

Command line parameters in Dupehunter Professional

Last revised September 2005 – version no. 4.0.0.1720

In order to better integrate Dupehunter Professional with corporate networks and automatic services, several new command line parameters are available, starting with Dupehunter Professional Version 3.3.1085.

Please become familiar with this help page in order to achieve optimum results and prevent problems.

A job file (ending .dhjb) may be invoked through Windows Explorer, through the command line, or from another job. Blanks may be included in the path or filename.

A command line such as

`Dupehunter.exe "c:\program files\ch-soft\dupehunter\jobs\test with whitespaces.dhjb"`

is valid. However, in this case, make sure that the job file name is enclosed in quotes. Otherwise, Dupehunter would interpret the blanks in the filename as additional parameters.

After the above call, Dupehunter will start, the job will be loaded, and the start window is displayed. The user must then start processing by clicking the "start search" button.

Important: The job file must always be the first parameter. If other parameters follow, their order is not important. Parameters are not case-sensitive.

A single parameter is not enough for running automatic services. If you want the search to start, stop, or export automatically, you must specify additional parameters.

The following additional parameters are permitted:

-autostart

-autostart simulates clicking of the "start search" button, so that the search starts automatically and no user input is required.

Example:

`Dupehunter.exe "c:\program files\dupehunter\jobs\drive c complete.dhjb" -autostart`

-autoend

Autoend is the counterpart of -autostart and causes the program to exit automatically after the search. However, this parameter should only be used with -autoexport, since after exiting, the search results are no longer available for analysis. For syntax, see -autostart.

-autoexport

causes the search results, in any desired formats, to be automatically exported. You may select the formats. In the Settings dialog, click the Export tab. Select your preferred formats, and Dupehunter will automatically export into them in the future. For syntax, see -autostart.

Remarks:

1.

To permit automation, the routines have been enhanced. When exporting manually, you are asked to confirm a selection that would export over 1000 files in DOC format. This is because the extremely slow OLE interface is not suited for larger quantities. This confirmation does not take place for automatic exports, and even if over 20,000 files are found, they will be exported to DOC format. We therefore recommend that you do not choose the DOC format with -autoexport.

2.

When searching automatically, it is possible that no duplicates will be found. In this case, exporting to seven formats would be a waste, and secondly, the previous results would be overwritten with summary data. Neither of these situations is ideal. Therefore, if the program ends without any duplicates being found, a new small text file is created.

Dupehunter writes this file to the export directory and names it "Nothing found on"+date/time+ and extension .log. For example: Nothing found on 12-01-2002 07.12.23.log.

You will find information about previous searches here. By use of the date and time in the filename, each search result remains archived, since these files will not be overwritten.

-autolock

The -autolock command parameter is a parameter used only in connection with stored jobs in mode 1. This is due to an integrity check in Dupehunter that checks, when a job file is invoked, whether whole drives should be searched (mode 1) and whether the drives are identical to those in the job file. This is intended to prevent situations where drives are periodically taken offline and replaced with backup drives. Such a situation might otherwise cause data losses when volumes are cleaned up when they should not be.

Example:

Drives C:\ D:\ and E: exist. If drive E:\ was removed, the list doesn't agree any more, and a warning will be displayed. The job file might have been copied from another computer.

So that this feature may be turned off in automation mode, the **-autolock** parameter is available. This becomes useful if a job file mentions drives C:\ and D:\, but another drive, e.g. a memory stick, may have been temporarily added or removed. In this case, drives C:\ and D:\ will continue to be scanned without a warning being issued.

-autosutdown

If you would like to shut down the computer after the job ends, you may use this parameter. However, it requires administrator rights.

Combination of command line parameters

Of course it is possible to combine multiple parameters. The order of the parameters does not matter, except that the job file name must always come first.

Example:

Dupehunter.exe "c:\program files\dupehunter\jobs\Bitmaps on C.dhjb" -autostart -autoexport -autolock -autoend

What happens when error messages are generated, or how does Dupehunter deal with errors?

Of course, problems that may arise that could not be predicted, or that result from new configurations. Dupehunter Professional spares you from general status notifications in automation mode. See also **-autoexport** above.

The following types of notification are nevertheless displayed:

When installing or upgrading, the version number and the online help are displayed once only.

Error messages, when errors occur when exporting in automatic mode. This will cause the program to terminate.. You need to know what caused these situations.