

Re: OE6 newsgroup reader problem...

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.inetexplorer.ie6_outlookexpress/2007-09/m

- *From:* "PA Bear" <PABearMVP@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 11 Sep 2007 23:11:19 -0400
-

<canned>

Tools > Options > Read > Get XXX headers at a time

You may set this option as high as 1,000. Right-click on the newsgroup in Folders pane > Synchronization Settings > select New Messages Only. Now every time you open the newsgroup (or hit F5), you will download the next-newest set of headers/messages.

When you feel you've downloaded enough headers/messages, again right-click on the newsgroup in Folders pane and select Catch Up Now. This will Mark as Read all messages on the server, including ones you've not yet downloaded. Now return to "Get XXX headers at a time" and uncheck the option completely; then compact the folder.

From now on, OE will only download headers/messages posted to the server since you last checked (polled) for messages.

You should probably visit this page, too:

<http://www.insideoe.com/files/maintain.htm#cleannews> (lotsa good stuff there).

</canned>

--

~Robear Dyer (PA Bear)

MS MVP-Windows (IE, OE, Security, Shell/User) since 2002

AumHa VSOP & Admin <http://aumha.net>

DTS-L <http://dts-l.org/>

Bruce Hagen wrote:

I just checked in another identity. This group, OE General, is 60 days. OE6 newsgroup is 90 days. Irregardless, there is nothing you can change. It is not your choice, but the server's.

I'm not sure what you are asking about this:

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<QP>

In the grand scheme of things it's not really a huge problem but I like to find out what's going on when these types of things occur.

</QP>

When what occurs? When messages are removed from the server, you will not see them any more, unless you copied them to another folder for archiving.

"GO" <aa533@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:%23NloWWO9HHA.4180@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Yeah, I am aware of that but never thought to mention it. Current retention level in OE is 60 days, and I believe that's the default as I don't think I've ever changed it. Under normal circumstances I'll witness some of my older watched threads disappear as they go beyond the retention period. In the grand scheme of things it's not really a huge problem but I like to find out what's going on when these types of things occur.

Greg

Bruce Hagen wrote:

From this reply, do you realize that once messages are removed from the server, they will not be viewable by you unless you saved them to a user created local folder?

I /believe/ the current retention for MSNews is 90 days using OE as your newsreader.

IOW, if you reset, sync, or whatever, anything over the retention number of days will be lost. Does this shed any light on your current problem?

"GO" <aa533@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:erJIPqN9HHA.1416@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hi Bruce,

Thanks again for your assistance, it's greatly appreciated.

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I understand what you were getting at now with the "Get XXX headers at a time", that is, to download all the headers again. I was originally thinking that you were saying that this option could be the cause of the problem. But downloading all the headers leads back to my original problem, not that it's a huge deal but it is an annoyance, is that I lose what messages have been read and/or watched. And from what I understand this is being monitored by the .dbx itself. The file is still there and I'm assuming still contains all the original data, I was hoping there was a way to get OE to recognize and/or recover it again.

As for my non-updated OE: I realize doing so can put me at a higher risk but I am confident enough that my computer is sufficiently secured and that my safe computer habits will and have kept me malware/virus free (but out of paranoia I still run AV and anti-malware software). And I also don't believe this would be the cause of the problem as I would have seen it a long time ago.

And regarding the installation of new software: This computer my "working" computer is fairly static, ie it rarely gets any new software installed or any other changes.

Ultimately I just think it is some hiccup with OE as I subscribe to numerous other newsgroups and it has only happened to two of the .dbx files, both of which are the largest in terms of file sizes, possibly just a

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coincidence.

Bruce Hagen wrote:

<Inline>

"GO"

<aa533@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote in message

news:%23twMTSL9HHA.1188@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hi Bruce,

Thanks for
the reply.

I've done
this and a
completely
new .dbx
has been
created. But
is
there any
way to
recover
and/or read
the contents
of the
original
.dbx? Any
idea
what would
trigger this
problem?
Could
something
have
corrupted
the dbx? Is
there a file
size limit
for dbx's?
That's the
only
thing that's
similar
between the
two
incidents.

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They were
two
different
dbx's but
both
around
20MB in
size.

You /were/ talking about
newsgroups. correct? OE
only mirrors what
is on the server, so there is
nothing to recover in the
normal
sense.

Tools | Options | Read.
Uncheck: Get XXX headers
at a time. Then,
right click on the newsgroup
in the Folder Tree |
Properties | Local
File | Reset. Switch to
another folder and then back
and all
available messages will be
downloaded again.

It would be a good idea to
compact your folders when
you're done.

Click on Outlook Express at
the top of the folder tree so
no folders
are open. Then: File | Work
Offline (or double click
Working Online
in the Status Bar). File |
Folder | Compact all folders.
Don't touch
anything until the
compacting is completed.

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Make
sure
get
xxx
headers
at
a
time
is
not
checked.

I'm not sure
what this
will
accomplish
(other than
the obvious
:)
I've had
this feature
checked
since I've
started
using OE.
What is the
benefit of
doing this,
or what is
the problem
caused by
leaving it
checked?

You will get all messages
currently on the server. If
you want to
limit the ammount:

If you want to download
newsgroups, but don't want
hundreds, or
thousands, of messages, you
can create a message rule
such as this:

Tools | Message Rules |
News.

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Box 1: Where the message
was sent more than days ago
Box 2: Delete it & Stop
processing more rules
Box 3: Click on "Days" and
choose the # of days you
want.
Name the rule.

In Tools | Options | Read –
Uncheck: Get XXX headers
at a time. When
you go to, or subscribe to a
newsgroup, it will only
download the
messages for the number of
days you selected.

Opinions on this vary, but in
Tools | Accounts | News |
Properties |
General, I have Include this
account when checking for
new messages
checked. When OE
automatically checks for
mail, (however often you
have it set for), it will also
download any new news
messages at the
same time.

But
before
you
do
anything,
get
over
to
Windows
Updates.
I'm
not
sure
what

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your
Windows
version
is,
but
from
your
message
headers:

X-Newsreader:
Microsoft
Outlook
Express
6.00.2600.0000
X-MimeOLE:
Produced
By
Microsoft
MimeOLE
V6.00.2600.0000

you
are
obviously
running
an
outdated
and
less
secure
version
of
OE,
and
that
may
be
part
of
the
problem.

Yeah, I'm
aware OE is
not up to
date and
unfortunately
will have to
remain that

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way (the updates breaks several things in OE). I am running Win2k and other than that my system is up to date as far as security patches. OE is locked down sufficiently that I have no fear of being comprimised.

I can't see this as causing the problem though as I would have encountered it much sooner.

Look for the obvious. It may not be the cause, but if updates break OE functions, you have two possible remedies.

1: Turn off your anti-virus program when you download and install /anything/. Your AV can prevent a clean install.

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2: You may be infested with
some type of Hijackware.

Courtesy of MVP Robear
Dyer (PA Bear):

Checking for/Help with
Hijackware

<http://aumha.org/a/parasite.htm>

<http://aumha.org/a/quickfix.htm>

<http://aumha.net/viewtopic.php?t=5878>

[http://wiki.castlecops.com/Malware Removal and Prevention: Introduction](http://wiki.castlecops.com/Malware_Removal_and_Prevention:_Introduction)

<http://mvps.org/winhelp2002/unwanted.htm>

<http://inetexplorer.mvps.org/data/prevention.htm>

<http://inetexplorer.mvps.org/tshoot.html>

[http://www.mvps.org/sramesh2k/Malware Defence.htm](http://www.mvps.org/sramesh2k/Malware_Defence.htm)

<http://defendingyourmachine.blogspot.com/>

http://www.elephantboycomputers.com/page2.html#Removing_Malware

When all else fails,

HijackThis

v1.99.1(<http://aumha.net/downloads/hijackthis.zip>)

is the preferred

tool to use. It will help you

to both identify and remove

any

hijackware/spyware.

**Post your log to

<http://aumha.net/viewforum.php?f=30>,

<http://castlecops.com/forum67.html>,

<http://forums.subratam.org/index.php?showforum=7>,

or other

appropriate forums for

expert analysis, not here.**

Thanks
again,

Greg

"GO"

<aa533@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote

in

message

Re: OE6 newsgroup reader problem...

news:ODZalXL9HHA.4612@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hello,

I'm
using
OE6
to
access
the
MS
Usenet
groups
(primarily
MS's
own
servers,
news.microsoft.com)
and
this
is
the
second
time
this
problem
has
occurred
so
I'm
hoping
I
can
find
some
help.
When
I
"opened"
the
newsgroup
(vista.general)
it
seems
to
have
ignored
my
existing
.dbx
file

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and
creating
a
new
listing
of
all
messages
(losing
all
my
watched
and
read
threads).
Looking
in
the
message
store
location
(\D&S\Settings\Application
Data\Identities\{very-long-string}\Microsoft\Outloo
Express)
I
see
that
it
has
made
a
new
.dbx
file.
So
I
now
have
two:
"microsoft.public.windows.vista.general.dbx"
and
"microsoft.public.windows.vista.general
(1).dbx".
I
closed
OE
and
deleted
the
new,

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smaller
one
(...vista.general(1).dbx)
and
restarted
OE
but
it
didn't
seem
to
make
any
difference.
The
original
file
is
still
there
but
the
message
listing
is
brand
new,
and
it
did
not
make
a
new
file
this
time
around.
All
other
newsgroups
I
read
are
fine
and
have
not
experienced
this
problem.

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Is
there
something
that
would
trigger
this
into
happening?

Is
there
any
way

I
can
get
OE
to
read
the
contents
of
the
old
.dbx?

I'm
assuming
the
contents
are
still
there
as
the
file
is
close
to
20MB.

I've
been
using
OE
for
Usenet
for
years
and
have
never
experienced

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this
before,
other
than
now
and
about
a
month
ago.

TIA,

Greg