

FUNDING AND DISCLOSURE

INFORMATION TRANSFER PROCEDURE (WINDOWS)

Version 1.1

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to detail the steps necessary to allow organisations, such as Australian Political Parties, to be able to securely transfer information to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) for the purposes of a disclosure audit.

This procedure has been developed to ensure:

- Security of external organisations data during the shipment of information to the AEC
- External organisations have a consistent and repeatable process for data transfer to the AEC
- External organisations are not burdened by cost both in terms of time and money

The protection of external organisation data is the sole-responsibility of the external organisation. The AEC is not liable for the loss or theft of external organisation data during the data transfer process.

1.2 Prerequisites

This document assumes the following prerequisites are in place:

- All encrypted information needs to be transported to the AEC on either CD-ROM or DVD media
- A password must be used to encrypt the external organisations data. Please pre-create a password ready to type in during the encryption procedure. The AEC recommends using a pass-phrase for the password, for example:
 - A **Passphrase** example is “Birds of a feather flock together”
 - The **Password** would then be “Birdsofafeatherflocktogether” making note to remove any spaces or special characters such as apostrophes

1.3 Assumptions

This document makes the following assumptions:

- The external organisation has access to the Internet
- The external organisation has the ability to download files from the Internet
- The external organisation has access to the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) – <http://www.7zip.org>
- The steps to install any required software are performed by personnel who have sufficient access on the desktop and or laptop device
- The external organisation is completing these steps on a Windows XP, Vista, 7 (or later).

2 Download

To download the software required to encrypt information prior to transfer to the AEC please complete the following steps:

Using an Internet Browser that has access to the Internet and the ability to download files navigate to the following URL:

- <http://www.7-zip.org/>
- Select the download option according to the required operating system, i.e. 32 or 64 bit Windows.
- When prompted save the 7-Zip software to a local folder making sure to take note the folder name and location

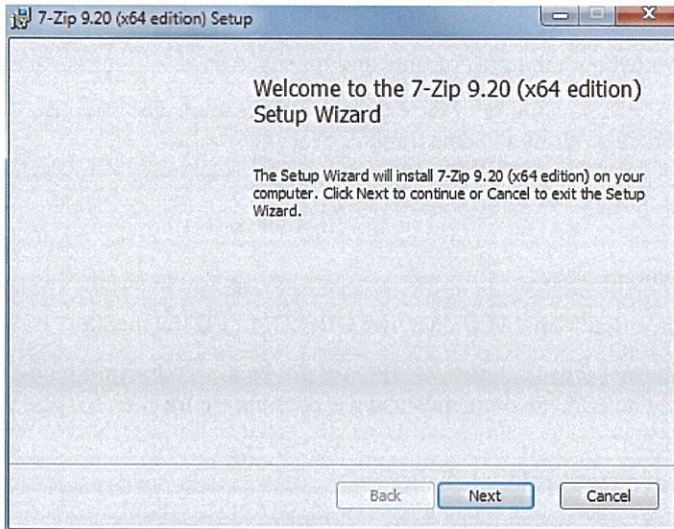
3 Installation

To install the software required to encrypt information prior to transfer to the AEC please complete the following steps:

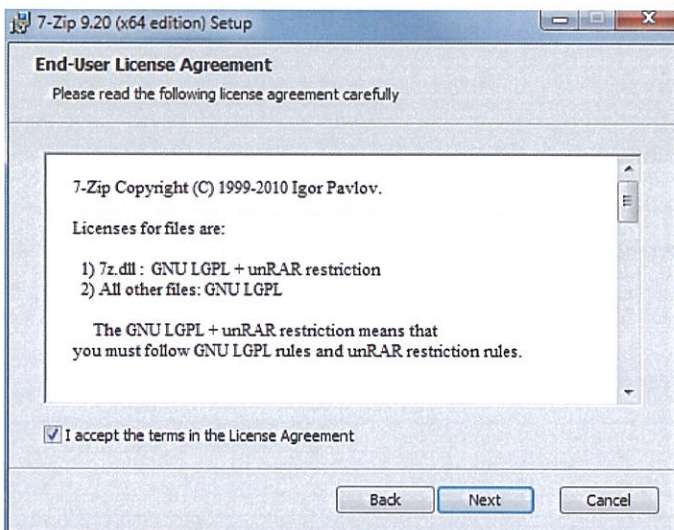
- Using Windows Explorer navigate to the location used to store the 7-Zip installation file (.EXE)
- Double-Click on the file to start the installation wizard

Special Note: If using Windows VISTA or Windows 7 with User Account Control (UAC) select “Yes” when prompted by the operating system.

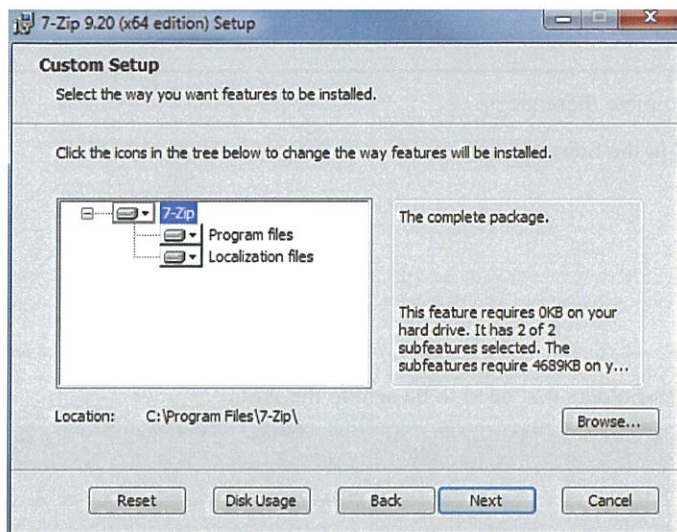
- When prompted by the Welcome dialogue box click “Next” to continue



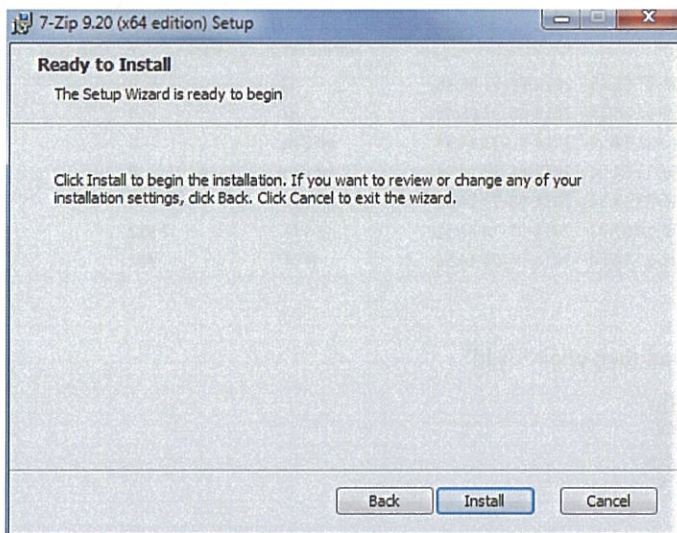
- Click the “I accept the terms in the License Agreement” and then click “Next”



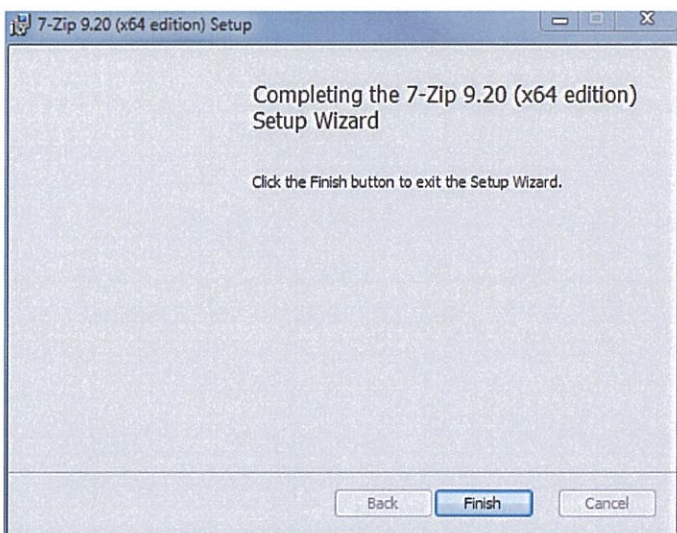
- Accept the default installation options and path then click “Next”



- Click "Next"



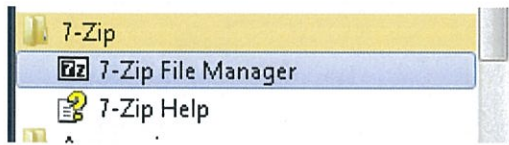
- Click "Finish" to complete the installation



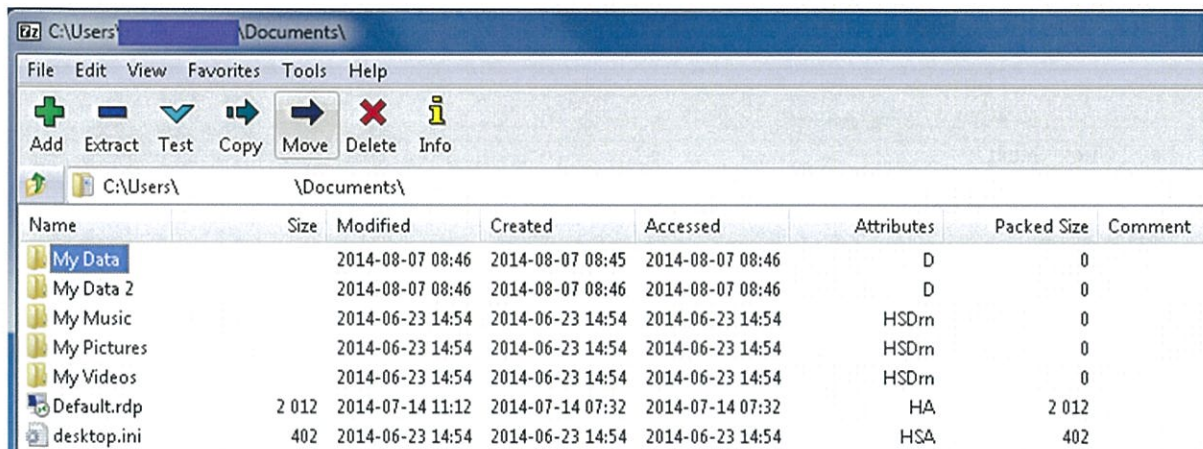
4 Encrypting Data

To prepare data for transport to the AEC please complete these steps:

- 1) Locate and execute “7-Zip File Manager” in the Start Menu



- 2) In the File/Folder pane navigate to the Files/Folders that need to be sent to the AEC



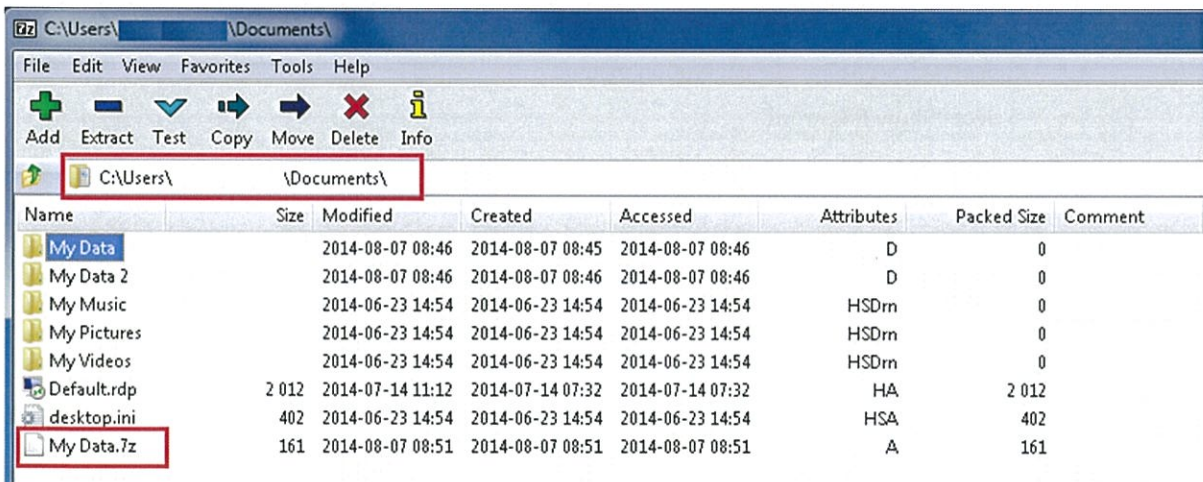
- 3) Select the required File(s) and Folder(s) and then click “Add”



- 4) Within the “Add to Archive” dialogue box
- Make note of the file name shown in the “Archive” field. For easy identification please change this name to reflect your organisation.
 - Select “AES-256” as the encryption method
 - Select “Show Password”
 - Enter a strong password into the “Enter Password” field
 - Click “OK”

The screenshot shows the 'Add to Archive' dialog box. The 'Archive:' field at the top left contains 'My Data.7z'. The 'Encryption' section on the right is highlighted with a red box and contains the following elements: the 'Enter password:' field with the text 'Strong Password Here', the 'Show Password' checkbox which is checked, and the 'Encryption method:' dropdown menu set to 'AES-256'. Other settings visible include 'Archive format: 7z', 'Compression level: Normal', 'Compression method: LZMA', 'Dictionary size: 16 MB', 'Word size: 32', 'Solid Block size: 2 GB', 'Number of CPU threads: 2 / 8', 'Update mode: Add and replace files', 'Options: Create SFX archive (unchecked), Compress shared files (unchecked)', and 'Encrypt file names' (unchecked). The 'Parameters' field at the bottom is empty. The 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Help' buttons are at the bottom right.

- 5) 7-Zip will create a new file with the name supplied in the “Archive” field. Make note of the file location.



- 6) The 7-Zip archive file is now ready to be sent to the AEC. Please place this file on CD-ROM or DVD and deliver it to the AEC.
- 7) Please ensure the password/passphrase used to encrypt the data is NOT transported with the CD-ROM/DVD. The password/passphrase should be provided separately to the AEC by either:
- e-mail to: fad@aec.gov.au
 - fax to: (02) 6271 7655

APPENDIX A. Abbreviations

The following abbreviations have been used in this document.

Term or abbreviation	Full name or description
AD	Active Directory
AEC	Australian Electoral Commission
AES	Advanced Encryption Standard
UAC	User Account Control
URL	Uniform Resource Locator

