

Flight Simulator Universal Inter-Process Communication

by Pete Dowson, © 9th September 2013

Peter Dorman's PS Modules
FORUM HERE!

Version 3.999z8 of FSUIPC.dll

This is *not* my web site (I have none) but the list is there courtesy of Enrico Schiratti

As well as the document you are now reading, and a document listing all the recent changes, this package contains “**Install FSUIPC.exe**” that will install the following parts in the Flight Simulator **Modules** folder, or a subfolder within this called **FSUIPC Documents**:

FSUIPC.dll	The FS module itself, version 3.999z8 (in the Modules folder)
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and these in the Modules\FSUIPC Documents folder:

FSUIPC User Guide.pdf	The user manual: please read it! (Acrobat format)
SIMSAMURAI+FSUIPC+TUTORIAL.pdf	An extra tutorial document donated by SimSamurai
FSUIPC History.pdf	A list of changes in each version (Acrobat format)
FSUIPC for Advanced Users.pdf	More technical information only (Acrobat format)
List of FS2004 Controls.pdf	FS2004 controls list (Acrobat format)
FSUIPC Lua Plug-Ins.pdf	Introducing the powerful Lua plug-in facilities
FSUIPC Lua Library.pdf	Documentation for the additional FSUIPC Lua libraries
Example Lua Plugins.zip	A zip file containing some short Lua examples
Lua license.pdf	A copy of the Lua licensing agreement
FSUIPC for Programmers.pdf	Includes offset lists, for use in Offset controls and Lua plug-ins

For other bits and pieces, like TrafficLook and WeatherSet, please visit my Support Forum. You will also find interim versions and bug fixes there—well worth a regular scan. The link is shown above, in the subtitles.

If you want full programming details you need to get the FSUIPC Developer Kit, (SDK).

IMPORTANT: Note that in Windows 7 or Vista modes the files generated when FSUIPC is run (FSUIPC INI, KEY and LOG) are placed in and used from the Flight Simulator Files folder in your "Documents" folder. This is to avoid write permission problems. **It is best, though, to run FS in XP compatibility Mode, for many other reasons too.** To do this, right click on the FS EXE, or on your shortcut to it, select Properties then the Compatibilty tab.

The following pages provide full instructions on Installing and/or Registering FSUIPC3, and Registering WideFS6

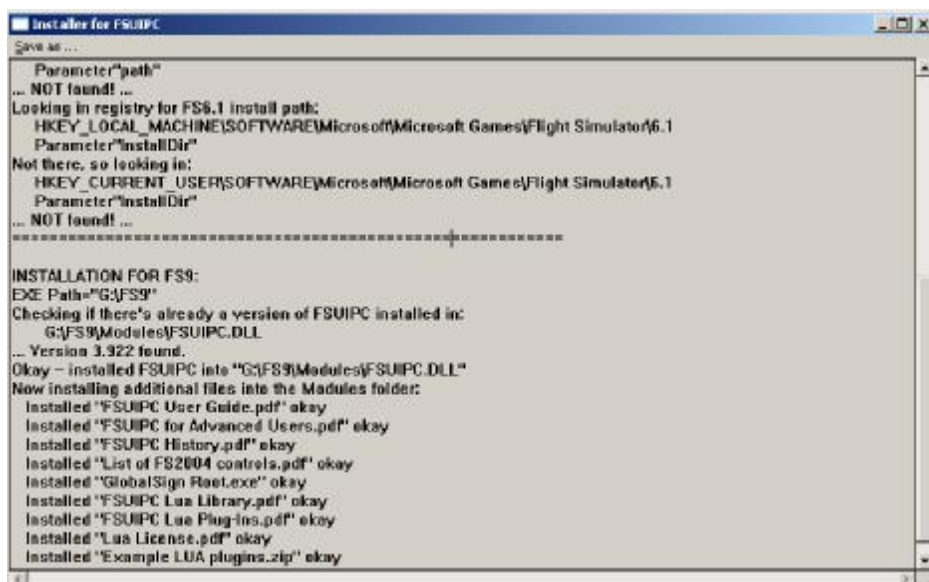
Installation

For the installation, you need elevated administrator privileges. This didn't use to be the case—all installers got such privileges automatically—but Microsoft tightened up security significantly and now it seems only their own style of Installer (msi files) are automatically treated correctly..

Place the “Install FSUIPC.exe” program onto your desktop, or into a temporary folder, and right click on it, selecting "**run as ... Administrator**". This method allows it to run with sufficient privilege..

This will do several things, in order:

1. Finds your FS installation: It will do this by checking the Registry. If, for some reason, the Registry is not pointing correctly to your FS installation the installer will present you with a standard Explorer type window and ask you to locate FS9.EXE, the actual FS main program.
2. Checks for existing FSUIPC: If there is already a version of FSUIPC which is later than the one being installed, the latter will not install. Otherwise the new FSUIPC.DLL is copied into the correct FS modules folder(s).
3. Enables special permissions for the Modules folder, so that on Vista or Windows 7 the INI, LOG and KEY files can be created and updated whilst FS is running.
4. Other files (documents, in fact) in the package are then copied into the Modules folder alongside FSUIPC. These are for your reference.
5. Whilst it does this it will display what it is doing on screen, in a readable text “Log”, like this:



6. For each successful Install you will get a confirmatory prompt looking like this:



If anything goes wrong there will be information about this in the Log, and you will get a different prompt, telling you of the problem. If this happens, *before* clicking “Ok”, scroll through the Log (there’s a scroll bar on the right if the log is longer than the Window) to look for lines mentioning problems or errors or warnings. If you want help, click on the “Save As” entry in the Menu and save the log with a name such as “FSUIPC install.log”. This will contain everything needed to help you. Just show its contents in a message to me in my Support Forum.

Finally, the Installer offers you the chance to Register FSUIPC3 and/or WideFS6, or simply check your registration. This appears on top of the Log display (although the wording might not be exactly the same):



You do NOT have to Register at this time. In this case simply click the Cancel (or "**Not now**") button to continue.

Otherwise, first select whether it is FSUIPC3, WideFS6, or both you are registering (or checking).

The options offered are:

- Delete the previous registrations (this also lets you enter new ones). This is useful when you are changing one of the Keys in order to get your Name and Address/Email the same for both FSUIPC3 and WideFS6.
- Check the existing registrations. This will also effectively re-register you automatically if you have re-installed Windows or moved to a new PC, and have copied your previous FSUIPC.KEY file into the FS Modules folder already. It saves you having to re-enter the Key(s).
- Enter new registrations for FSUIPC and/or WideFS.

When you press OK (or '**Go ahead**') you will be presented with the standard FSUIPC registration dialogue where you can enter your details and the Key. If you selected "Both" FSUIPC3 and WideFS6, you will get first one, then the other, though you will not have to enter your name and address/email twice, those will be remembered.

For more details about Registration, please refer to the section by that name, next.

Entering Registration Details

If you pay for a registration key for FSUIPC then you get access to all the facilities it provides, and all programs will interface to it whether they are accredited or not.

The 12-character key you will purchase is inextricably related to the name and address (normally your email address) you used when applying for the Key. It is this information you need to enter. When you've checked the option to register FSUIPC in the Installer, you will be presented with a dialogue similar to the one shown on the right. Enter the details *exactly* as you are given in the details supplied with the Key—see the example on the right.

Note that it does *not* matter if your email address is changed later. It is not used as an email address, only as a means of identifying you as the license holder. If you register both FSUIPC and WideFS then the registration MUST have the same *name* in both cases, but if necessary you can register WideFS with a different email or other address.

All these details are remembered by FSUIPC in a file called "FSUIPC.KEY", which is saved alongside FSUIPC4 in the Modules folder. **Save a copy of your FSUIPC.KEY file** (from the FS Modules folder). If you change computers, or reinstall Windows, you will need to re-enter the registration details and these are recorded for you in that KEY file, which you can read in any text editor.

Please be sure to keep a backup copy of the FSUIPC.KEY file, for safety!

WideFS registration follows an identical procedure and can be done at the same time. *Please note that your name must be identical for both* even if the address changes, and, in fact, both will be copied for you by. But the access key will always be different. It, too, is saved in the FSUIPC.KEY file.

INVALID KEY PROBLEMS

Please note that registration keys are only valid from the date of purchase. If you find your registration not working or the keys rejected, please check that your PC has the correct date set. It often happens that when folks install a new PC or motherboard, or even re-install Windows, the system date is left, forgotten and not corrected.

Additionally, please note that most newly purchased Keys will not work correctly with old versions of FSUIPC. You need to keep your FSUIPC up to date!

ADDENDUM: IDENTIFYING FILES IN WINDOWS EXPLORER

Recent versions of Windows Explorer have the nasty habit of hiding important parts of filenames from you. This is supposed to make things easier, but often it does the reverse. "Log" files are shown without the '.log' part and are just labelled "text files". Similarly "INI" and "CFG" files are shown with that important part omitted and just labelled "configuration settings" (if you are lucky). Even the programs themselves aren't correctly shown with the .EXE or .DLL part.

You will need to fix this at some point. In Windows Explorer, go to Tools, Folder Options, View tab, and scroll down the list. Uncheck "Hide extensions for known file types". Then, when you need to look at a log or find your settings you'll be able to identify it correctly.

