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WipeDrive and the Secure Deletion of Data

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KEEPING PRIVATE DATA SECURE

When any information is entered into a computer, it is stored in multiple locations; for example, if a credit card number is used to make a purchase online, it will be saved in the internet browser's cache, temporary internet files, and other places. Even if the browser cache is cleared and the temporary internet files are deleted, the information is still present on the drive and, if not overwritten, can be easily reconstructed using any common data recovery program.

WHY DELETING A FILE IS INSECURE

When Windows saves any file, it does two things: it creates an entry for the file in the Master File Table, which functions as a sort of "table of contents" for the drive, and it saves the file data itself onto sectors of the hard drive. If a file is deleted using the Recycle Bin, the file is not actually deleted. The file's entry in the Master File Table is deleted, but the data itself still remains intact on the hard drive, while the space that it occupies is marked for use, letting Windows know that the space is available for new files to be written to. Unless new data is written to the space held by the deleted file, the original file still exists on the drive in its original state.

Any number of file recovery programs can easily look through the drive and find remnants of the file's entry in the Master File Table and put the file back together, making it as if it was never deleted in the first place. The only way to truly delete a file is to overwrite it with other information.

PIECE MEAL OPTIONS

In the past, a complete wiping solution would have required the purchase of multiple programs. Certain wiping utilities are able to wipe x86 architectures, while an additional program would be necessary to wipe SPARC or PPC machines. Some programs can wipe using a boot floppy, but not a boot CD, while others can boot from a network but do not offer a Windows-based GUI.

THE WIPEDRIVE SOLUTION

SUPPORTS ALL HARDWARE

WipeDrive PRO 5.0 can wipe virtually every major hardware architecture, including x86, PPC, SPARC, AIX, and more. It also supports IDE, SATA, SCSI, and RAID configurations and can wipe multiple drives simultaneously with no reduction in speed. In addition, WipeDrive PRO 5.0 includes MediaWiper, which can wipe external media, floppy diskettes, USB drives, and more to government standards.

FULL COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS

WipeDrive PRO 5.0 is compliant with HIPAA, the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, Sarbanes-Oxley Act, The Patriot Act, Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act, and more. It can also perform wipes to the standards of the Department of Defense, as well as those of HMG Baseline and Enhanced, US Army, US Air Force, and more. WipeDrive can also perform custom, user-defined overwrites and advanced options can be utilized by running from a command line. In addition, custom builds are available to comply with any non-standard needs.

FULL AUDIT TRAIL

If a computer's drive is being decommissioned or reassigned, WipeDrive is the final step to securely overwrite all of the information on the drive and protect it from misuse. WipeDrive creates detailed logs of wipes performed, including a hardware diagnostic, drive serial numbers, a description of the wipe performed, the date and time of the wipe, the length of the wipe, and more. Log files can be saved to floppy drives, USB drives, or network locations.

MULTIPLE IMPLEMENTATION OPTIONS

WipeDrive PRO 5.0 can be installed within Windows and can also be run from a boot CD. CD image (ISO) files are available to make multiple copies of the disk for multiple machines and to create boot CDs for different system architectures, and custom builds are available if special solutions are needed. It can also be run from a bootable floppy created by our user-friendly Windows-based floppy creator program, or booted from a network machine.

IMPLEMENTING A SECURE RECYCLING PROGRAM WITH WIPEDRIVE

Between WipeDrive's simultaneous drive wiping and the flexibility of its boot options, it is easy to wipe even thousands of drives with minimal effort. It takes only moments to begin even an advanced wipe and requires no supervision. Log files can be saved as either .XML or .TXT files for easy record-keeping. Using network booting, hundreds of machines can be wiped simultaneously, and accommodating licensing options allow users to get exactly what they want.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

WipeDrive PRO 5.0 is the premier wiping utility. With its ability to perform customized wipes, its support of virtually any hardware architecture and configuration, its logging and reporting of performed wipes, and its flexibility in booting, WipeDrive PRO 5.0 will suit any and all of your wiping needs.