

## brainvisa-development - Task #8806

### Windows : add support for long pathes (i.e. : > 255 characters)

29/11/2013 11:26 AM - Souedet, Nicolas

<b>Status:</b>	Closed	<b>Start date:</b>	29/11/2013
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>	Souedet, Nicolas	<b>% Done:</b>	0%
<b>Category:</b>	brainvisa-cmake	<b>Estimated time:</b>	0:00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>	brainvisa-4.7	<b>Spent time:</b>	0:00 hour
<b>Description</b>			
On windows OS [at least XP and 7, may be 8 (to be checked)], there is limitation about path length (which must not exceed 255 characters). This leads to annoying consequences : 1° It is not possible to package brainvisa with bv_installer 2° It is not possible to unzip and run packs in a long directory (we highly recommend to unzip brainvisa pack in c:)			

### History

#### #1 - 29/11/2013 11:33 AM - Souedet, Nicolas

The main workaround to address this issue is to use prefix '\\?\' before pathes.

In a DOS shell the following command works :

```
mkdir \\?\c:\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678
```

whereas the following command leads to the error 'File path or extension too long.'

```
mkdir c:\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678
```

#### #2 - 29/11/2013 12:21 PM - Souedet, Nicolas

Moreover, regarding <http://bugs.python.org/issue18199>, some python functions do not support unc pathes with '\\?\' prefix

#### #3 - 29/11/2013 12:37 PM - Souedet, Nicolas

The following pyaims script fails to create image in a directory with long path :

```
from soma import aims
i = aims.AimsData_RGB(1,1,1)
i.fill(aims.AimsRGB(0,0,0))
aims.write(i, u'\\\\\\?\c:\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\a12345678\test.ima')
```

#### #4 - 29/11/2013 12:39 PM - Souedet, Nicolas

Informations about the Windows long path limitation are available here  
[http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/desktop/aa365247\(v=vs.85\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/desktop/aa365247(v=vs.85).aspx)

#### #5 - 29/11/2013 04:05 PM - Cointepas, Yann

An important point about long path names under Windows:

Because you cannot use the '\\?\' prefix with a relative path, relative paths are always limited to a total of **MAX\_PATH** charachters.

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**#9 - 31/07/2015 04:09 PM - Cointepas, Yann**

- Assignee set to Souedet, Nicolas

**#10 - 25/09/2015 03:33 PM - Souedet, Nicolas**

- Target version changed from brainvisa-4.5 to brainvisa-4.6

Won't be fixed in 4.5 release

**#11 - 16/12/2015 04:18 PM - Souedet, Nicolas**

It can have an interest at building time to mount long path directories to drives.  
A first way is to use the subst command.

```
subst F: C:\bv\build-bug_fix-Windows-7-i686-release
```

A second way that allow to keep permanent drives is to edit the registry keys like in the following example:

```
REGEDIT4  
[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\DOS Devices]  
"F:"="\\?\C:\bv\build-bug_fix-Windows-7-i686-release"  
"G:"="\\?\C:\bv\build-trunk-Windows-7-i686-release"
```

**#12 - 26/09/2017 03:32 PM - Riviere, Denis**

- Target version changed from brainvisa-4.6 to brainvisa-4.7

**#13 - 30/10/2018 12:16 PM - Riviere, Denis**

- Category set to brainvisa-cmake

**#14 - 16/12/2022 09:12 AM - Souedet, Nicolas**

- Status changed from New to Closed