

ScreenMaster series

Paperless recorders



File transfer scheduler

Measurement made easy

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ScreenMaster series
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1 Introduction

The File Transfer Scheduler (FTS) program extends the archiving capabilities of SM Series Videographic Recorders connected to a network. FTS can be programmed to:

- retrieve data from recorders at regular intervals without manual intervention
- synchronize the internal clock of recorders with the internal clock of the PC on which FTS is running.

A data retrieval schedule and a clock synchronization schedule can be defined for each recorder on the network. The data retrieval schedule lists the times when file retrieval is to occur, the files to be retrieved and the location where the files are to be saved. The clock synchronization schedule lists the times when the recorder's internal clock is to be synchronized with that of the PC.

The File Transfer Scheduler runs automatically, retrieving and storing files and synchronizing clocks according to schedules defined for each recorder.

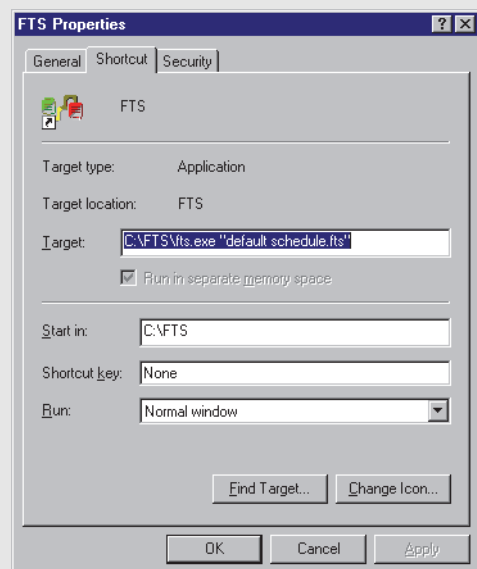
2 Operation

2.1 Starting the Program

Once started, the program runs in the background and does not need to be restarted to collect files. If the computer is turned off and restarted regularly, use standard Microsoft™ Windows procedures to place a shortcut for the program in the startup menu. FTS then starts automatically at user login.

Note. If the program is to start automatically without operator intervention to load the schedule file, the name of the schedule file in which the schedule is saved must be included in the command line.

Example – 'c:\fts\fts.exe' 'default shedule.fts'



When the program is running, a FTS icon is displayed in the system tray (adjacent to the clock at the right-hand end of the status bar) – see Fig. 2.1.

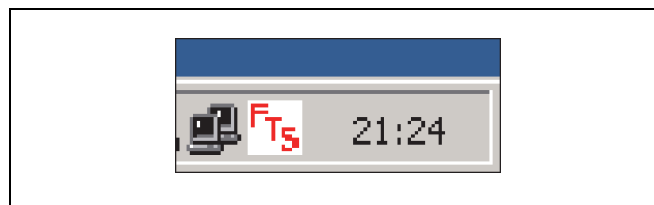


Fig. 2.1 'File Transfer Schedule' Icon

Double-clicking the icon opens the 'File Transfer Schedule' window – see Fig. 2.2. This is used to configure and control all file transfer and scheduling operations.

Note. Closing the 'File Transfer Schedule' window does not close the FTS program. To close the program, refer to Section 2.9, page 8.

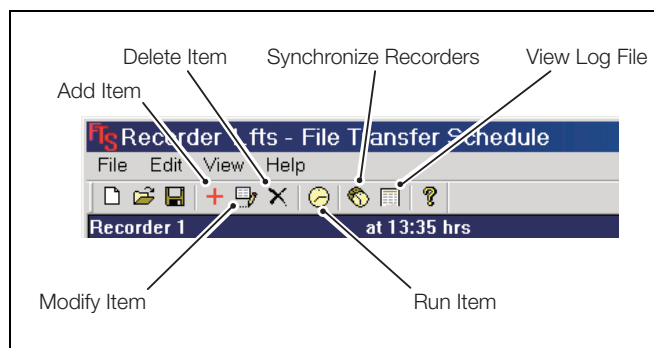



Fig. 2.2 'File Transfer Schedule' Window

2.2 Creating a New Schedule

A schedule can be configured to run on specified days, either at four specified times or at hourly intervals between specified times. It can also be run whenever the FTS program is started.

To create a new schedule, click the  button on the toolbar to display the 'Schedule' dialog box. Here, the details of the instrument, the files to be retrieved and scheduled times are entered – see Fig. 2.4 on page 7.

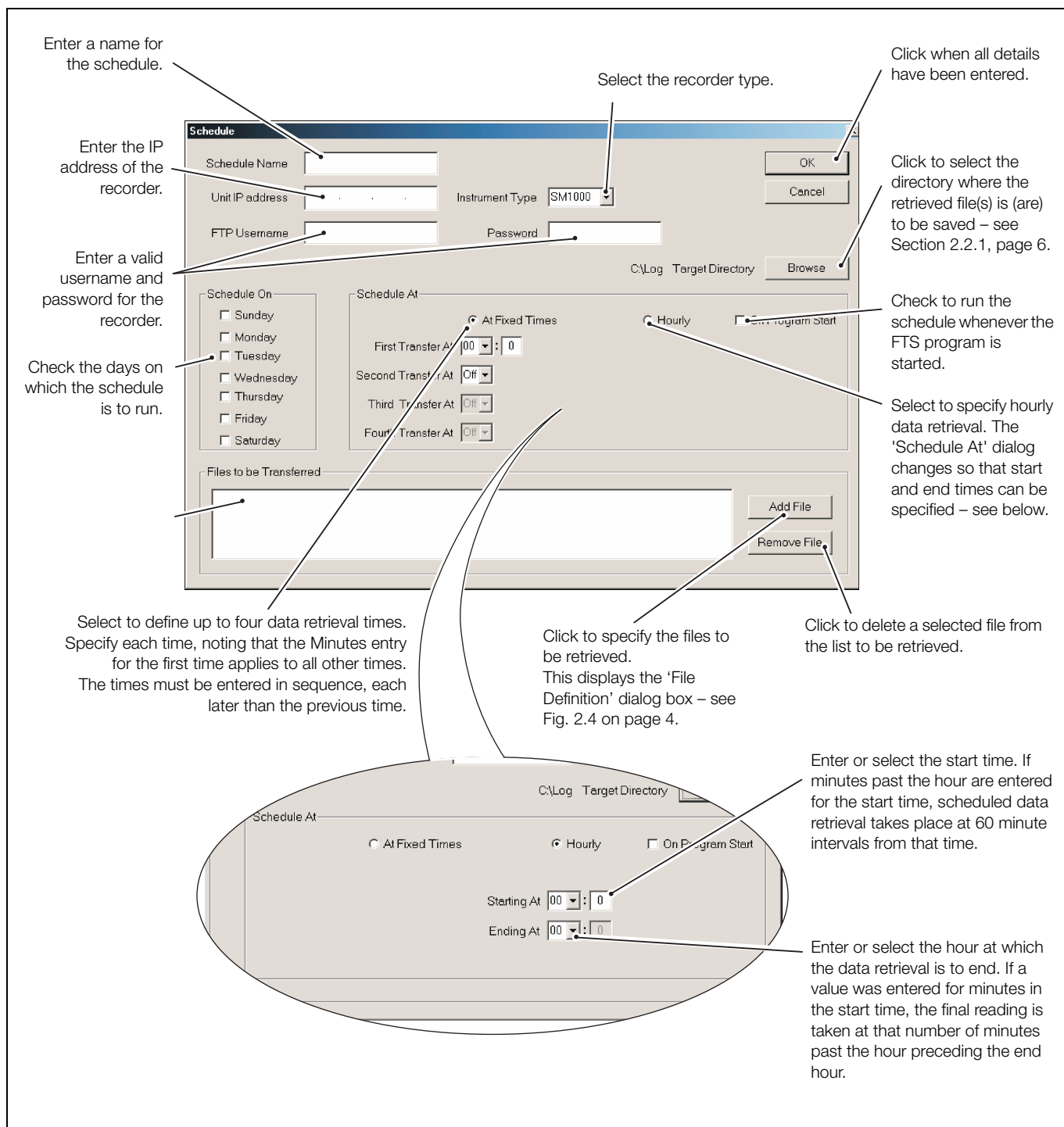


Fig. 2.3 'Schedule' Dialog Box

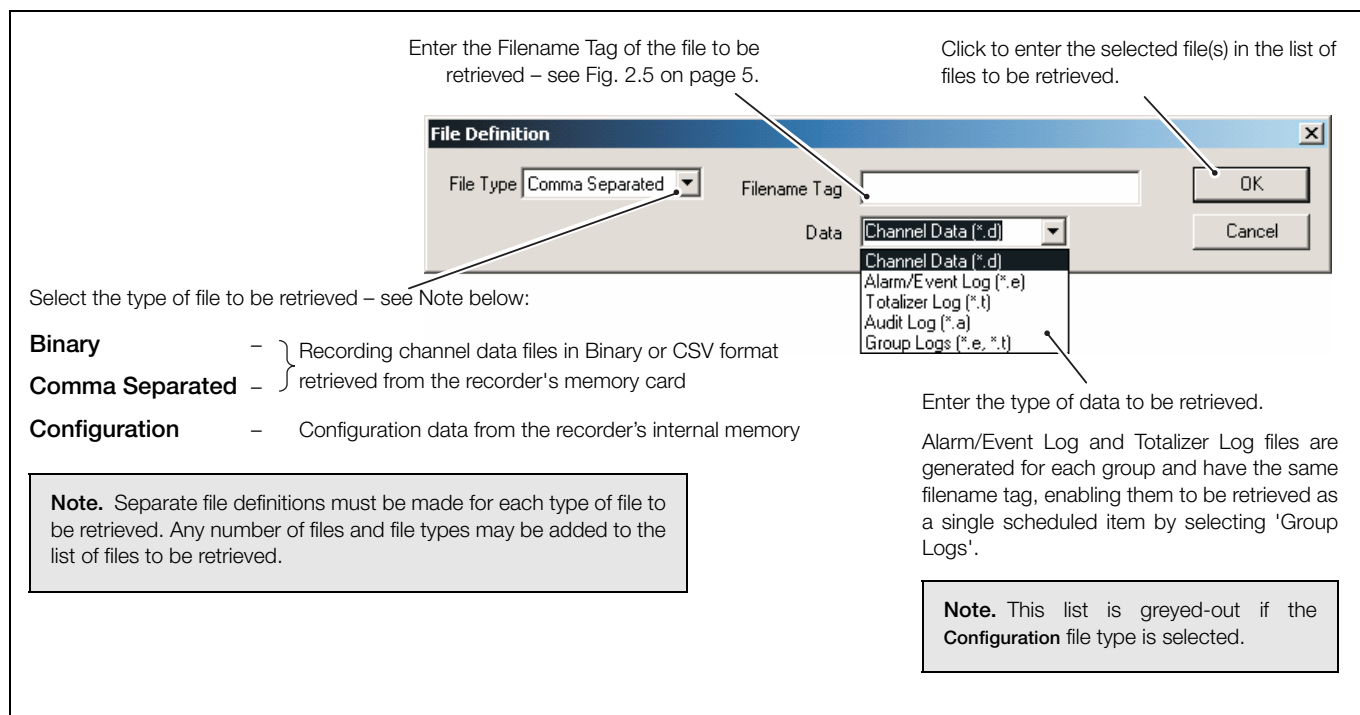


Fig. 2.4 'File Definition' Dialog Box

Ensure that the name entered in the 'Filename Tag' field of the 'File Definition' dialog box (see Fig. 2.4 on page 4) matches **exactly** that entered in the relevant parameter of the recorder from which the file(s) is (are) to be retrieved – see below

SM500F, SM1000 and SM2000

Note. The screenshots at left are taken from the SM2000 – the SM500F and SM1000 are similar.

Text (CSV) format Channel Data (*.d) archive files – as per 'Filename tag' parameter on 'Archive' Tab in 'Group Configuration'

Note. Text (CSV) format Channel Data files are applicable only to SM500F, SM1000 and SM2000 recorders and only when the 'Archive file format' parameter is set to 'Text format'.


Binary format Channel Data (*.b, *.v) archive files and Audit Log (*.a) archive files – as per 'Instrument tag' parameter on 'Setup' Tab in 'Common Configuration'

SM3000

Alarm/Event Log (*.e) and Totalizer Log (*.t) archive files – as per 'Tag' parameter on 'Recording' Tab in 'Group Configuration'

Fig. 2.5 Filename Tags

2.2.1 Selecting a Directory in which to Save Retrieved File(s)

When creating a new schedule, select the directory into which the retrieved file(s) is (are) to be saved by clicking the  button – see Fig. 2.3 on page 3. The 'Select Target Directory' dialog box is displayed – see Fig. 2.6.

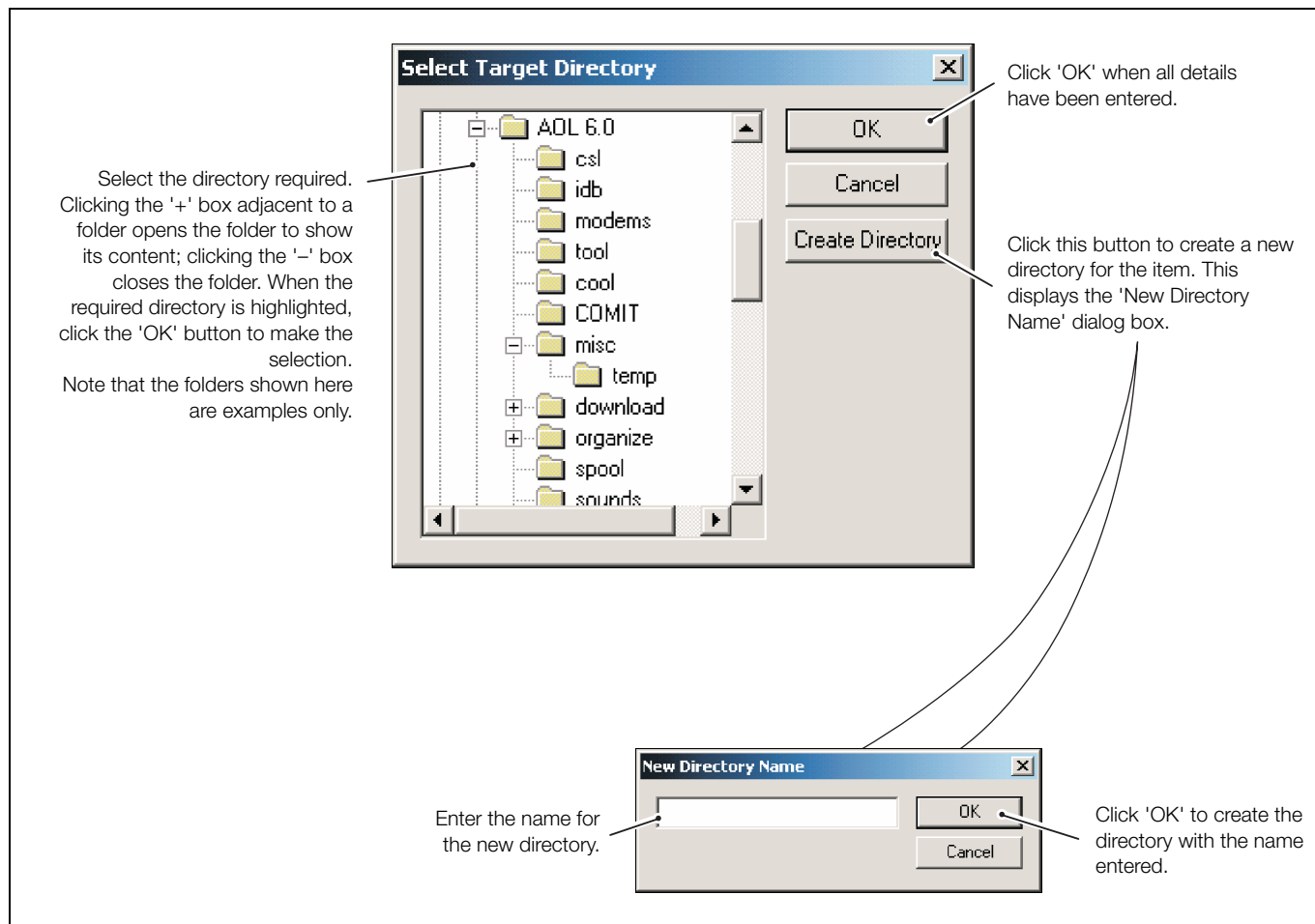



Fig. 2.6 'Target Directory' Dialog Box

2.3 Modifying a Schedule

Schedules can be changed at any time:


1. In the 'File Transfer Schedule' window (see Fig. 2.2 on page 2), highlight the schedule to be modified.
2. Click the  button on the toolbar or double-click the selected schedule.

The 'Schedule' dialog box (see Fig. 2.3 on page 3) is displayed containing the selected schedule's details.

3. Make the required changes to the schedule and click the 'OK' button.

2.4 Deleting a Schedule

To delete a schedule:

1. In the 'File Transfer Schedule' window (see Fig. 2.2 on page 2), highlight the required schedule.
2. Click the  button on the toolbar or right-click on the required schedule and select 'Delete' from the popup menu.

The item is deleted immediately, with no warning message.

2.5 Saving a Schedule


When a schedule has been created, it must be saved under a unique name:

1. Open the 'File' menu and select 'Save As'.
2. Select the required directory and enter a file name (ensuring that the extension is .fts) and click the 'Save' button.

Click the  button on the toolbar to save further changes to a named schedule.

2.6 Running a Schedule


A schedule can be run manually at any time:

1. In the 'File Transfer Schedule' window (see Fig. 2.2 on page 2), highlight the schedule to be run.
2. Click the  button on the toolbar, or right-click on the selected schedule and select 'Run Schedule Now' from the popup menu.

The schedule is marked with a red asterisk to show that it is currently active.

2.7 Recorder Synchronization

Recorder synchronization can be scheduled at a specified time on specified days or monthly at a specified time and date.

To create a new synchronization schedule, click the  button on the toolbar to display the 'Synchronization' dialog box. Here, the details of the instrument and the times at which synchronization is to take place are entered – see Fig. 2.7.

Note. To enable recorder synchronization, the User must have FTP access to the instrument to be synchronized and the parameter 'Remote Configuration' must be set to 'Configuration' for that User – refer to:

SM500F	– On-line help files for the Ethernet Module
SM1000 and SM2000–	IM/SMENET Section 3
SM3000	– IM/SM3000 Section 4.4.5

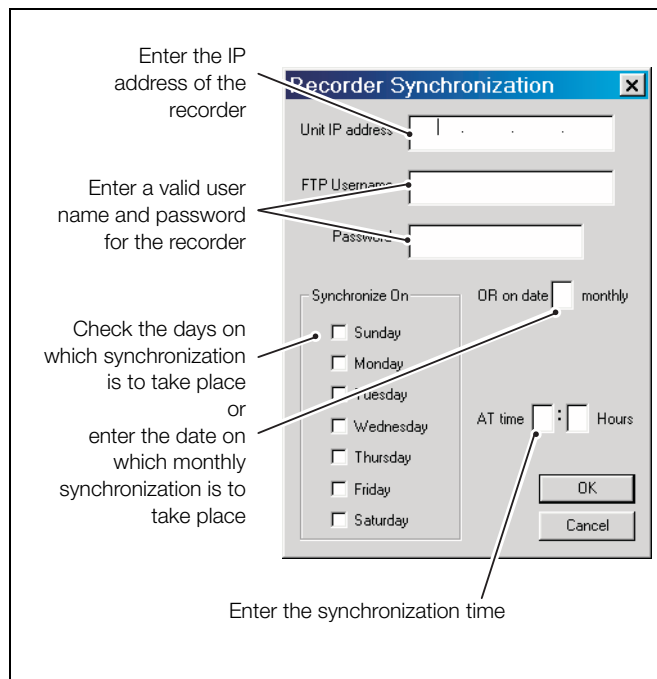


Fig. 2.7 Recorder Synchronization Dialog Box

2.8 Viewing the Log File

Whenever a schedule is run, either automatically or manually, all of its actions are recorded in a log file with the name 'Scheduled File Transfer Log.txt'.

To view the log file, click the  button on the toolbar.

Notepad opens showing all the entries in the log file – see Fig. 2.8.

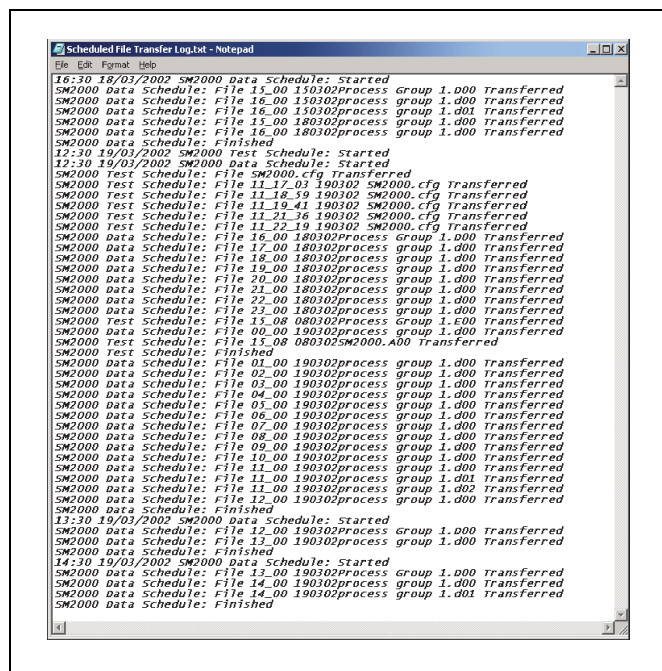
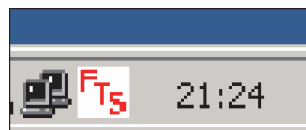


Fig. 2.8 Typical Log File

2.9 Closing the Program

To close the 'File Transfer Scheduler' program:

1. Right-click the FTS icon in the system tray (adjacent to the clock at the right-hand end of the status bar):



An option menu is displayed:



2. Choose 'Exit FTS' to close the program.

2.10 Data Retrieval Selection Criteria

Each time a schedule is run, details of the retrieved files are recorded in a schedule file. This file is checked at the next schedule run time and any files with the same size and modified date and time are not retrieved.

Acknowledgements

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