
Technical Note

Error Viewing Reports

If you run a report but cannot view it on the screen, check the following:

- Is there data for the date selected?
- Is **View** selected in the **Reports** screen?
- Was data collected for the type of report you are attempting to view (for example, hourly averages, minute averages)? If an inappropriate data type has been selected you should see an error message that no instruments have been configured to store that type of data.
- Does the software appear to be generating a report without displaying it, OR do you see the error message “Error displaying file?”
- Can you print a report and save it to a file without viewing it beforehand?

If the answer to all of those questions is yes, one or both of the issues described below could be preventing you from viewing reports.

Restricted Access to the Root Drive

Does your operating system allow you to write to the root drive of your computer? The E-DAS Ambient software must have access to the root drive to display reports on the screen and many agencies block user access to save anything to the root drive. Check with your IT department and if that’s the case and they cannot give you access to the root drive, there is a work-around for the problem. You can save reports to a file in the **My Documents** directory, then view the reports with WordPad or Notepad.

Path to the Viewer

If you have not been restricted from accessing the root drive, the path to the viewer in the EDAS.INI file is probably incorrect. The **EDAS.INI** is a text file located in the **Program Directory** where E-DAS Ambient was installed (usually C:\Program Files\E-DAS Ambient). The following sections explain how to save a backup copy of the EDAS.INI file and change the setting to view reports.

⇒ **Important!** Always back up the edas.ini file before making any changes. Making incorrect changes to the EDAS.INI file can impair or disable the E-DAS Ambient software. Make changes exactly as they are described here.

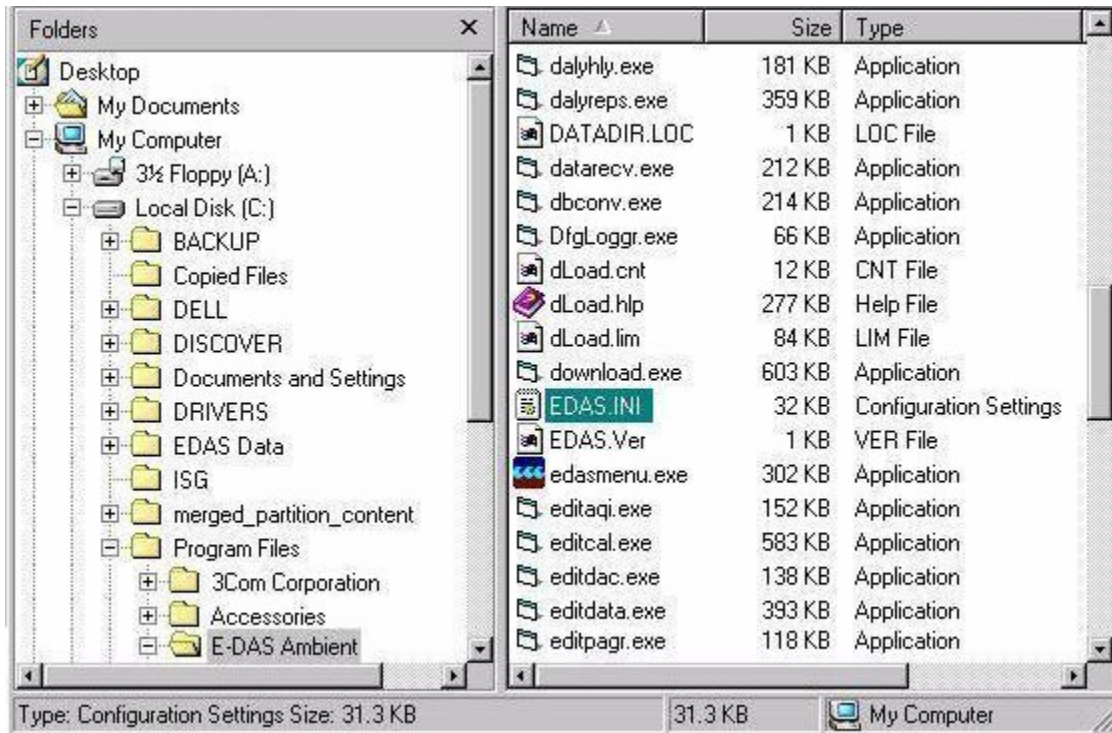


Figure 1 Windows Explorer with EDAS.INI file selected

Saving a Backup Copy of the EDAS.INI

From the Windows **Start** menu on the Taskbar, select **Programs | Accessories | Windows Explorer**.

In the left side of the Windows Explorer (Figure 1), double-click to open the drive, usually **Local Disk (C:)**, where the **E-DAS Ambient** directory (folder) is located.

Double-click the **E-DAS Ambient** directory in the left side of the Windows Explorer.

Right-click the **EDAS.INI** file in the right side of the Windows Explorer and select **Copy** from the right-click menu; then right-click the **My Documents** folder in the left side of the Windows Explorer and select **Paste** to save a backup copy.

Opening the EDAS.INI File

After you have saved a copy of the file in My Documents, double-click the **EDAS.INI** file in the right side of the Windows Explorer.

The EDAS.INI will open in Notepad or WordPad. From the **Notepad** or **WordPad** menu select **Edit | Find** and enter VIEWERNAME= exactly as shown; do not add punctuation or spaces. Click **Find Next** and you will see the setting that determines the path to the report viewer. It should be similar to the one below:

VIEWERNAME=C:\Program
Files\Windows
NT\Accessories\WordPad.exe.

Viewing Reports in WordPad

If you prefer to view reports in WordPad (recommended) the path must be exactly correct, including the “.exe” extension at the end. If any part of the path is omitted or misspelled, you will not be able to view reports on the screen. To find the correct path, click the **Start** menu on the Windows taskbar. Select **Programs | Accessories** and right-click on **WordPad**. Select **Properties** from the right-click menu.

In **Shortcut** tab of the **WordPad Properties** screen (Figure 2) highlight the **Target** path if it is not already selected. Right-click the selected Target field and select **Copy** from the right-click menu (or type **Ctrl-C** to copy). Click **Cancel** to close the Properties screen.

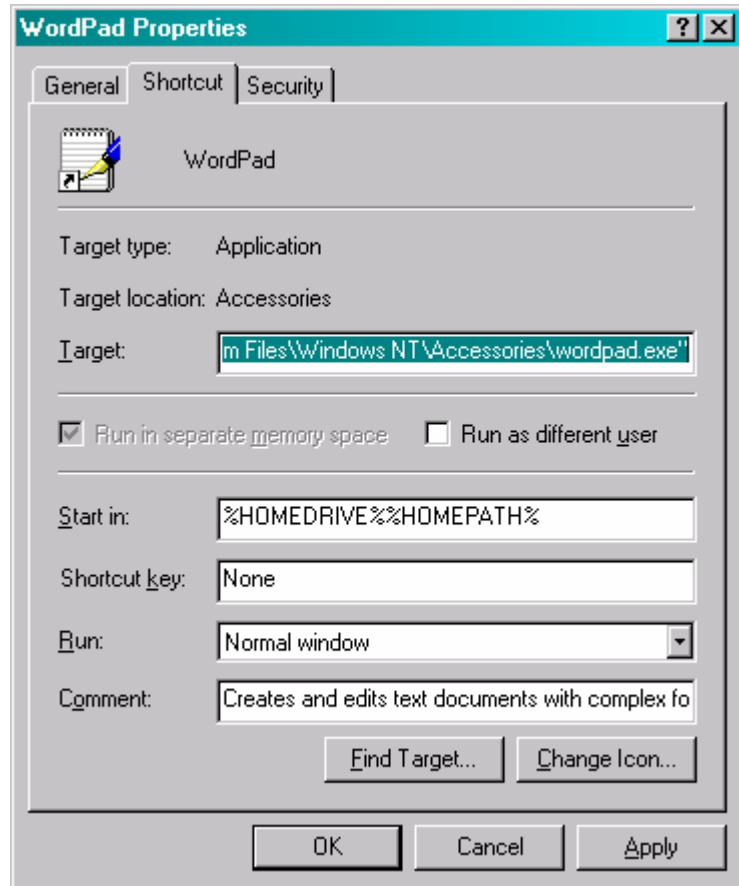


Figure 2 Properties screen for WordPad

In the **EDAS.INI** file, change the path to WordPad after **VIEWERNAME=**. Right-click and select **Paste** (or type **Ctrl-V** to paste). Delete any quotation marks or spaces.

Viewing Reports in Notepad

If you prefer to view reports in Notepad you don't have to enter the entire path. In the **EDAS.INI** file change the setting to:

VIEWERNAME=NOTEPAD

Type the entry exactly as shown. Do not bold or add punctuation or spaces.

From the **File** menu select **Save**, then **Exit**. The next time you open the E-DAS Ambient menu you should be able to view reports on the screen if you have access to the root drive.