How to access the Web with a CompuServe account
and the tools from Windows® 9x (w/o WinCim)

Created on thursday, september 14, 1995
Last revised on monday, february 17, 1997: Now provide support for OEM[1] Service Release 2.

I saw a lot of questions posted in many BBS about access to the Internet with a CompuServe account. I thought my experience could help some of you. If this text helps you, please send me an e-mail (noeld@msn.com) with your feedback.
Here are the steps that allowed me to access the Internet WWW with my CompuServe account with Microsoft Internet Explorer. But I am quite sure that any browser can work without trouble. I think the advantage of Internet Explorer is that it uses the standard WINSOCK.DLL from Windows® 95 instead of a specific one as CompuServe's NetLauncher does.

E: is the letter of my CD-ROM drive.

- Install a **Dial-Up Adapter** and the TCP/IP[2] protocol:
  In **Control Panel**, click on the **Network** icon. In the **Configuration** page, push **Add** and choose **Adapter** then **Add**, select **Microsoft/Dial-Up Adapter** then **OK**. Next install the TCP/IP protocol this way: **Add**, **Protocol**, **Add** then choose **Microsoft - TCP/IP** and **OK**.
  Note: if TCP/IP is installed for your network board and it is not used for this purpose you can safely remove it.

- Setup TCP/IP:
  Press **Properties** after selecting TCP/IP → Dial-Up Adapter

  Bindings: nothing to do
  Advanced: nothing to do
  DNS[3] Configuration:
  Enable DNS
  Host: enter your CompuServe member ID <u>put a point instead of a comma</u> (eg: 75240.1046)
  Domain: compuserve.com
  Host and Domain build your Internet e-mail address (eg: 75240.1046@compuserve.com)
  DNS Server Search Order: enter 149.174.211.5 then press **Add** (it is the CompuServe IP address)
  IP Address:
  select **Obtain an IP address automatically**
  WINS[4] Configuration:
  select **Disable WINS Resolution**
  Gateway: nothing to do
  Press **OK**. Windows will ask you to restart your computer to take the changes in account.

- Install the **Scripter** program that you can find on the Windows 95 CD:
  In **Control Panel**, run **Add/Remove Programs**, choose the tab **Windows Setup**, press **Have Disk**, enter the **E:\ADMIN\APPTOOLS\DSCRIPTS** directory (with **Browse** for example), select the file **RNAPLUS.INF** then press **OK**. Check the box in front of **SLIP and Scripting for Dial-Up Networking** and press **Install**. Leave **Control Panel**.

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[1] Original Equipment Manufacturer
[2] Transmission Control Protocol / Internet Protocol
[3] Domain Name Server (or System)
[4] Windows Internet Naming Service

Notes:

1. *This installation can be done by right clicking on the rnaplus.inf icon in **Windows Explorer** for displaying the contextual menu and then choose the **Install** option.*
2. *If you are running an OEM Service Release 2 you can ignore this step.*

- Select the menu **Start\Programs\Accessories\Dial-Up networking**:
  double-click the **Make New Connection** icon to create a new connection.
  The Wizard ask you for a name (you can give CompuServe for example) then press **Next** enter the phone number for CIS[5], and the country you call from. Press **Next** then press **Finish**. Right click on the newly created icon, choose **Properties** in the contextual menu. Press the **Server Type** button, remove the options: **Require encrypted password**, **NetBEUI**[6], and **IPX/SPX**[7] **compatible**. Then press **OK.**
  *Note: Since the introduction of the OEM Service Release 2 this step and the following one have changed: the scripter is now embedded in the **Properties** as a new property page called **Scripting**. So instead of pressing **OK** now select the **Scripting** tab. Press **Browse** to select the **CIS.SCP** script. Then press **OK**. You can ignore the following section.*

- Run **Scripter** from the menu **Start\Programs\Accessories\Dial-Up Scripting Tool** to associate a script to the new connection. Select the newly created CompuServe connection in case there are many in the list and choose **Browse** to select the **CIS.SCP** file. Then press **Apply** and **Close**.

- Setup the RNA[8] access:
  Double-click the connection icon. In the **User Name** field enter your CompuServe member ID (eg: 75240,1046) and the password for your account (you can check the box to save it) then press **Connect** to test your installation. If you connect you will obtain a dialog box with a **Disconnect** button. You should press it, the test is over.

- Use the Setup Wizard to install the **Internet Explorer** or install the browser of your choice. It is better to install IExplorer in this final step because Setup Wizard ask you for a RNA connection and the CompuServe RNA connection will be available in the list from Setup Wizard uses to complete the installation.

When you run the Web browser, the dialog box for the CompuServe connection will open. All you have to do will be press the **Connect** button to make the call and press the **Disconnect** button at the end of the session. I really hope this helps you to better use your CompuServe account. Let me hear from you.

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[5] CompuServe Information Service
[6] NetBIOS Extended User Interface
[7] Internet Packet Exchange/Sequenced Packet Exchange
[8] Remote Network Access