Image for Windows

Installation and Getting Started Guide

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What Is Image for Windows

Image is a Win32 based backup and restore utility that creates snapshot of an entire partition or volume to a set of files or directly to most DVD+RW/+R/-RW/-R or CD-R/RW drives. If something should ever happen to that partition or volume, you'll be able to simply restore the snapshot image.

Image for Windows is compatible with the imaging feature of BootIt NG and Image for DOS.

Limitations

Image for Windows requires that the system support Int 13h extensions for use with Win9x/ME. If your computer BIOS limits access to the hard drive for any reason and no drive manager is available to correct the limitation, Image for Windows will also be limited on those OS's.

Requirements

IBM-compatible personal computer with an i80386-compatible microprocessor, Win32 environment with 32MB RAM minimum recommended. Administrator privileges when running on Win NT/2K/XP.

Getting Started

1) Visit http://www.terabyteunlimited.com to make sure you have the latest version of Image for Windows, as well as the latest support information.
2) Install/upgrade Image for Windows on your hard drive by following the steps in installation (see below).
3) Read the "Issues to be aware of" section (see page 6).

Installation

Simply execute the included Setup program and follow the prompts.

If prompted to replace file CDBOOT.F35: Users who have purchased Image for Windows (which includes Image for DOS) will most likely want to answer "no" since they will want to keep using the CDBOOT.F35 file from the purchased version of Image for DOS. But trial version users should replace the file unless the user has a specific reason not to.

Settings

Align on End: This option insures that restored partitions are aligned at the end of a cylinder. User should leave this checked.

Burn Extra Track: Enable this option to write the image summary data to CD one as track two when directly imaging to CD. When burned this way, you won't have to insert the last CD before beginning the restore. NOTE: This option may not work correctly with all CD devices.

Use Volume Label: If this option is enabled and the drive contains an EMBR then FAT/FAT32/HPFS partition names will be that of the volume label instead of the name in the MPT. If no EMBR exists then this option is assumed.

Alternate CD Close Method: If you experience errors or problems when a CD is closing during an image to CD operation then enable this option to try a different closing technique. *If you are using a DVD writer then you'll more than likely need to enable this setting*.

Environment variables

The environment variables below are used when using the command line switches only.

To change the method used to burn a set of CDs so that it doesn't prompt for the last CD during a restore, set the environment variable IBXT to a value of 1. (i.e. set ibxt=1). Use of this setting may not work with all CD-R/RW drives.

You can have Image auto respond to prompts and error messages when creating an image to a file by using an environment variable named IAR. To use, set the first character of the variable to either Y or N (i.e. set iar=Y). With this setting any 'Y'es or 'N'o questions will be answered using that character. Additionally, any prompts that only have an "Ok" button are also

automatically responded to. If you would like to respond to the Unable to obtain a lock Abort/Ignore/Retry message then set the second character of the IAR variable to either R, A, or I (i.e. set iar=YI). NOTE: take special care if you use the 'R' setting as the program will appear to be imaging without any progress while it keeps trying to obtain the lock (you'll need to click cancel to stop it from trying). If you would like to only respond to the lock message then set the first character of IAR to something other than Y or N (i.e. set iar=xI). You can use errorlevel in a batch file to determine if the operation was successful or failed.

Command line options

Use can use imagew.exe with command line options. The options are required to be separated by spaces and entered in the order given below. Use the /? Command line option for additional command line options not explained here. If you're using a batch file, you'll probably want to start the process using "start /wait" followed by the imagew program (i.e. start /wait imagew). If you would like to run the program as a different user then under Win2K/XP you can use the "runas" command to start the batch file or you may want to use the scheduler (schedule tasks on the control panel). For NT/2K/XP you may want to try using something like SRVANY (comes with the NT resource kit) to run it as a service under an appropriate profile.

Creating a compressed image to a file:

Format 1:   imagew /Ch# d:\filename.img   (no validation)
Format 2:   imagew /Ch#V d:\filename.img   (validation)
Format 3:   imagew /Ch#VB d:\filename.img   (byte-for-byte validation)
Explanation: Replace the h with the source hard drive number from 0 to 7 and the # with the partition entry id. For most users the partition id will be a number from 1-4 or for volumes a number formatted as 0xPVV where P is the extended partition and VV is the volume number in hexadecimal from 01 to FF. If you're not sure of what the partition or volume id is, run image without any parameters and choose create image. The screen that lists the partitions and volumes also will display the id in parentheses as a hexadecimal number. You should prefix that number with a 0x on the command line.

Creating a uncompressed image to a file:

Format 1:   imagew /Ch# /U d:\filename.img   (no validation)
Format 2:   imagew /Ch#V /U d:\filename.img   (validation)
Format 3:   imagew /Ch#VB /U d:\filename.img   (byte-for-byte validation)
Explanation: Same as above.

Creating a compressed image to a CD drive:

Format 1:   imagew /Ch# /CDx
Explanation: The h and # information is same as above. The x after /CD is the CD drive number to use. Omit the number (/CD) to get a list of the devices.

Creating a uncompressed image to a CD drive:

Format 1:   imagew /Ch# /U /CDx
Explanation: Same as above

Restoring an image from a file:

Format 1:   imagew /R d:\filename.img   (no validation)
Format 2:   imagew /RV d:\filename.img   (validation if needed)
Explanation: Restores the image to the same hard drive and location on
                   the hard drive that is was backed up from.

Restoring an image from a CD:

Format 1:   imagew /R /CDx
Explanation: The x after /CD is the CD drive number to use. Omit the
                   number (/CD) to get a list of the devices.

Limiting the file size on creation:

Format: d:\filename;s
Explanation: Replace the s after the ';' with 0 for 2GB, 1 for 698MB, or
                   2 for 648MB.

Running the Program from a batch file:

Because it's a Win32 program you must use the "start" command with the
"/wait" switch. For example: "start /wait imagew /c00 d:\somefile".

Creating a bootable CD

As long as CDBOOT.F35 is in the working directory with imagew.exe an
independent bootable CD will be created when burning directory to a CD
drive.

However, the included CDBOOT.F35 file will only be able to restore from an
ATAPI CD drive on one of the standard (primary/secondary) ATA controllers.
If you would like to restore from other devices you would need to create
your own diskette image with the appropriate ASPI drivers and autoexec.bat
file to execute the image restore.

NOTE: This only applies when booting the CD created with CDBOOT.F35 --
you'll be able to restore from any CD-ROM drive under Windows.

Issues to be aware of

- When running under Win NT/2K/XP Pro you must have administrator
  privileges. Under Win2K/XP you can run as any user by right clicking
  and choosing the "Run As" option.
- When you are creating an image you shouldn't use the partition being
  backed up as the location of the image file. This is because the
  partition is being updated at the same time you're trying to back it

up. When you restored the partition the file system wouldn't be in a consistent state.

- If you create a backup without a lock being obtained, that backup may not be in a consistent state if updates to the drive were occurring during the backup. If the partition/volume is in use then it can't be locked. You should close any open files or programs that are using the drive letter you are wanting to backup.
Additionally, some virus checkers will prevent locking of any drive even with real time protection is off. For one, E-Trust under WinXP (but not Win98SE) causes this; if you wanted to obtain a lock then you would have to disable tfswctrl in msconfig and restart the PC otherwise you'd have to ignore the lock if you know it's not in use or use the DOS version of Image.

- Currently, to backup the system partition you'll have to either ignore the warning that the partition can't be locked, or use Image for DOS (your purchase of Image for Windows includes Image for DOS). The system partition can not be locked because it is being used by the system and perhaps additional drivers or services. However, ignoring the warning that the partition cannot be locked may result in a backup that is not in a consistent state.

- When you are restoring an image you can't restore over the partition that contains the source image file. This is because the restore will overwrite the file system structures and the image file itself.

- After restoring the system may need to reboot. This is required under certain conditions and determined by the program. If you didn't reboot when asked then the OS would still think the partition and file system was as it was before the restore. This could cause data corruption. You can override a command line restore with /RN but it should only be used by advanced users who know its safe to not reboot.

- When you do a command line restore, the restored partition will go to the same hard drive number and physical location on the drive as from where it was backed up. If it was a volume and there is no extended partition now at that location then it will attempt to create the original extended partition but, if it can't create the extended partition, it will be restored as a primary partition. If it was a primary partition and now an extended partition encompasses that location then it will be restored as a volume. If an existing partition or volume occupies the same starting location as the partition to be restored then, a warning message is issued before overwriting that partition or volume.

- Image doesn't change the SID of Windows NT/2K/XP systems. If you're going to use Image for deployment purposes then you should see the "For Deployment Purposes" under the "Examples of Use" section below. If you'd like to change the SID for WinNT/2K you can download a free utility named NewSID at:
http://www.sysinternals.com/ntw2k/source/newsid.shtml

- You can only restore via booting the CD when the CD drive is an ATAPI drive. For SCSI drives you must create your own CDBOOT.F35 file which will load the appropriate DOS, ASPI drivers as well as launch image via autoexec.bat if desired.

Orders, Support, and Licensing

If you continue to use Image for Windows beyond 30 days, you must purchase a "full-use" license for it. It is illegal to continue using Image for Windows beyond 30 days without a "full-use" license. Once you have purchased a "full-use" license the software is considered "registered".

You can purchase the "full-use" license on-line by clicking under the Purchase link at http://www.terabyteunlimited.com or you can use the order form included towards the end of this document and in a separate file named "REGISTER.TXT".

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The primary support communication method will be use of on-line services. The most resent versions of software and information will be available on the TeraByte Unlimited website, http://www.terabyteunlimited.com.

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