

## Re: Conclusions

**Source:**

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.perform\\_maintain/2004-06/0670.html](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.perform_maintain/2004-06/0670.html)

---

**From:** Ramesh [MVP] ([ramesh\\_at\\_nojunkmails.com@mvps.org](mailto:ramesh_at_nojunkmails.com@mvps.org))

**Date:** 06/04/04

Date: Fri, 4 Jun 2004 09:16:28 +0530

Hi Wes,

Where did you discover the "////////////////////////////////////  
////////////////////////////////////" thing? Kelly has a fix which does the same, good technique. I thought of denying write access to that OE key.

--

Ramesh - Microsoft MVP  
Windows XP Shell/User

<http://www.mvps.org/sramesh2k>

AumHa VSOP: <http://www.aumha.org>

"Wesley Vogel" <123WVogel1955@comcast.net> wrote in message news:xtOvc.41548\$eY2.28229@attbi\_s02..  
Mike346,

1) Harmless, yes.

2) I use MRU-Blaster and don't worry about the rest.

What would inconsistant be??

No sense in screwing around deleting these manually.

That's all you'd ever have time for. Every time you open anything, MRUs start to fill up. Besides, doing manually you take the chance of making a mistake. ;-(

MRUblaster has a database of 30,345 items it checks for.

[?] Provides some help.

If you plan on using MRU-Blaster, there is a learning curve. For example, if you use OE, Outlook Express 5.0 - Save attachment path MRU, can cause problems.

There is a bug in OE. The path, in the registry, to where attachments are saved, literally gets eaten by the bug. No joke. You have to add something for the bug to eat otherwise your path ends up looking like:

Notice the missing p >>

```
C:\Documents and Settings\Wesley P. Vogel\Desкто  
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Identities\{EBD80F8A-FFA1-4EB7-A1C2-9EC6BC05F8BC}\Software  
\Microsoft\Outlook Express\5.0
```

```
Save Attachment Path C:\Documents and Settings\Wesley P.
```

```
Vogel\Desktop////////////////////////////////////  
////////////////////////////////////
```

Any MRUs only hold so much data, FIFO, I'm guessing.

See Ramesh's site for some MRU info.

Registry MRU Locations

<http://www.mvps.org/sramesh2k/RegistryMRU.htm>

--

Hope this helps. Let us know.

Wes

In news:uL0ou3USEHA.3932@TK2MSFTNGP10.phx.gbl,

Mike346 <anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com> hunted and pecked:

## microsoft.public.windowsxp.perform\_maintain: Re: Conclusions

> Taking your answers into collective consideration, I conclude:  
>  
> 1) It is harmless to delete such registry entries, even when the  
> associated data refer to existing files with correct path  
> specifications. Such a deletion will only cause the corresponding  
> file name to disappear from an associated list or menu of MRU's.  
>  
> 2) Upon deciding to delete such registry entries, one need not do  
> so manually in a direct, one-by-one fashion (say with "regedit"), but  
> rather, one can employ an MRU-removing utility, like Javacool's  
> MRU-Blaster, to do the job. (Question: Can it be configured to  
> remove only the inconsistent entries?)  
>  
> 3) Alternatively, regarding the particular registry key in  
> question,  
>  
> HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER,\Software\Microsoft\Windows  
> \CurrentVersion\Explorer\ComDlg32\OpenSaveMRU\ ... ,  
>  
> this key itself can be cleared of all of its entries by clicking as  
> follows:  
>  
> Start > [right-click above it for] Properties > Customize [button  
> (under Start Menu tab option)] > Advanced tab > Clear List [button  
> (near bottom-right of menu)].  
>  
> (Question: Does doing this clear more than just the above registry  
> key of its entries?)  
>  
> 4) On the other hand ... such registry entries - even when the  
> associated data refer to nonexistent files, or files with incorrect  
> path specifications - are of no harm to my computer (however, the  
> nonexistent/incorrect entries may become annoying to the user who  
> clicks on the associated MRU link).  
>  
> Are any of the above statements false?  
>  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Mike346  
>  
> -----  
>  
> "Wesley Vogel" <123WVogel955@comcast.net> wrote in message  
> news:szovc.32346\$3x.9240@attbi\_s54...  
>  
> HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER,\Software\Microsoft\Windows  
> \CurrentVersion\Explorer\ComDlg32\OpenSaveMRU\ ...  
>  
> MRU = MostRecentlyUsed  
>  
> MRU-Blaster  
> Protect your privacy - find and remove over 30,000 MRU lists!  
> <http://www.javacoolsoftware.com/mrublaster.html>  
>  
> [[MRU-Blaster is a program made to do one large task - detect and  
> clean MRU (most recently used) lists on your computer.]]  
>  
> --  
> Hope this helps. Let us know.  
> Wes  
>

Re: Conclusions

## microsoft.public.windowsxp.perform\_maintain: Re: Conclusions

```
> -----
>
> "Rocket J. Squirrel" <rocky@bullwinkle.com> wrote in message
> news:O4iTUtMSEHA.808@tk2msftngp13.phx.gbl...
>
> MRU stands for "most recently used." To see an example, open
> Microsoft Word and take a look at the File menu. Near the bottom is a
> list of the documents you most recently opened - even if they no
> longer exist.
>
> Those registry keys aren't harming your computer by any stretch of the
> imagination, so you should leave them alone.
>
> Rocky
>
> -----
>
> "Ramesh [MVP]" <ramesh@nojunkmails.com@mvps.org> wrote in message
> news:eQ30vzMSEHA.732@TK2MSFTNGP09.phx.gbl...
>
> The registry key represents the 'Most Recent Used' files list in the
> Open/Save as dialog box. This can be cleared by emptying the Recent
> Documents (from Start Menu & Taskbar properties page). These entries
> don't cause any harm, but most users wish to clear the list (for
> privacy). The respective applications normally clear the list (FIFO
> basis, normally).
>
> More information on Registry MRU Locations:
> http://www.mvps.org/sramesh2k/RegistryMRU.htm
>
> --
> Ramesh - Microsoft MVP
> Windows XP Shell/User
> http://www.mvps.org/sramesh2k
>
> The Parasite Fight - Quick Fix Protocol:
> http://aumha.org/a/quickfix.htm
>
> -----
> -----
>
> In news:O9safJMSEHA.2216@TK2MSFTNGP12.phx.gbl,
> Mike346 <anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote:
>
>> What can be said about the following registry key? ... I mean, what
>> does it do?
>>
>> HKEY_CURRENT_USER,\Software\Microsoft\Windows
>> \CurrentVersion\Explorer\ComDlg32\OpenSaveMRU\ ...
>>
>> My computer's registry has about a hundred such entries with data
>> referring to files which no longer exist. These files are said to be
>> in various locations like "C:\ ... \My Documents", where they once
>> were, but have since been moved or deleted.
>>
>> Can registry entries of the above kind be safely deleted? ... Should
>> they be deleted?
```