

Series Renamer Manual

August 22, 2009

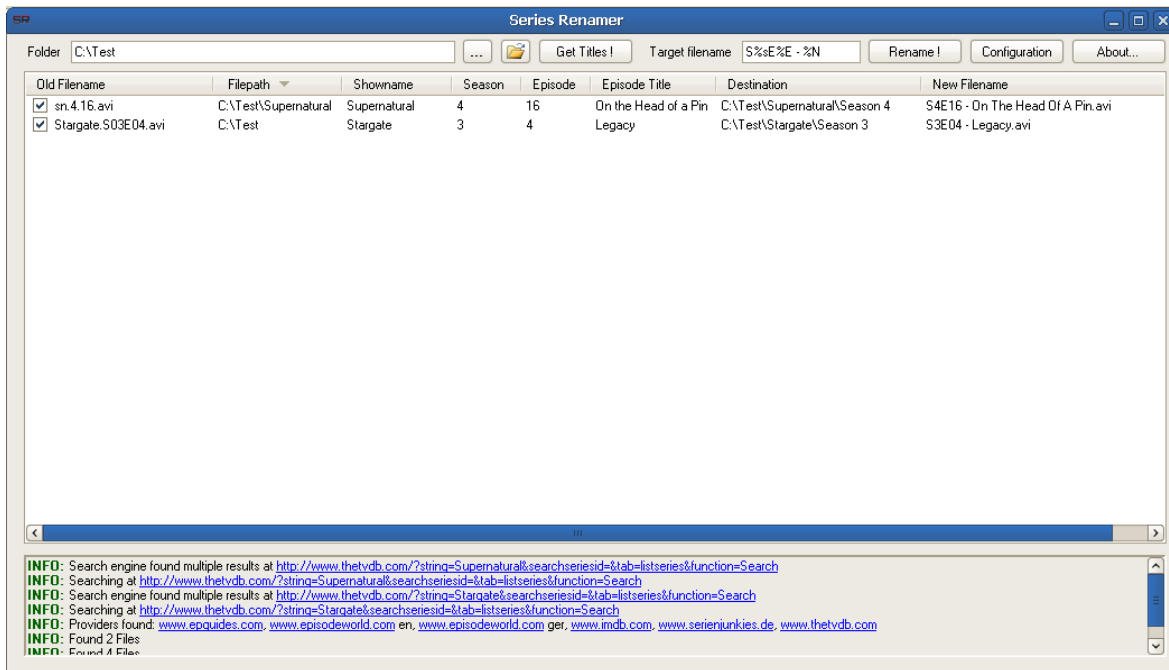
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1 About

Series Renamer is a program that makes it possible to organize and rename TV series and movies. It can recognize the showname, season and episode numbers from the filenames, and download the episode titles from various websites. From this info it generates a new filename. Also it can sort the files in a directory structure for you, find missing episodes, delete empty folders and junk files, edit subtitle timings and more. This manual is my attempt at writing a general introduction to this program and its functionality. There will probably still be more questions, feel free to ask them at the blog (<http://seriesrenamer.wordpress.com/>).

2 The Main Window



The main window consists of three distinctive parts, the toolbar at the top, the file display at the center, and the log display at the bottom.

1. The toolbar, starting from the left, consists of:
 - (a) The path textfield, which allows entering a path which should be opened. It will also show available paths via autocompletion.
 - (b) The browse button, which lets you select a path through a dialog.
 - (c) The open button, which opens the current path.
 - (d) The *Get Titles!* button, which opens the Search Dialog window for downloading titles for the Series.

- (e) The *Target Filename* textfield, which defines how the new filenames should look like. Here's the meaning of the valid identifiers:

Identifier	Meaning
%E	Number of the episode
%S	Season of the episode, atleast 2 digits will be used (e.g. 02)
%s	Season of the episode, one or more digits used
%T	Title of the show, as shown in "Showname" column
%N	Name of the episode, as shown in "Episode Title" column

- (f) The *Rename!* button, which starts the process, in which files are renamed, moved, and undesired files are deleted.
- (g) The *Configuration* button, which shows the Config menu.
- (h) The *About* button, which displays some information about the program (📖F1).
2. The file display shows all files from the selected folder (and possibly children folders) that can be processed. For each file the following information is shown:
- (a) The *Old Filename*
- (b) The *Filepath* shows the original path of the file.
- (c) The *Showname* shows the recognized/entered name of the show this file belongs to.
- (d) The *Season* shows the recognized/entered season of this episode. A value of -1 means that nothing could be recognized, the file could be a movie.
- (e) The *Episode* shows the recognized/entered episode number of this episode. A value of -1 means that nothing could be recognized, the file could be a movie.
- (f) The *Episode Title* shows the name of the episode which was downloaded/entered.
- (g) The *Destination* shows the path where the file will be moved to. If moving is disabled or the file is not scheduled to be moved, this field is empty.
- (h) The *New Filename* (📖F2) shows the filename which the file will be renamed to. If the file is not scheduled to be renamed, this field is empty.

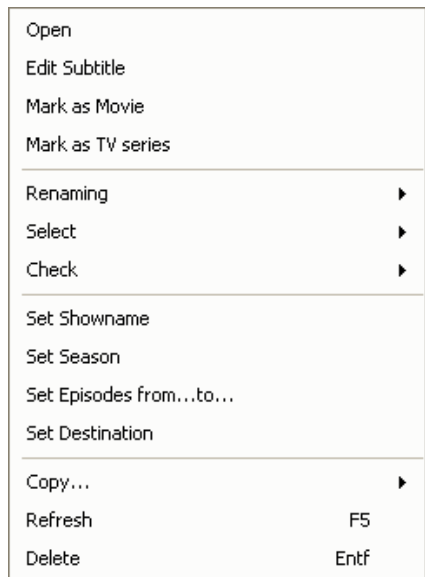
All values except the original path and filename can be edited by double clicking on a field. A control will show up which allows to change the value. Changes are immediately used to update the other fields accordingly.

When there are multiple files which are scheduled to be moved in the same location, those files will be marked by a red background. This also allows to find duplicate files.

3. The Log window shows messages during program execution. Its settings can be further controlled in the Configuration dialog.

2.1 Context Menu

Upon right-clicking the file view, this context menu is shown:

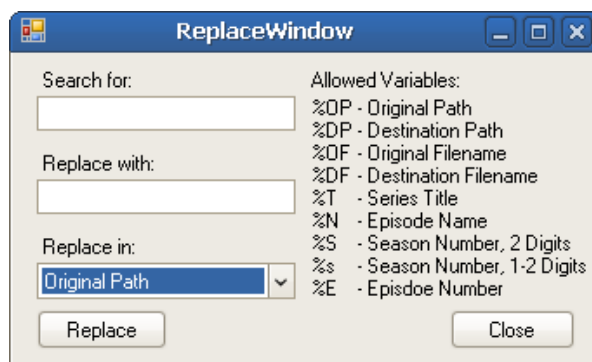


Note that some entries only show up in certain situations.

- *Open* simply opens the video, or the video associated with the selected subtitle
- *Edit Subtitle* opens the Subtitle edit dialog that can be used to adjust the timing of a subtitle file.
- *Mark as Movie* tells the program that this file should be treated like a movie
- *Mark as TV series* tells the program that this file should be treated like a TV series.
- *Renaming* contains settings regarding to the creation of new filepaths and filenames:
 - *Create Directory Structure* makes the program move the file in an ordered directory structure, if activated
 - *Case* determines the casing of the new filenames and -paths. You can have everything in lower case, UPPER CASE, Upper Case For Word Starts, or use the names supplied from the websites.
 - *Umlaute* determines how Umlaute and other special characters are treated. You can enforce usage, don't use them at all, or use the names from the websites.
 - *Replace* (CTRL+H) opens the Replace dialog.

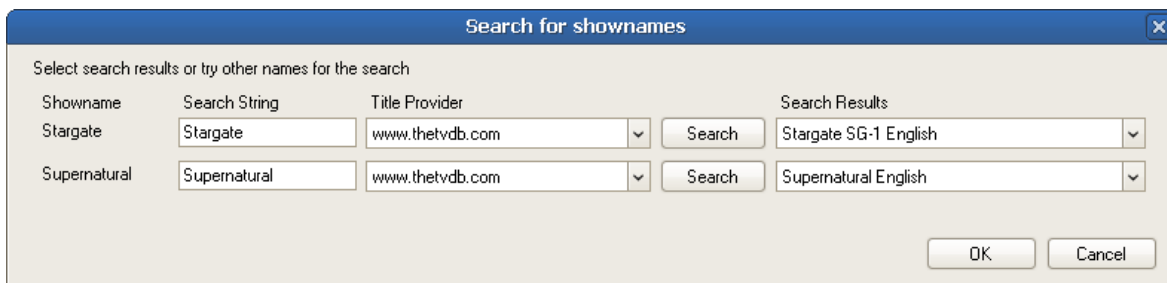
- The *select* menu contains some tools for selecting files:
 - *Invert Selection* inverts the current selection.
 - *Select all* (⌘+A) selects all files.
 - *Select by keyword* (⌘+F) allows to search for a certain name and select matches.
 - *Select similar by name* will select all files which have the same showname(s) as the already selected files.
- The *check* menu contains some tools for (de)activating processing of the files:
 - *Check all* activates all files
 - *Uncheck all* deactivates all files
 - *Invert check* inverts the current flags
- *Set Showname* opens a dialog to set the showname for multiple files, or simply goes into edit mode for a single file.
- *Set Season* opens a dialog to set the season for multiple files, or simply goes into edit mode for a single file.
- *Set Episodes from...to* opens a dialog to set an increasing episode value for all selected files, or simply goes into edit mode for a single file.
- *Set Destination* opens a dialog to set the destination path for all selected files, or simply goes into edit mode for a single file.
- The *copy* menu allows to copy various information to clipboard:
 - *Original Name* (⌘+C) copies the original filename.
 - *Path + Orig. Name* copies the original path+filename.
 - *Title* copies the episode title.
 - *New Filename* copies the new filename that the file will be renamed to.
 - *Destination + New Filename* copies the destination path + the new filename.
 - *Operation* copies a description of the operation that is scheduled for this file: Path\file.avi
->NewPath\Newfile.avi
- *Refresh* reloads the current folder
- *Delete* (⌘+DEL) deletes the selected files after confirmation.

2.2 The Replace Dialog



The replace dialog allows to replace text in the filename and/or path. The Replace in combobox selects the source for the replace operation. It also determines where the result of the replace will be stored, if a path is selected, the result will be written to the destination column, if a filename is selected, the result will be written to the New Filename column. The variables displayed at the right of the dialog can be used both in the Search and in the Replace field. Note that the replace works on file extensions too, so be careful.

3 The Search Dialog

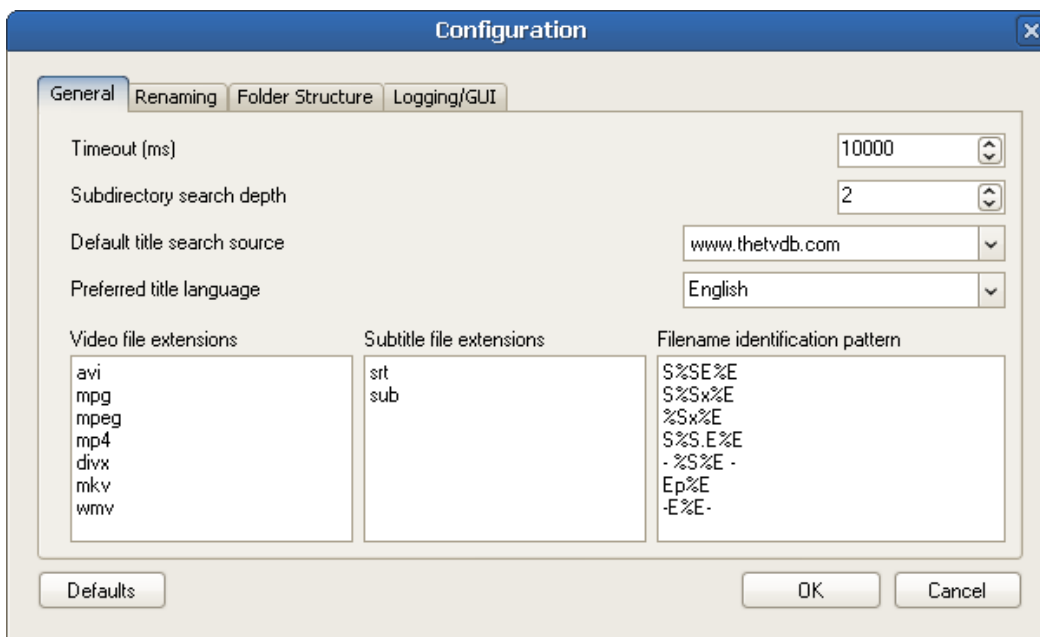


The search dialog displays the result of the search for shownames, and allows to select the desired shows. If no appropriate result is found, a new Search string can be entered, and another website can be tried. Clicking the search button will update the results in the combobox at the right.

4 Configuration

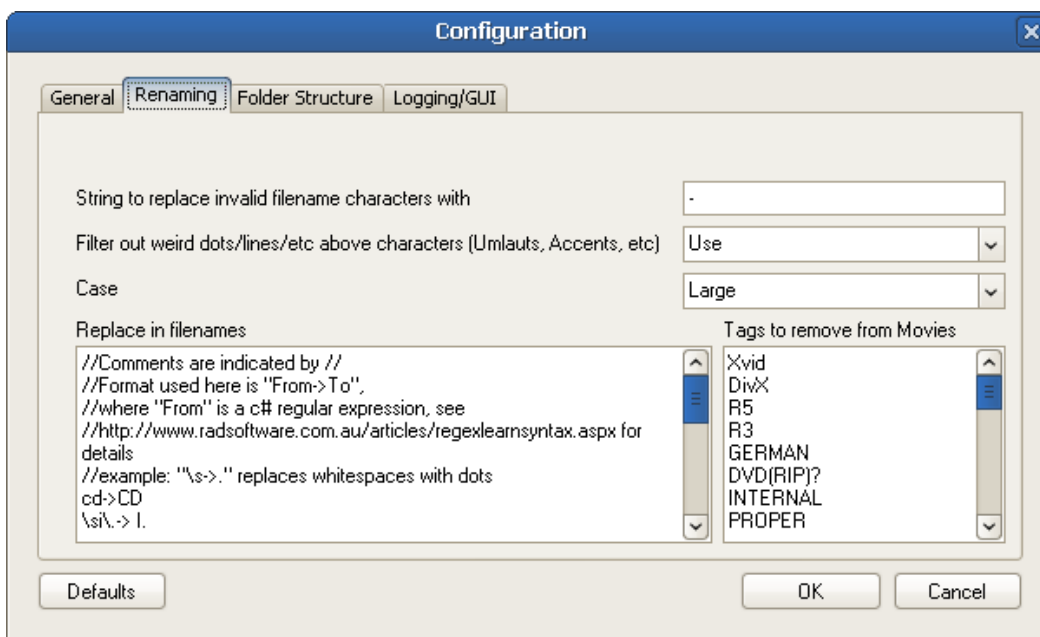
The configuration dialog allows to tweak most settings. Some more are stored in the Renamer.cfg file, but normally those don't need to be touched.

4.1 General



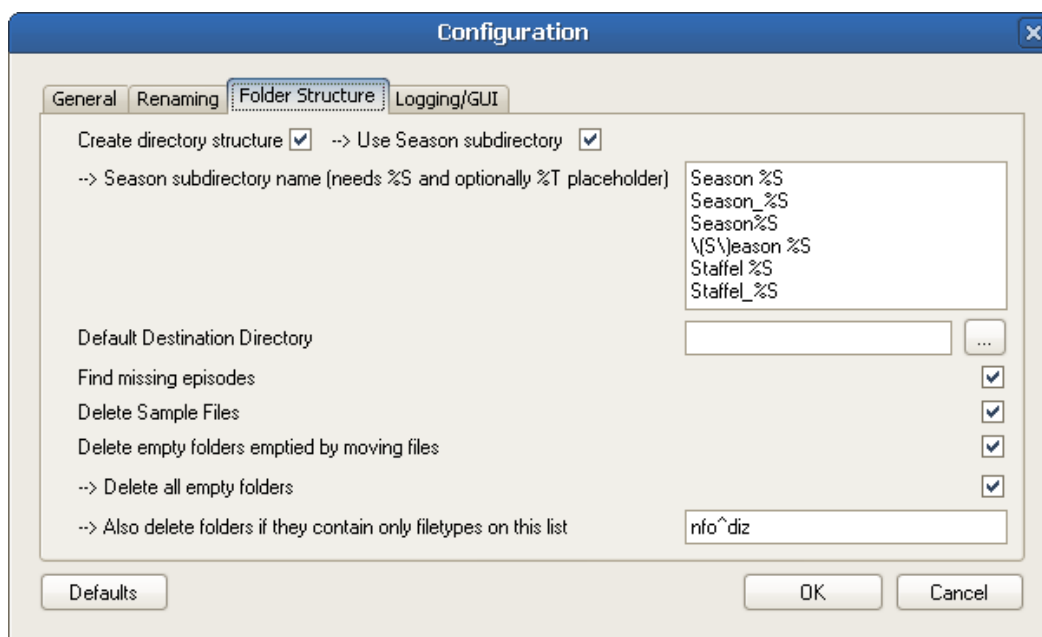
- The *Timeout (ms)* setting is the time in milliseconds, after which a connection to a website times out. Use higher values for slow connections if you're getting timeout errors.
- *Subdirectory search depth* is the depth of children folders which will be included when opening a folder. Note that a high value might slow things down if you open a directory with many subdirectories (like a harddisk).
- *Default title search source* is the website that will be queried for series information first. Select the one that matches your series best.
- *Preferred title language* is used to preselect a search result based on language preference. You can also enter new languages here, and you can add more than one name to search for by separating names with a | character, e.g. "German|Deutsch|ger|de". Only the first name will be displayed here though, but you may enter a whole string like this.
- *Video file extensions* is a list of file extensions that should be recognized as videos. Feel free to add extensions if you have more exotic file formats.
- *Subtitle file extensions* is a list of file extensions that should be recognized as subtitles. Feel free to add extensions if you have more exotic file formats.
- *Filename identification pattern* is a list of patterns that are used to extract the season and episode numbers from the filenames. Valid placeholders here are %S for season, and %E for episode. The patterns are processed from top to bottom, so the order is important so that false positives aren't produced. If your filenames have a format that is not covered, you can add your format here.

4.2 Renaming



- *String to replace invalid filename characters with* will replace characters which are not allowed in filenames (such as “?”) with the string entered here.
- *Filter out weird dots/lines/etc above characters (Umlauts, Accents, etc)* is the same as the *Umlaute* setting in the context menu, but this one is the default value which is used if no specific value has been set.
- *Case* is the same as the *Case* setting in the context menu, but this one is the default value which is used if no specific value has been set.
- *Replace in filenames* is a list of replacements that are made automatically. You can use those if you want certain strings to look the same on every file. For example, you could replace spaces with dots with an entry like this: “\s->.” Note that the entries here require regular expression syntax, so you need to escape characters which have a special meaning in Regex by adding a \ in front of them.
- *Tags to remove from Movies* is a list of Tags which are removed during movie filename processing.

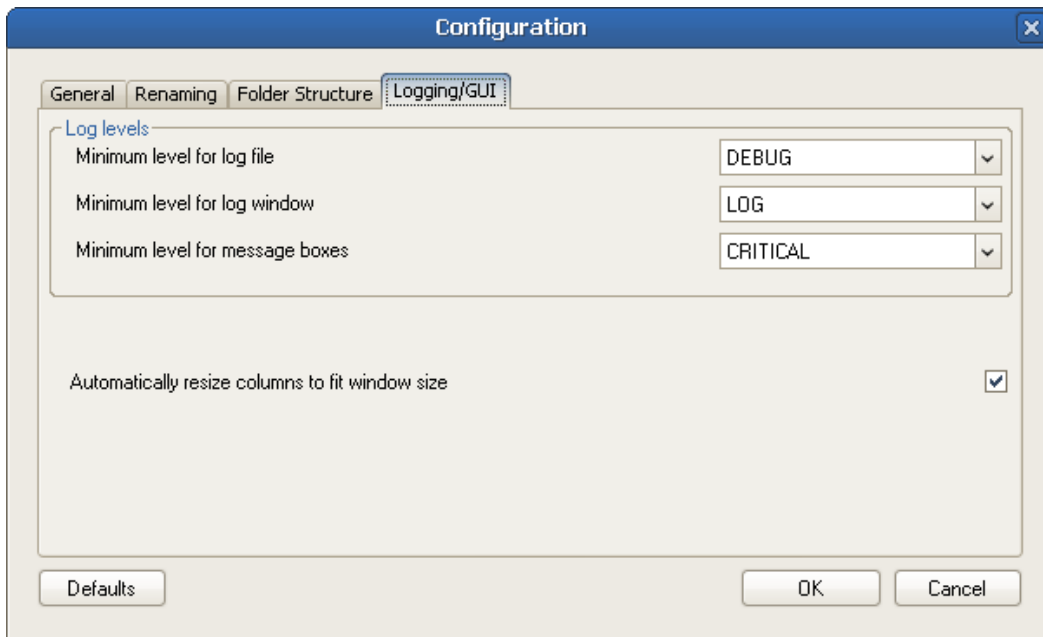
4.3 Folder Structure



- *Create Directory Structure* is the default setting that sets if files are moved around to create an ordered directory structure or if they stay in place.
- *Use Season subdirectory* sets if the series will be put in separate season directories (e.g. Show-name\Season 1)
- *Season subdirectory name (needs %S and optionally %T placeholder)* is a list of Season directory names that is used for recognition of season directories. The first one will be used for creating new season directories.
- *Default destination directory* allows to move files to another base directory, for example you could move your files from a download directory to a series directory. Keep in mind that when this directory is located on another harddisk, the renaming process will take considerably longer.
- *Find missing episodes* toggles whether the program should try to figure out which episodes of a season are missing. Missing episodes are reported in the log.
- *Delete sample files* will schedule all files for deletion, which are recognized as sample.
- *Delete empty folders emptied by moving files* will delete folders which got empty after files have been moved out of them during the renaming process. This could be an extraction directory from a rar archive for example.
- *Delete all empty folders* will delete not only the folders from the previous setting, but also all other subfolders which are empty.

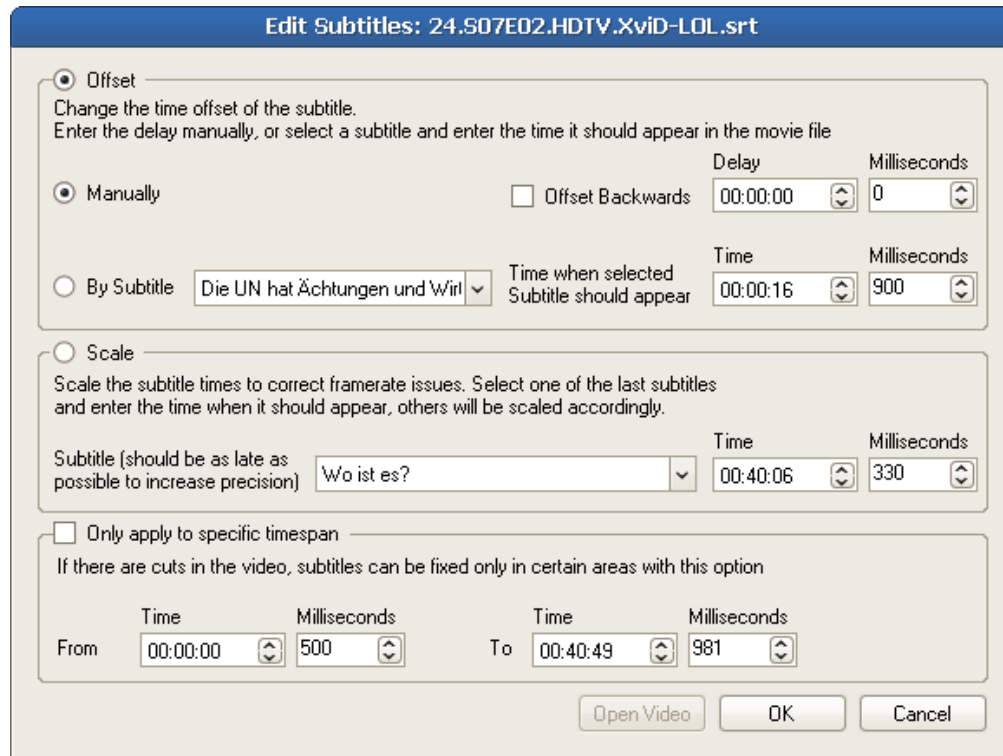
- *Also delete folders if they contain only filetypes on this list* allows to add files, which may be deleted in those nearly empty folders too, such as nfo or diz files, which only contain information which is not needed in many cases.

4.4 Logging/GUI



- The *Log levels* specify the lowest log level which should be displayed by a specific logger. This concerns the *log file*, the *log window* (which should usually display less info than the log file), and *message boxes* (which should probably only pop up on serious errors).
- *Automatically resize columns to fit window size* will try to adjust the column widths to optimally use the space available in the window.

5 Editing Subtitles



The editing subtitle dialog is used to modify subtitle timing. This might be necessary if the file you have is slightly different than the subtitle for this episode or movie. There are two basic functions:

- *Offset* will move a set of subtitle lines by a specific time. Needed if there is a scene missing or so. You can enter a time yourself, or just tell the program at which point in time a specific subtitle line should appear, and have the program calculate the offset for you.
- *Scale* allows to compensate for speed issues, caused by different framesrates etc. This should almost never be a problem, since the most common srt subtitle files aren't framerate based, but I included it anyway. To set the scale, you need to select a subtitle line, and enter the time at which it should appear. For best precision, it is necessary to select one of the last lines.


The *Only apply to specific timespan* option makes it possible to confine the changes to a specific timespan (of the original subtitle file). This is needed for missing/extra scenes, when you wouldn't want the previous timing to be affected.

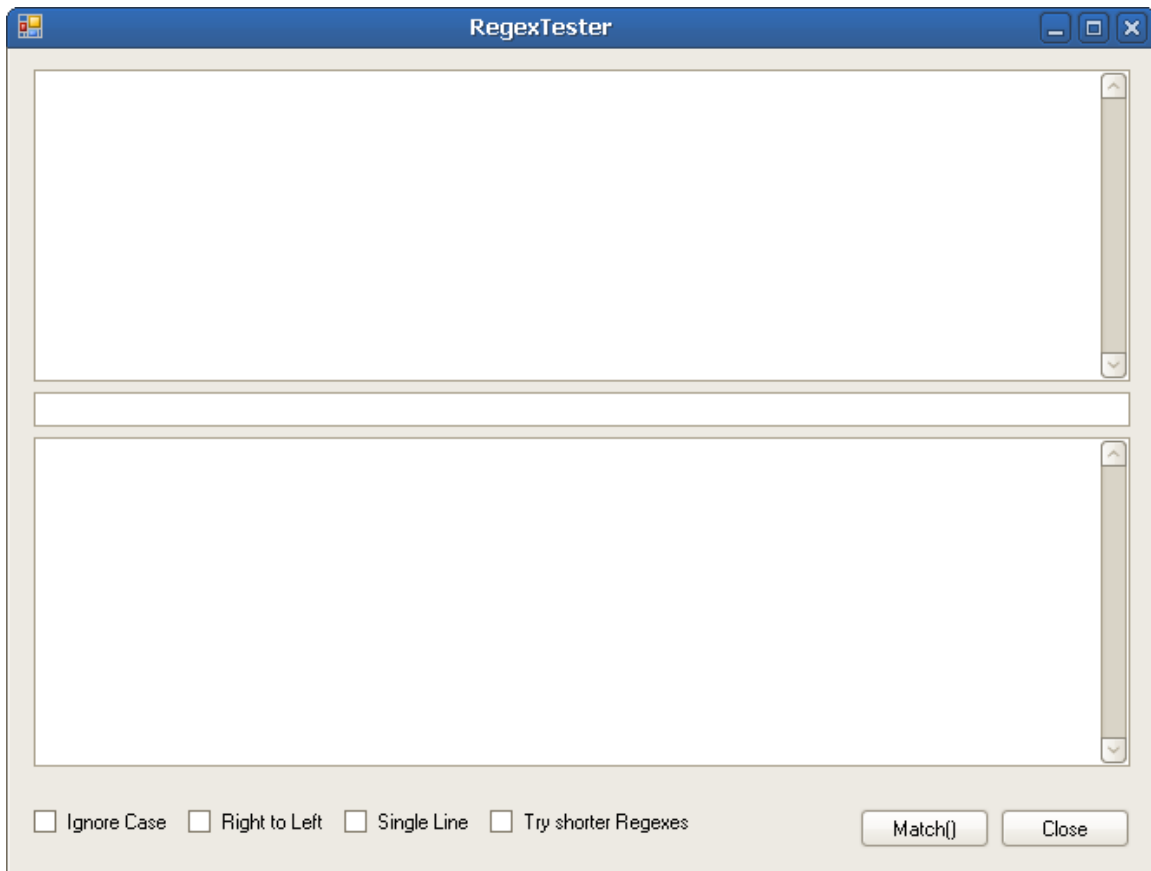
6 Advanced Stuff

6.1 Command line and automatization

You can run the program and supply the directory which should be opened as argument, i.e. *Series Renamer.exe "C:\Downloads"*. This is especially useful for integration into file managers, because you can easily start the program in the right directory from there. Check your file managers documentation for how to do that (this won't work for the windows explorer of course, unless you use some kind of context menu extension).

6.2 Config files

The program uses config files to externalize as much as possible, so it can be tuned by the user. The main config file is the *Renamer.cfg* file, which is located in the same dir as the executable. The other config files cover the various web sites that are used to query information. You can add new websites by adding such config files to the Databases directories. Adding new websites requires good knowledge of regular expressions in the .NET languages though. As a help for this, I created a small tool to test regular expressions, which can be accessed by (CTRL+SHIFT+R).



The top field contains the text on which the match should be performed, this is usually some page source. The field in the middle contains the regular expression which should be used. The bottom field contains the output which is produced after `Match()` is clicked. This contains the various captures, groups and positions. The options at the bottom should be understandable, the *Try shorter Regexes* checkbox will iteratively remove characters from the regular expression until something is matched. This might be useful if there is a tiny error on a long expression that prohibits a match, but can also take considerably longer on long page sources.

The syntax of the config files is pretty simply, for single value fields it's just `variable=value`, and for multi value fields it looks like this:

```
variable={  
    value1  
    value2  
}
```

Comments are preceded by `//`.