

Command Reporter User Guide

Command Reporter is a tool automatically installed on all SIMS Workstation (usually located: *C:\Program Files (x86)\SIMS\SIMS .net\CommandReporter.exe*) Its purpose is to extract the output of reports as .csv without the need to log into sims manually. If you couple this with the power of Windows Scheduled Task you have the ability to extract data from the Sims database on a regular basis to give you an almost live stream of data without needing to know any SQL commands.

Example:

Every night a report could run to extract pupils with a birthday on the next day, this would export as a csv which a webpage would pick up on to publish these birthdays on the school intranet.

How to use:

To run this tool you need to create a report in Sims with a csv output, this guide assumes you know how to do this, if not seek assistance from your SIMS support source.

You must then run the “*CommandReporter.exe*” utility with some parameters to tell it what report you wish to run and where you wish to place it. To see the parameters available you should open a command window and type the following (including the “ “)

```
“C:\Program Files (x86)\SIMS\SIMS .net\CommandReporter.exe” /?
```

A completed example with parameters might look like this:

```
“C:\Program Files (x86)\SIMS\SIMS .net\CommandReporter.exe” /USER:MYUSERNAME  
/PASSWORD:MYPASSWORD /SERVERNAME:SIMSSERVER\SIMSSQLINSTANCE  
/DATABASENAME:SIMS /REPORT:“MY SIMS REPORT” /OUTPUT:”  
C:\Users\user\OneDrive\Documents\data-export\myreport.csv /QUIET”
```

This could be added to a script, a common way to automate report extract is to use a DOS batch file, but you could use VBA from within excel or a PowerShell script or any other way you may run a command.

Notes:

- The path must be to a valid directory, the script will not create directories it will just fail if the path is invalid.
- If a report has parameter queries which are prompted at runtime (i.e. year group) they will be ignored unless extra sections are put into this script.
- The system will only output a csv file, if you require excel etc, you must manipulate the script further.
- The next time the script runs the file will be overwritten automatically without prompting so do not add extra data to this file.