



## Utility Programs Fact Sheet

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### Introduction to Utility Programs

Utility Programs are a group of smaller application programs performing a variety of useful functions. These are being developed at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of Cancer Prevention and Control (DCPC), in support of CDC's National Program of Cancer Registries (NCPR). Utility Programs are implemented as Windows dialogs using Dynamic Link Libraries (DLL's) for their core operations, in support of CDC's National Program of Cancer Registries. The DLL mechanism allows other programs to link to function libraries at run-time, giving full access to the capabilities within.

### Utility Application Program

**Recnizer** – This utility is used to identify files of cancer registry abstracts in formats prescribed by NAACCR, the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries. It is useful in quickly determining the characteristics of files that are received from an outside source. The utility can be used to test for validity in files that have caused unexplained problems for other software.

### Dynamic Link Library

**nconv.dll** – This function library contains several functions to perform file conversion or record-by-record conversion when accessed by an application program. This is the same DLL used by other Registry Plus software.

### Utility Programs System Requirements

Registry Plus programs are written for the Microsoft Windows 32-bit environment installed on a Pentium or Pentium-compatible computer. The minimum hardware requirements are the same as those of the Microsoft Windows operating system used. The use of faster processors, faster disk drives, better video components, and more memory can improve the operation and satisfaction of software applications in the Microsoft Windows operating system environment. Additional system requirements include the following:

- Microsoft operating system from Windows 98 through Windows XP
- 128 MB RAM (512 MB recommended)
- Latest version of MS Internet Explorer (Recommended)
- 2 MB of available free hard-disk space

**Before you install or upgrade Utility Programs, please read the following:**

- This version of the Utility Programs was designed to automatically upgrade older application versions while preserving configuration settings.
- If someone else is responsible for maintenance of your computer, you may not have been granted the right to install software. In this situation, you should consult the maintainer of your computer for assistance before proceeding. If you are installing the Utility Programs on Windows 2000 or Windows XP, you must be logged on as the Administrator.
- If you are upgrading or reinstalling an existing version of the Utility Programs, please use the Windows Control Panel to uninstall the existing version of the Utility Programs. Choose Add/Remove Programs, select Registry Plus Utility Programs, and click on Change/Remove. Click on Next - Remove - Next in succession on the resulting dialog boxes, and respond to any further prompts that appear. If you receive a message during the uninstall process about deleting shared files, choose NOT to delete any shared files.
- The files and folder structure (that contain modified files) will be preserved after you complete uninstalling the previous version of the Utility Programs. You should then install this version in the same folder as your previous version of the Utility Programs. This will insure that the database and configuration settings are properly upgraded.
- To make sure you are installing over the current installation (drive and directory/folder), run the Windows Explorer and find where the Utility Programs are currently installed.
- If you are installing the Utility Programs for the first time, you may install it on the drive and directory/folder of your choosing; however, you cannot install it in a subfolder. The Utility Programs must be installed in the root folder from the drive of your choosing.

### **Installation**

To install Utility Programs, click on the link below, which will download the program to your computer. The Utility Programs are packaged in individual DLL's delivered in zip files, which include programmer documentation and supplementary files useful for programming and linking the programs to existing systems. To install any Utility Program, simply download the program's zipped package and double-click the file to unzip it to access the software and its documentation.

[Download](#) the latest version of Registry Plus **nconv.dll** Dynamic Link Library Program (Northcon10 3.0.7 using nconv.dll 3.0.25)

[Download](#) the latest version of Registry Plus **Recnizer** Utility Program (Version 0.9.5)

### **Getting Started**

- Click on Windows Start button
- Go to Programs
- Go to Registry Plus
- Click on Utility Programs Icon

**Note:** When first installed, Utility Programs includes test data files and configuration files for demonstration purposes. To run the demos, go to the File menu and select Open Configuration File.

**Technical Support**

The primary users of Utility Programs are state central cancer registries. CDC provides support and consultation to states installing the software applications and doing basic state-specific customization. Periodic software updates and ongoing problem-solving are also provided to the extent of available resources. CDC support of Registry Plus software applications is provided mainly by telephone and e-mail. CDC is not staffed to provide on-site services, nor can CDC offer direct support to hospitals, clinics, laboratories, or other private users. Some components of Registry Plus, Abstract Plus for example, are intended for redistribution after customization. A state central registry or other institution redistributing Registry Plus software should provide all support to end users and develop expertise in using the software among its own staff. Other users of Registry Plus software should contract, hire, or develop capability independently to understand and maintain the software applications.

**For technical support via e-mail, contact: [CancerInfo@cdc.gov](mailto:CancerInfo@cdc.gov)**