backup directories only which contain effectively your data. Simply choosing the complete drive C:, including all the system files and temporary space, would not be a very good idea (except of course, this is what you exactly wanted).

2. How much space is needed on the backup storage media?

This depends on the settings. Supposing the default settings remain effective (backup interval 15 minutes, 100 generations of each file, 14 days storage time) and 4 office work files (size of about 2 MegaBytes together) are continuously modified during a work day of 8 hours, then a data volume of max. 900 MegaBytes would result (nearly 1 GigaByte). Corresponding calculation: 32 intervals/day x 14 days x 2MB. Or in consideration of the restriction of 100 generations (versions) per file, a data volume of 200 MegaBytes would result (calculation: 4 files x 100 versions x 0.5 MB). Usually though, office work files are smaller in size and are not modified permanently. Furthermore, due to the data compression the space needed will be reduced. On the contrary image and audio files may need more space since these files are larger and can hardly be compressed. Additionally, more space is needed if more file generations should be stored for a longer time period. Conclusion: a few GigaBytes per user should offer enough space for a smooth backup.

3. What will happen if a source directory is not ready?

If a source directory being monitored is not available (e.g. because the directory is on a network drive which is not attached), then this directory will be ignored until it is attached again. As soon as the directory is identified again the corresponding files will be backed up again when being modified afterwards.

4. What will happen if the target directory is not ready?

If none of the target directories is available (e.g. because the directory is on a network drive which is not attached), *Live File Backup* will then try for several minutes to establish a connection again. In case of no success a warning box will show up and the state of live backup will be set to 'inactive'. In this case please verify the target directories and restart live backup afterwards by clicking on 'Set backup active' in the main menu. The option 'Search permanently for unavailable backup directories' prevents the status is automatically set to 'inactive'.

B) Recovery

1. Can still open files be restored?

Principally yes, but basically the files should be closed before restoring. Otherwise the version on the hard disk will differ from the open version in the main memory and will be overwritten when being saved again. Certain programs lock the associated open file in a manner that for recovery the program itself has to be closed first.

2. How does the recovery of Microsoft® Word files work if they have been saved by the auto-save feature instead of by a normal 'Save'?

Principally *Live File Backup* backups the files when these are saved to hard disk by the corresponding program. The auto-save feature of most programs works exactly that way by saving automatically after a predefined time. Microsoft® Word proceeds differently; the auto-saved files are stored to a separate directory which can be defined as you like (see Word preferences). For a future recovery of these auto-saved files this directory has to be included in the list of monitored directories too. By default the auto-saved Word files are of the file type ".asd" and are stored in the directory "C:\Documents and Settings\User\Application Data\Microsoft\Word".

3. How does the recovery of Microsoft® Outlook and Outlook Express email-databases work?

A recovery of email-databases (*.pst, *.dbx) is only possible if the program Outlook is closed completely. Possibly, Outlook has to be shut down additionally manually by the task manager in case the Outlook-process is still active after closing Outlook.

4. What should I do if I need to restore the backup data to another/new PC?

First install the program on the new PC and enter the license, then make the data storage with the backup data accessible on the new PC. Now, in the settings of *Live File Backup*, the directory with the backup data must be set as the target directory in the tab "Target directories", as it was defined on the old PC. The files can then be restored as usual via the "Recovery" tab, the Assistant helps to restore entire directories.

C) Buy / Support

1. Where can I enter the licence key?

Copy the licence key which has been forwarded by email into the licence window available in the main menu "Buy / Licence". Then restart the program.

2. Who can I contact for program support?

Support for *Live File Backup* is available by email. Any of your questions will be answered within 48 hours in the languages German and English. Support email address is:

support@livefilebackup.com

5 Licence Agreement

The program 'Live File Backup' has been developed by Infonautics GmbH Switzerland and is distributed as shareware, i.e. after the testing phase a licence key per PC/user has to be purchased for a regular use of the software.

The activated full version of the software is restricted to the customer only. There is one licence per PC needed.

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If any provision of this Licence Agreement is found void or unenforceable, the remainder will remain valid and enforceable according to its terms.

This Agreement will be governed by the laws of Switzerland. Place of jurisdiction is the court responsible for the domicile of Infonautics GmbH, Switzerland.

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