

Missing C:\I386 Goes Unnoticed!?

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.setup_deployment/2004-02/0205.html

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Date: 02/23/04

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 02:31:37 -0800

Last month I successfully installed Windows 2000 Professional SP4 slipstreamed, with additional \$oem\$ structure (located alongside I386 in the CD root) with added drivers and selected files and folders, using a bootable CD that I burned according to well-established guidelines published by Oli Restorick and by Steven Bink.

If anyone is interested, here are the first relevant sections of the winnt.sif "unattended.txt" file I used in the setup:

[Data]

```
AutoPartition=0
MsDosInitiated="0"
UnattendedInstall="Yes"
```

[Unattended]

```
UnattendMode=ProvideDefault
DriverSigningPolicy=Warn
FileSystem=LeaveAlone
```

; OemFilesPath=<path to \SOEM\$ folder> relative to where the winnt.sif file resides, in other words, to the i386 folder.

; The \$OEM\$ folder is in the root of the CD alongside the i386 folder.

```
OemFilesPath="..\SOEM$"
```

```
OEMPnPDiversPath="Drivers\VideG450;Drivers\ScPt2Mse;Driver
s\MPusbhub"
```

```
OemPreinstall=Yes
OemSkipEula=Yes
Repartition=No
```

TargetPath=\WINNT

etc.

After the smooth installation I added utilities and applications with little or no difficulties, and only today I suddenly noticed that I386 folder is not present at the root %SystemDrive%.

It seems strange that Windows 2000 can happily lead a fully functional life without complaining on the absence of such a fundamental directory – I386.

Am I right in assuming that there is no hurry to correct this abnormal situation?

If the need seriously arises and an error message calls for a badly needed file from C:\I386\ I shall take the following steps listed in Microsoft Knowledge Base Article – 311755 :

<http://support.microsoft.com/?scid=kb:en-us:311755>

Copy the I386 folder and all of its subfolders to the hard disk. To do this, type the following lines at the command prompt, pressing ENTER after you type each line

```
smartdrv  
xcopy cd-rom:\i386 drive:\i386 /e
```

where cd-rom is the drive letter of the CD-ROM drive, and drive is the drive letter of the hard disk.

Restart the computer, [and then start Setup again]*. When you receive the error message, click Browse, and then type the path to the I386 folder on the hard disk.

*Of course I won't start Setup again! Just copy and restart.

Still I am wondering what might have caused \I386 not to take its place at the root %SystemDrive% during setup.

Please advise.