

By: David Vacari, Editor, Software Reviews

Tired of "Pro"s

Can it uninstall itself?

Almost everything we do on our computers leaves behind a series of tracks that can both be followed and can create difficulties in running our usual applications. For instance, not all uninstalling softwares clean up their "mess" during that process. Lately, even some cleaning softwares have this vice. This lack of neatness leads to empty folders, orphaned files, invalid registry entries, startup missing tasks, invalid links that slow down any computer, making it unstable and susceptible of crashing. If it were only a case of software reinstalling this should only be a matter of time. Unfortunately, it isn't just that. Many PC users store much information on their computers, information that can vary taking into account value, size, type and utility. There is one aspect that all information has in common and that is the unpleasant feeling when it is lost. Tweaking and cleaning software developers do their best to ensure us that their applications are the best of the best. They all say that it cleans the registry (yet some just clear it), that it defragments and optimizes the memory and in the end all they do is adding more and more MB to it and so on and so forth. The safer way to choose a program is either to test it on an unharmable computer or to see what others say about it. Of course, the first option is more accurate for you get to see for yourself what and how good it does its job. There is another way, unfortunately used by most of us and that is hoping that it will prove a good choice. PC Optimizer Pro is not at all an entire PC optimizer. As even its developer cares to enlighten us, this software is only about Windows Registry and Internet Tracks. But is a computer's OS made only of these two features? I'm sure mine isn't. That is another idea that bothers me. Why do they say it does more than it is actually made for. In my opinion, softwares would have more success in being appreciated if they named things straight. And one other thing. I find it more efficient to let your possible buyer see exactly what he may order, meaning that the limitations should concern only the time of use and definitely not most of the application's features. But let's get back to over viewing this program. The very first time you open it, a PC scan starts, checking for possible errors concerning Registry Integrity, Software Locations, Windows Fonts, Help & Resources, Shared DLLs, Startup Programs, Add/Remove Programs, Virtual Devices, File Extensions, Custom Controls, Deep Scan and Program Shortcuts. After the results, the software decides that only Registry Integrity and Add/Remove Programs will be cleaned. To be sure a program is fully functional and worthy of buying you have to see at least the common sensed "half 1" locations perfectly clean and bug free. The same thing happens with the Tracks Eraser option where, from all those locations, IE Cache, IE History IE AutoComplete, IE Cookies and the same stuff related to Firefox PC Optimizer Pro asks for registration before showing you its true value. The application has a built-in File Shredder that lets you decide which files to permanently delete, an Uninstaller, that helps you get rid of useless applications and a Startup Manager to select the softwares that you want to show their faces at any of your OS loading. Beside all these "extraordinary" useful tasks, PC Optimizer Pro charms us with a System Info, a shallow Settings window and a Statistics one to show us the good job it has done. I mean, what features contained in this paragraph are difficult enough for a PC user to do it without this application? It is almost senseless for developers to rely on such stuffings to sell their products. And most of all I hate it when, as I could unfortunately see in this software, there is a most enhanced button which gives you the opportunity to see all the same features again but in a different form. I really cannot imagine why this program isn't free because for 5\$ less one can upgrade its TuneUp Utilities software which does a lot more and is a real fully PC optimizer, tweaking most computer concerning. **The Good** it looks nice. **The Bad** it does a lot less than one could apparently think judging by its name, it is stuffed with extra not very useful features and it has an unexpectedly high price concerning its worth. **The Truth** it is better to look at and test twice because sometimes things fail to be what they appear. Especially when they call themselves Pro. *Here are some snapshots of the application in action:*