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Micro Vault Virtual Expander -- README -- Version 2.04.00

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Micro Vault Virtual Expander is compression software originally designed for the Micro Vault.

Micro Vault Virtual Expander compresses files just by dragging & dropping the files to the Micro Vault, and allowing you to expand capacity.

--- Note ---

* Virtual Expander application only operates with Micro Vaults USM-D Plus, USM-E Plus, USM-J, USM-H, USM-JX, USM-L, and USM-LX.

* Don't rename files named 'VirtualExpander.exe' or 'Decompression.exe'. Otherwise, the software may not start correctly.

* The "Decompression.exe" application can be used in computing environments other than the Micro Vault drive.

* This software are compatible with Windows 2000 Professional (SP3 and higher), XP Home Edition/Professional (SP1 and higher), Vista Home Basic/Home Premium/Business/Enterprise/Ultimate (32Bit only). Virtual Expander does not support the 64-bit version of Windows Vista.

* Administrator rights are required when using Micro Vault Virtual Expander.

* If you selected "No" in answer to the question "Would you like Virtual Expander to be active each time the computer is started (recommended)?", you must double-click the "Virtual Expander.exe" icon to start up the application again after restarting the computer or putting it in Standby or logging off.

* Only the applications 'Virtual Expander' and 'Decompression' can open files which are compressed by Virtual Expander. Please open them after decompression, or, open them with Microsoft Explorer.

* When an application is closed, file extensions may appear as Micro Vault Virtual Expander compression file extension (*.vem). This is normal and isn't a computer malfunction.

* Files that have already been compressed and files of 2KB or less are saved unchanged, without being compressed.

Following type of files are not compressed by Virtual Expander because the compressed files may be used by Music/Video player which does not allow play the compressed files, or may increase file size slightly because of the original types of the files.

mpg/mp4/wmv/mp3/wma/jpg/zip/lzh

* When a compressed file is opened from the Micro Vault drive, the file will open after a decompressed version of the file is saved to the Micro Vault drive. At the same time, the original compressed file will be removed. Note that it won't be compressed automatically when you close the file after using it. If you want to compress the file again, right click on the file icon to select "Compression"

* Files may not be compressed correctly depending on application used when you save files to Micro Vault from application directly. In this case, copy file to Micro Vault after saving it to the PC, or, save it to Micro Vault while stopping Micro Vault Virtual Expander function temporarily.

* When you move a lot of files at one time, infrequently some files will not be compressed. In this case, compress by right clicking to select compression manually, or, right click on the taskbar tray to select 'All files compression'.

* The file indication infrequently might not be refreshed on Explorer. In this case, refresh the indication on Explorer manually.

* Frequently, file size may increase slightly when it is compressed. Micro Vault Virtual Expander application adds some information to the header of the compressed file. Therefore, it occurs because some file types that are compressed doesn't change in content size as such and the size of the additional header is added.

* Icon before compression isn't indicated after file types of "exe" and so on are compressed. But, the function is available.

* Virtual expander will make compression by software program.

Process time for automatic compression may vary depending upon hardware and operating system environment, and which may make the transfer speed different.

* Micro Vault can not be safely removed from PC while Virtual Expander is running. When you remove Micro Vault from PC, right-click the Virtual Expander icon in the taskbar tray and select 'Safely Remove' in menu.

* When Micro Vault is being accessed or otherwise busy, selecting the "Safely Remove" from the Virtual Expander icon in the taskbar tray may fail.

Should this happen, either exit applications that access the Micro Vault (for example, exit Explorer when that application is used to view data stored in the Micro Vault) or wait a few moments before running "Safely Remove" again.

* Regardless of whether or not running "Safely Remove" from the Virtual Expander icon fails, this operation will terminate automatic compression from the Micro Vault you tried to remove. In this case, files copied to the Micro Vault will not be compressed. To restore compression, select "Automatic compression drive" from the Virtual Expander icon and select the target Micro Vault drive.

--- How to use ---

1. Double-click the 'Virtual Expander.exe' icon on the Micro Vault to start the application.
2. If you want to perform startup registration, click "Yes." Otherwise click "No." When "Yes" is selected, Virtual Expander will start automatically when the computer starts up.
3. When you start Micro Vault Virtual Expander, the Micro Vault Virtual Expander icon will be displayed in the Taskbar tray located at the lower right of the screen.
4. Dragging and dropping a file into the Micro Vault will automatically compress the file. Even

if the file is already compressed, a small mark will be added to its icon to indicate "compressed file".

* When you start this application for the first time, the small mark won't be added to the icon until you re-start the computer. If you select startup registration and re-start the computer, the small mark is added to the icon instantaneously.

5. When opening a compressed file from the Micro Vault drive, double-click on the file. After a decompressed version of the file is saved to the Micro Vault, the file will open. And the original compressed file is removed automatically.

* The file will not be compressed automatically when you close it after using it. If you want to compress the file again, right click on the file icon to select "Compression".

* When free space in the Micro Vault is lower than decompressed file size, a message "Free space is not enough." is displayed. Copy the file to hard disk and open it.

6. Dragging and dropping a file from the Micro Vault will automatically decompress the file.

7. If you want to compress a file in Micro Vault, right click on the file icon to select "Compression".

8. If you want to decompress a file in Micro Vault, right click on the file to select "Decompression".

9. If you want to compress multiple files in the Micro Vault, right click on the icon in the Taskbar tray to select 'All File Compression'

10. To stop the Micro Vault Virtual Expander function temporarily, right-click the Micro Vault Virtual Expander icon in the Taskbar tray, select "Automatic compression drive," and clear the check box next to the desired drive.

11. When you remove Micro Vault from PC, right-click the Virtual Expander icon in the taskbar tray and select 'Safely Remove' in menu..

12. Select "Automatic compression drive," and clear the checkbox next to the desired drive before removing the Micro Vault.

13. To decompress files and folders in a location other than on the Micro Vault drive, copy and

use the "Decompression.exe" application from the Micro Vault drive.

Dragging and dropping a compressed file on the icon of "Decompression.exe" it will be compressed automatically. Another way is to double-click the "Decompression.exe" icon and select a compressed file to decompress.

* Please decompress one file only at a time. Don't decompress batches of files.

"Decompression.exe" is available via download.

<http://www.sony.net/Products/Media/Microvault/>

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