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W4 1.1.5 Release Highlights

Released: 27 February, 2023

General

- Improvements to the default case memory settings, reducing the risk of out of memory errors.
- Resolved an issue with W4 portable not being able to run on a machine without HASP driver installed when W4 is used with a dongle. Now HASP driver will be automatically installed on first run.

Installer

- The Desktop and Start menu shortcuts created by the installer now reflect the installed product version in the shortcut name.
- Several additional executables bundled by the installer are now digitally signed. This reduces false positives with security software packages.

Case manager

- Added a visual user interface for configuring crawler settings: memory, count and timeout.

Indexing

- Added support for discontinuous AFF4 images.
- Improvements related to indexing MS Exchange EDB databases. A new EDB processor has been integrated, based on Microsoft's open-source Extensible Storage Engine (ESE) framework.
- Several disk image processing improvements related to third party library upgrades.
- One can now use a "numbers.txt" file to specify the sender of chat messages in an evidence source. Earlier, this mechanism would only apply to the phone calls and SMS/MMS messages found in that source.
- Improved the time needed to perform PST/OST email recovery. Field tests often reported 25-50% time savings.
- Resolved an issue where adding of an AFF4 image holding an encrypted APFS file system would fail to show the "Encrypted volume detected" dialog.
- Resolved an issue with disk images failing to process correctly when the number of disk image parts exceeded ~800 files.

- Resolved an issue with indexing failed to complete on Linux ext2 file systems.
- Resolved several issues with indexing Slack exports.
- Resolved a rare issue where the crawling retry mechanism would result in a broken case.
- Resolved an issue with indexing AFF4-L disk images made with Axiom.
- Resolved an issue with indexing disk images that have file names containing non-Latin characters, including umlauts (e.g., ü).
- Resolved an issue with missing chat messages when indexing an iTunes backup.
- Resolved an issue with disk images failing to index when certain time zones were used in the source settings.
- Resolved several issues with DMG images that failed to validate.
- Resolved an issue with indexing disk images that contain a pool of APFS file systems.
- Resolved an issue with indexing AD1 disk images made from CDs or DVDs.
- Resolved an issue with images embedded in MSG emails not being classified as embedded images.
- Resolved an issue with W4 failing to distinguish a BitLocker To Go partition from a Windows 95 boot partition.

Previewer

- Added support for displaying WebP images.
- Improvements in displaying emojis.
- Resolved an issue with the native preview tab showing an incorrect date for so-called "Fixed date" fields in MS PowerPoint slides.
- Resolved an issue with MSG emails failing to preview when they contain an embedded calendar.



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Searching

- Various improvements to keyword searching based on third party library upgrades.
- Improved searching on email addresses when using wildcards, and on complex terms that mix letters, numbers, and certain symbols.

Exporting

- Resolved an issue with items failing to export when their file name contained forbidden device names, such as AUX, PRN, COM1, LPT1, etc. File name normalization was already in place but failed to capture certain corner cases.
- Resolved an issue with W4 not restoring the original file dates when exporting items to original format.

Upgrade Notes

Cases created with W4 1.1.5 are not compatible with W4 1.1.4 and older. That means that W4 1.1.5 cannot open cases created with older versions, and older versions cannot open cases created with 1.1.5. We recommend to keep using 1.1.4 if there is a need to work with older cases.

[Download a copy of W4 1.1.5](#)



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