

The Wayback Machine - <https://web.archive.org/web/20120530004052/http://archive.x1.com:80/link.html?http://www.itworld.com/...>

Special: Blade Servers: Purchasing Considerations



ITworld.com
SITE NETWORK



Vendor Offer

[Click here to find out more!](#)

Webcasts

White Papers

Newsletters

Topics

Careers

Voices

[Changing the way you view IT](#)

Search utility possible solution for Longhorn's missing WinFS

ITworld.com, Windows in the Enterprise 9/20/04

Bryan Muehlberger, ITworld.com

In June, I wrote a short series on Microsoft's next major operating system release, codenamed Longhorn. I raved about the much-anticipated WinFS file system that was supposed to replace the existing file system with a more robust SQL-based version.

Unfortunately, Microsoft announced that WinFS will not be included in the Longhorn release. Bad news for those of us who were looking forward to being able to more easily search our entire system for any file, e-mail, contact and so on. The current Windows file system requires that you open each application to search for different types of files - Explorer for files, Outlook for e-mail and contacts. WinFS was going to give us "googling"-like capabilities.

So what do we do now?

I found a product called X1 Search (<http://www.x1.com>). I've been evaluating it for two weeks and it's one of the best utilities I've used. Priced slightly higher than I would expect, the amount of time saved searching for data has probably already paid for the cost of the software. The product is functional and offers the ability to search everything on your system.

After the product installation is complete, your entire system is indexed. This includes every file with the exception of system files, temporary files, and a few others. It then performs periodic scheduled updates to the index files. After the initial index of your system, you can

search for almost anything. For example, you can search for a string, contained in any cell within a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet even if this spreadsheet is contained within a zip file somewhere on your system. You can find any string within the name of a file, or contained within the contents of a file. You can find an old e-mail that contains a particular word, from a particular person on a particular date.

I don't have the space to go through all of the options, but I would recommend that you take a look at X1 and download the trial to see if you are as impressed as I am by the capabilities of this powerful utility.

Too bad Microsoft didn't think of this!

Bryan Muehlberger is the Manager of Data Center Operations for a global pharmaceutical company in St. Louis. He holds a Masters in Business (MBA) from Washington University in St. Louis and Bachelors in Computer Science with a minor in Mathematics from the University of Missouri. Prior to his current role, he was president of a St. Louis- based Microsoft Certified Solutions Provider specializing in Microsoft-based technology solutions. Reach him at: bryan_muehlberger@itworld.com

[Advertisements](#)

[Sponsored links](#)

Virtualization for Today's Business.

Rackspace: Windows or Linux Dedicated Hosting and Fanatical Support.

Windows or Linux? Get the