

Re: Help My Grandad!!

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Word/microsoft.public.word.docmanagement/2004-10/1764.html>

anonymous_at_discussions.microsoft.com

Date: 10/11/04

Date: Mon, 11 Oct 2004 06:35:01 -0700

Thank you both very much for your replies.

Basically he had been hitting ctrl+S quite often and indeed he would have done this shortly before he erased everything.

If it is possible, as you were saying, that I could access one of these previous saves then that would be ideal. However if Word does overwrite any previous trace of the file when you save over it then I fear he is stuffed :(

But it is this that I need to know.

>-----Original Message-----

>redi_knight wrote:

>

>> *My poor grandfather has an enourmous problem. He has been*

>> *writing his memoirs of World War 2 on the laptop I gave*

>> *him and was upto about 50 pages when disaster strikes.*

He

>> *deletes all his work and is left with 3 words*

>>

>> *He phoned me up in a panic and unfortunately he had*

>> *already closed the document and pressed save!!! (so it is*

>> *saved as just the 3 words and not the 60,000 or so he has*

>> *written!!!*

>>

>> *(To you and me it is obvious what he should have done,*

>> *but he is 81 and I think it is remarkable he even*

knows

>> *how to turn a PC on, go into word, write and save his*

>> *work)*

>>
>> *I havn't yet seen the PC but fear for the worst.*
>>
>> *We do have a fairly recent copy saved but he has done*
a
>> *lot since I last backed it up for him!*
>>
>> *Is there any way that his latest work is recoverable?*
>> *Basically I would like to see a list of his recent*
saves
>> *for that document and be able to revert to one by*
picking
>> *the date and time.*
>>
>> *I am sure I have seen programs for this but can't*
>> *remember and would be ever so grateful for the help.*
>>
>> *I feel sooo sorry for the poor guy and he'll be really*
>> *upset if he can't get it back.*
>>
>> *Many, many thanks to anyone who offers some advice on*
how
>> *to get this work back*
>
>*I'll suppose your granddad opened word, closed it,*
opened, closed it
>*etc. Back in the old days, on Novell, they had a*
program called
>*Salvage. It saved my ass more than once. Basically,*
when I saved the a
>*file, it gets written to a new location and the previous*
copy has a flag
>*noting it is deleted. The deleted file becomes unused*
disk space,
>*available for new files to be written there. So Salvage*
would pull up
>*all of those deleted copies and I could recover them. I*
once went in
>*and Salvaged Test.Prg and had about 5 copies to select,*
one went back a
>*few months.*
>
>*You might want to Google on deleted files in*
<http://groups.google.com>
>*and simply look for deleted software.*
>
>*I doubt Word saves the file in the same location each*
time. The thing
>*is that you don't know if something will be*
saved/overwritten in that
>*same spot after the file has been deleted since that*

space is now

>*available for use. So you want to check on this as soon as possible.*

>

>*You might want to find some of that undelete software and if there is a*

>*contact, call them up and see if they've ever recovered from a problem*

>*like you described.*

>

>*Now if Word was never closed, then I'd say you are SOL.*

>

>*I wouldn't know if your granddad is a fast typist. You might consider*

>*getting him a voice recorder and a bunch of cassettes for it and let him*

>*get his thoughts down via voice. THEN let him give you what he has*

>*spoken and transcribe them...as a gift...for his legacy. I remember too*

>*there was voice recognition software...if they've improved it that might*

>*be a nice gift for your granddad. Let him speak and let the computer do*

>*the writing.*

>

>.

>