



Product Name

Visual Patch Express
The Easiest Way to Create Software Patches

Product Pricing

\$195 (USD)

Platform

Windows 95, 98, ME, NT 4.0 (SP6), 2000, XP, Vista

Category

Software Development Tools / Software Updating /
Patch Creation

Product Overview

Visual Patch Express is the perfect solution for developers looking for the fastest and easiest way to create point-release patches. Featuring state-of-the-art DeltaMAX™ binary difference compression and a streamlined interface, Visual Patch Express makes patch creation simple and uncomplicated.

There's no scripting or programming involved - just a few wizard questions to answer. Select the folders containing your old version and your new release and then customize a few messages to personalize your patch. Click on "build" and Visual Patch Express will handle the rest, creating a patch that works on any version of Windows from 95 to Vista.



Features

- **Fully Compatible** - Patches created with Visual Patch are compatible with every Windows operating system from Windows 95 to Vista.
- **Rollback Protection** - Patches can back up any modified files and automatically 'roll back' to the originals if an error occurs or a user aborts the patching process.
- **Automatic File Backup** - Supports automatic backup of patched files, as well as the creation of an administrative log file.
- **Point to Point** - Visual Patch Express is designed for making patches from one point release to another. It's perfect for use with automatic Internet updating systems like TrueUpdate.
- **Data Security** - Unlike a full software installer, patch files contain only the data needed to update older versions - making them ideal for public website distribution.
- **100% Data Integrity** - Patches are only applied to the exact files they're intended for. Using a combination of 128-bit MD5 hashing, CRC-32 checksums and industry standard data encryption protocols, applications and data are kept safe from unauthorized use, transmission errors and other threats.
- **No Scripting** - You don't have to be a programmer to use Visual Patch Express. Simply choose your old and new files and click on build.
- **High Performance Binary Differencing Engine** - State-of-the-art delta compression algorithms developed specifically for their impressive speed characteristics, especially for gigabyte-sized files. *Create smaller patches for larger files faster.*
- **Five Easy Steps** - It couldn't be easier to use. Just fill in the blanks and click on build to create reliable, compact patches for your software and other data.
- **Incredible Speed** - Visual Patch Express is able to generate patch files in only seconds – not the hours required by some tools.
- **Tiny Patches** - Distribute only the parts of your files that have changed. The compression ratios can be as dramatic as 99% or more!
- **Handles Huge Files** - Competitive tools can stall out on files as small as 40 MB. We handle gigabyte sized files with ease.
- **Lightweight and Self-Contained** - Creates self-extracting executable patches that are compact, optimized, and completely self-contained, with no external dependencies or extras to distribute.
- **Patch Customization** - Customize the runtime dialog text for the welcome message, license agreement, completion notice and error messages.
- **Multiple Detection Methods** - Multiple methods of version detection, including querying a registry key, parsing command line parameters and system searches.
- **FREE Technical Support** - Free web/email technical support is available, as well as cost-effective consulting and integration services. We don't outsource our technical support. We'll answer your questions quickly and efficiently.
- **Proven Record** - Indigo Rose Software products are trusted by over 20,000 software developers worldwide for reliability and exceptional technical support.

Benefits of Software Patching

The role of patches in the software deployment cycle is to get already-installed software up to date after it becomes outdated. Patching technology offers numerous benefits over simply redistributing new full versions.

The first and most fundamental benefit is a dramatic reduction in file size, which leads to reduced bandwidth and storage costs. Because they only contain the data that has changed from one version to another, patches can be much smaller than a full installer or compressed archive. Especially in situations where large data files are involved, the savings are often dramatic, with typical bandwidth reductions between 90% and 99%.

Having less data to transmit means that updates can be sent and received faster, which means less time is spent waiting for updates, improving the user's update experience and making automatic "background" updates feasible.

Binary differencing also makes the update process more secure. Transmitting only tiny portions of a file in a format that can't be used without the original greatly reduces the risk of unauthorized use.

Competitive Position

Some tools claim to support large-file patching, but they process large files so slowly that it really isn't feasible to use them for that purpose. Visual Patch Express uses a unique binary differencing algorithm that was developed to process very large files as quickly as possible. It does this while also achieving the best compression performance possible on all file sizes, large and small.

For example, in benchmark testing Visual Patch Express was able to create a patch for a 1.2 GB data file in under 3 minutes, whereas the nearest competitor we tested required more than 70 minutes to process the data on the same system. Some of the competing tools we tested were not even able to process such a large file, and either failed completely or were still processing after 24 hours.

Remarkably, Visual Patch Express achieves its speed without sacrificing performance, creating patches that compare favorably in size to patches created by other tools. In fact, the speed of Visual Patch Express permits additional size optimizations that are not feasible with other tools. For example, it can automatically perform multiple passes with different settings in order to find the optimal parameters for each particular file-and still manage to do so in less time than competing tools require for a single pass!

Product Comparison	Visual Patch Express	Visual Patch 2.0
Easy to Use	✓	✓
DeltaMAX Compression	✓	✓
Point to Point Patching	✓	✓
Full History Patching	✗	✓
Multi-Version Management	✗	✓
Customizable Dialogs	Limited	Extensive
Interface Themes / Skins	✗	✓
Scripting Engine	✗	✓

System Requirements

In order to build patches, a developer requires:

- Windows 95/98/ME/NT4(SP6)/2000/XP/Vista
- 128 MB RAM (1 GB RAM recommended)
- 800x600 display resolution
- 20 MB free hard drive space

In order to run the patches, an end user requires:

- Windows 95/98/ME/NT4(SP6)/2000/XP/Vista
- 32 MB RAM
- 640x480 display resolution
- 10 MB free hard drive space

Company Background

Located in the historic Exchange District of Winnipeg, Canada, Indigo Rose Software Corporation has been developing innovative software development tools and professional multimedia applications since 1991. We are a privately held Canadian corporation with a global focus, providing software developers with tools to manage the complete software deployment life cycle. Our products are in use by thousands of corporate, government and ISV developers to reach millions of users worldwide.

Contact Information

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ORDERING INFORMATION

Indigo Rose Part #:	VPE10
UPC:	7 67370 00135 7
ISBN:	1-896711-10-3
Box Type:	Screen printed CD-ROM in shrink wrapped DVD case with full color trap sheet
Box Size:	7 1/2" x 5 1/4" x 5/8" (19 cm x 13.5 cm x 1.4cm)
Weight:	3.4oz (96g) per package (approximate weight)