

## THE COMPUTER CORNER

### No. 174: ToolWiz TimeFreeze

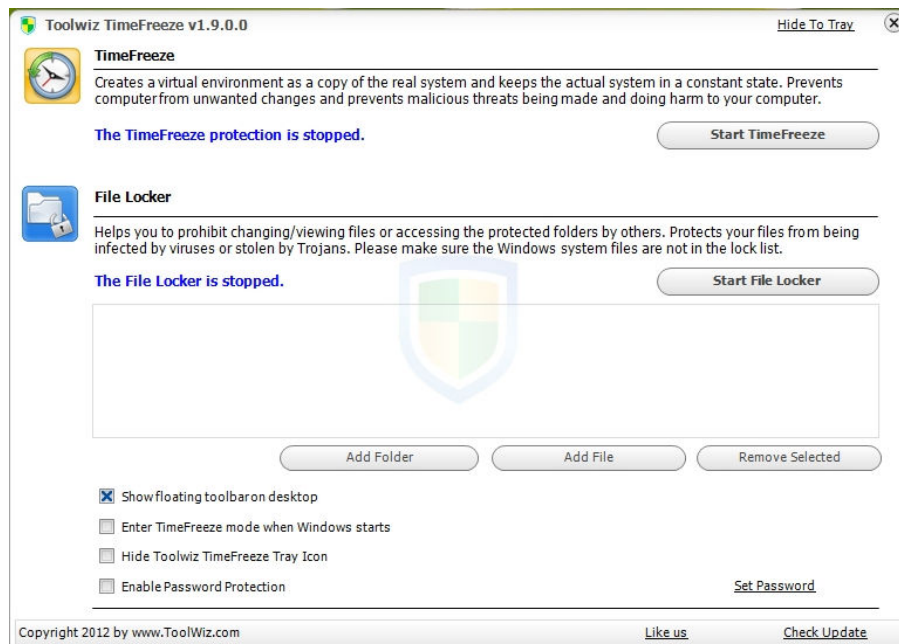
Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR

715 N. Dries Street, Saukville, WI 53080-1664 (262) 268-1949 [skaplan@mcw.edu](mailto:skaplan@mcw.edu)

ToolWiz TimeFreeze is yet another great program listed by Majorgeeks.com. You install this program like any other, but it requires a reboot when done. Then, you have a new icon on your desktop.

Let us suppose you get an email in your inbox from someone you know, but it just does not seem right. You are suspicious. What do you do? The course of action you should normally take is to not open it, and simply delete it. But that leaves you with the nagging feeling that you have missed something that might be important. With TimeFreeze, you can open it with impunity.

Click the icon and start TimeFreeze. This is what you will see:



Now, you click the Start TimeFreeze button, and your whole system is frozen, but a complete snapshot of your system is in memory and working just as usual. Now you can start your email client, open the suspicious entry, and see what it is all about. When done, close your email client and click the TimeFreeze button. Select Stop TimeFreeze and it will restart your system. The system that comes up will be exactly as it was before you started TimeFreeze! Any malware or other junk that was added while you were working with the suspicious file (or links) went “poof” when you restarted. Your system has been protected, and is exactly as it was before.

What a great idea! You created a “virtual box” on the fly, and worked with potentially harmful files in perfect safety, knowing that your system is protected. If it turns out that the files were OK and you downloaded something that you want to keep, the program has the option to save any changes before the reboot. You have your cake and can eat it, too! Happy Computing!

---

Saying of the month: “I think there is a world market for maybe five computers.” Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM, 1943.