

Checking the Size of the Spool Directory on Windows

Posted At : November 11, 2008 12:51 PM | Posted By : Mark Kruger

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If you ever send out a few tens of thousands of messages using CF you know the spool directory can get pretty crowded. If you are like me you sometimes want to keep an eye on it as those messages clear out to make sure there is nothing funky going on. If you use Windows Explorer this can be a maddening experience. Windows doesn't just retrieve a count of files. It retrieves the entire file list and meta data and it redraws the explorer window. When you have 50k messages in the spool folder it can take 10 to 30 seconds just for Windows to refresh the count so you can know how many were added or deleted to the folder.

Instead, I use a little tool called "t4edirsizes" from [tools 4 Ever](#). I have a "show spool" batch file on my servers that looks like this:

```
@echo  
  
t4edirsizes.exe d:\cfusion8\mail\spool
```

The output gives me all sorts of information including the number of files in the directory - but it usually only takes 50-200 milliseconds to run. Tools 4 ever command line tools along with [Sys-Internals](#) tools (now owned by Microsoft) like "pslist" and "pskill" are essential to your arsenal as a troubleshooter.