

## Re: Comparing 2 MSG files .

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*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Outlook/microsoft.public.outlook.program\\_vba/2006-02/msg00235.html](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Outlook/microsoft.public.outlook.program_vba/2006-02/msg00235.html)

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- *From:* Diegol <[Diegol@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Diegol@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 16 Feb 2006 05:31:25 -0800
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Hi Dmitry,

The problem we have is that we treat every attachment as a file. We copy every attachment in a temporal folder and hash the filetostring of that temp. I don't know how to retrieve those properties from a formerly attached .msg which is now saved to a folder...

I also need some advice about this... We're using Visual Fox Pro for the utility that processes incoming mails, because we are receiving fox tables, but I'd like to switch to VB. Any recommendations/comments?

Thank you in advance  
Diegol

"Dmitry Streblechenko" wrote:

Again, on the MSG file level, the binary data is irrelevant. You must decide which set of properties constitutes a message, then calculate a hash. E.g. a hash of concatenated body, subject, sender, sent date, etc separated by 0x0 should do the trick.

Dmitry Streblechenko (MVP)  
<http://www.dimastr.com/>  
OutlookSpy – Outlook, CDO  
and MAPI Developer Tool

"Diegol" <[Diegol@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Diegol@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
<news:2AB5F3D8-9043-4760-B452-123747FA60CF@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Dmitry, I have a similar problem:

We've written an application that processes e-mails we receive in Outlook and computes their MD5 hash values. So far it works alright for all file types, except attached .msg files (note we are not saving a certain message in the .msg format, but rather saving an attached .msg file).

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To our surprise, MD5 hashes vary for attached .msg files (and only for these). I mean, if I save an attached MSG twice, first as 1.msg and then as 2.msg, their hash values differ. Why's that? I assumed Outlook handled attached .msgs as if they were any other file type, but now it seems not (other file types get identical hash values when saved twice). Any clues?

"Dmitry Streblechenko" wrote:

Entry id is never stored in the MSG files since it only makes sense in the context of the parent store, which MSG files do not have. Which message id do you mean? The one from the MIME headers? Note that some messages (e.g. the ones stored in the Sent Items of a PST store) do not even have a MIME headers.

Dmitry Streblechenko (MVP)  
<http://www.dimastr.com/>  
OutlookSpy – Outlook, CDO  
and MAPI Developer Tool

"peketi" <peketi@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:33775DB5-B895-46F5-A10C-27EA2D23F5C5@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:33775DB5-B895-46F5-A10C-27EA2D23F5C5@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Thanks for the information. Initially I thought it may be the 'Entry ID' which is the only thing different but you have given me some more insight to this problem. Is there a way out to get the 'Message-ID' from the message, may be that would help me solve this problem. Your help in this regard would be highly appreciated.

"Dmitry Streblechenko" wrote:

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Some properties can and will be different, e.g. PR\_SEARCH\_KEY. Most likely neither you nor your users care about these properties, but they will be make the MSG file different.

Secondly, the order in which properties are streamed to the MSG file can be different, so even if the message is the same, the hash will be different.

You need to use a different algorithm to determine whether two messages are the same, such as comparing the message body, subject, recipients, etc.

Dmitry Streblechenko  
(MVP)  
<http://www.dimastr.com/>  
OutlookSpy – Outlook,  
CDO  
and MAPI Developer Tool

"peketi"  
<peketi@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>  
wrote in message  
<news:DA646850-5E62-4610-9E82-5CB89A4F076A@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

I am writing  
an  
application  
that  
generates a  
message  
digest  
(MD5) for  
a  
MSG

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file  
generated  
by Outlook  
application.  
If I generate  
a MSG file  
each  
from  
2  
PST files,  
FILEA.PST  
and  
COPY\_OF\_FILEA.PST  
(\*  
COPY\_OF\_FILEA.PST  
is a  
copy  
of  
FILEA.PST  
\*), A.MSG  
and  
A1.MSG, I  
get a  
hashvalue  
or the  
message  
digest  
different for  
these  
messages  
though the  
content of  
these  
messages  
are  
same.  
Any reasons  
for this and  
workarounds  
?

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