

FindBad v2.22 for Win32

Program Description

The FindBad utility, part of the Btrieve Datafile Recovery ToolKit, is used to locate the first bad data page or data page pointer in a data file.

It works by using Btrieve to scan the data file in physical order until it hits a non-zero status. At this time, it displays the terminating status, the position of the last valid record retrieved (logical position as well as a calculated physical position), and it saves the last record accessed to a file called LASTREC.DMP.

This information can then be used to manually examine a file to determine the location and cause of the corruption, and hopefully to allow it to be fixed.

FindBad also allows you to run a file via a given key and export ONLY the key value. This may be useful to find inconsistencies in the key structure versus the data structure.

Platform and Package

Win32; Btrieve Administrators Recovery ToolKit; GSLic

Pricing

Available as part of the BART toolkit.

Command Line Syntax and Help Screen

FindBad Version 2.22: 07/11 (C)2024 Goldstar Software Inc.

Usage: FINDBAD SrcFile [/K#] [/A# /L#] [/B]

This utility STEPS through a file until it hits an error other than EOF. Then, it displays the location of the last valid record. Use the /K option to specify a key (Default=Physical). Use the /A option to walk a key ONLY and create a UNF file with /L bytes. Use the /B option to scan backwards from the end.

Examples and Sample Usage

When a problem is detected in a file, FindBad can help quickly locate it. When finished, it will display the number of records scanned (so that you know how far into the file a recovery will work), and the final Btrieve Position (as returned by the GetPosition operation). If the file is a 5.x file, this provides the final physical position. Otherwise, it breaks the position into a Logical Page and Offset (6.x) or Record Number (7.x or higher). Finally, it looks up the Logical page in the PAT to find the last Physical page, displaying the page number, page location, and calculated offset to the record itself.

You can use this information to find the last bad record and then attempt to follow it to the NEXT record, which is the point of the failure. (This is why the NEXT Logical page is also calculated for you.) The LASTREC.DMP file is there to contain the last known record so that you can validate the calculations. (See notes below on an anomaly with this record.)

If you have a record which is ALSO completely a key (which may be the case for small files), then the /A and /L options may be useful. Specify the Key Number in the /A parameter, and specify the key length in the /L parameter (which you can ascertain from the BUTIL -STAT on the file), and FindBad will read every record via its key only, and then output the key value to a UNF file. You may then be able to compare this export with a similar one from BUTIL -SAVE and see where data may be missing. Alternatively, this would give you an easy way to find the last "good" data record on any given key path (i.e. use the /K option first), and then determine which records are supposed to come *next* in the key path, which can aid in manual analysis.

Other Information

FindBad is part of the Btrieve Administrator's Recovery ToolKit.

A DOS version is also available.

For more information on these utilities contact us at www.goldstarsoftware.com

Version History

Version 1.2: First Documented Version

Version 1.3: Fixed Issues Relating to PAT Bitmap on 6.x Files

Version 1.4: Added ability to search by a specified key to find a bad index.

Version 1.5: Fixed bug in handling very large files.

Version 2.0: First Win32 Version; Added GSLic capability. Added ability to handle 8.0, 9.0, and 9.5 file formats.

Version 2.1: Added ability to export key data only (/A switch)

Version 2.11: Updated licensing code.

Version 2.20: Added support for v13 file format.

Version 2.22: Improved support for v13/v16 file formats.

Known Problems

If FindBad hits a Status 2, the previous (i.e. last good) record position is displayed and dumped to the file. If FindBad hits a Status 22 or 54, however, the previous record position is still displayed, but the CURRENT record is saved.

FindBad cannot handle record sizes over 57K at this time.

FindBad cannot handle record pointers over 0xFFFFFFFF at this time. If you need this, please let us know!

Page Compression and encrypted files are not supported at this time.