

## How to View the Episodes!

- Are you trying to work out what you need to do to watch the New Voyages / Phase II episodes at home on your computer or DVD recorder?
- Have you downloaded our files and then received an error message?
- Are you confused by terms like DivX, Xvid, WMV, SRT, nfo, 24p, etc?

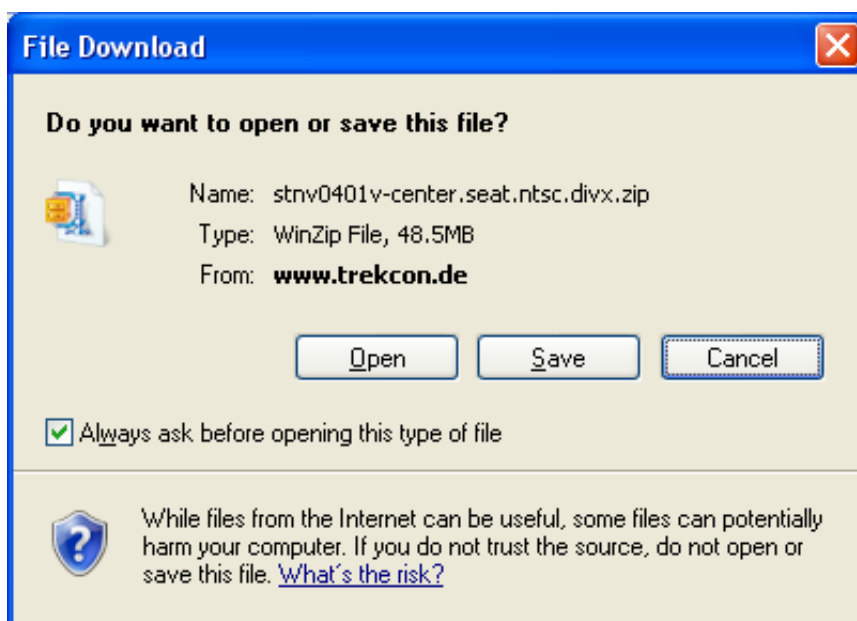
If you have answered “yes” to any of these questions, then read on, we will do our best to explain these things for you in simple terms which you just need to follow exactly.

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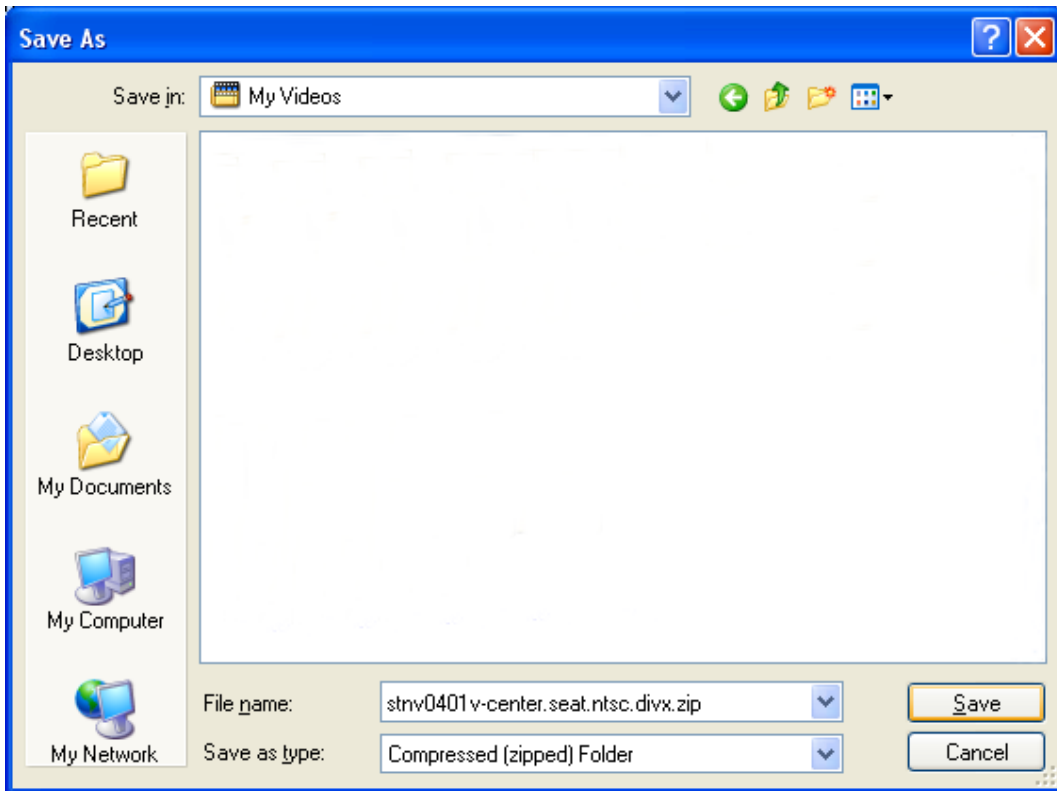
## How do I download and unpack the episodes?

Just follow the following instructions.

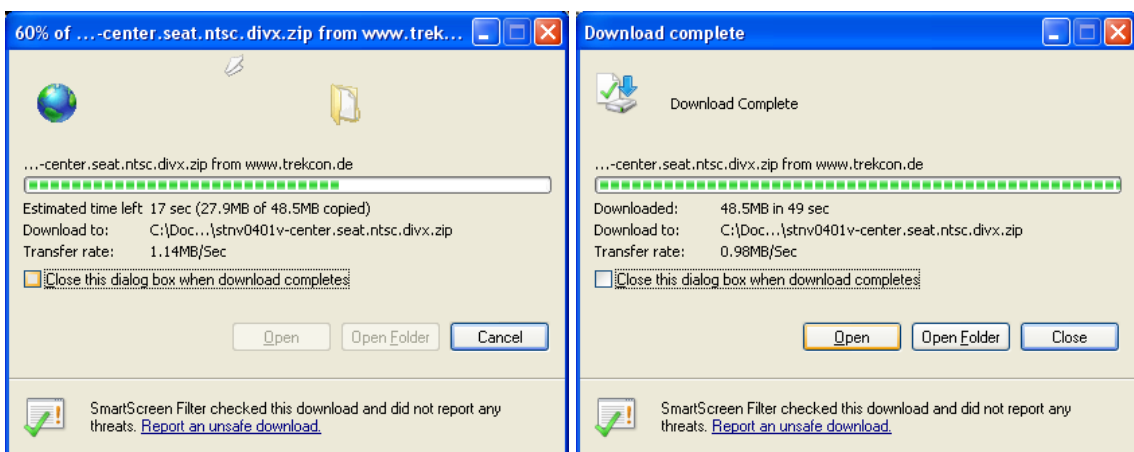
1. Visit the website <http://www.startrekphase2.de>, decide which episode you wish to download and display that page in your internet browser, e.g. [http://www.startrekphase2.de/center\\_seat.html](http://www.startrekphase2.de/center_seat.html)
2. Scroll down to the bottom of the page until you see the Downloads section
3. You now need to determine which version you need. If you are in America or Japan, then you will need the NTSC version, if you are in Europe or Australia, you will need the PAL version. If in doubt, try the NTSC version first. With later episodes, we provide a 24p version instead of PAL or NTSC. 24p means the episode is provided with 24 frames per second (as originally filmed) instead of PAL (25fps) or NTSC (29.976fps). We have found that 24p files will work worldwide in all areas on all but the very oldest TV sets (and Star Trek fans usually have the latest TVs, anyway)! Additionally, using 24p avoids audio sync problems and allows us to provide just one file for everybody, instead of two which can be confusing. If you wish to see the episode with permanent German subtitles, then you can download the PAL-D or 24p-D version instead. If you prefer to see subtitles as an option, or in a language other than German, you need the respective NTSC, PAL or 24p version.
4. Now download the file to your desktop by clicking on the respective link.
5. A window appears, click on the Save button.



- A new window opens asking you where to save the file. We suggest you save it in “My Videos”. Click on “My Documents” first and then on “My Videos”). Then click on the Save button to save the file.

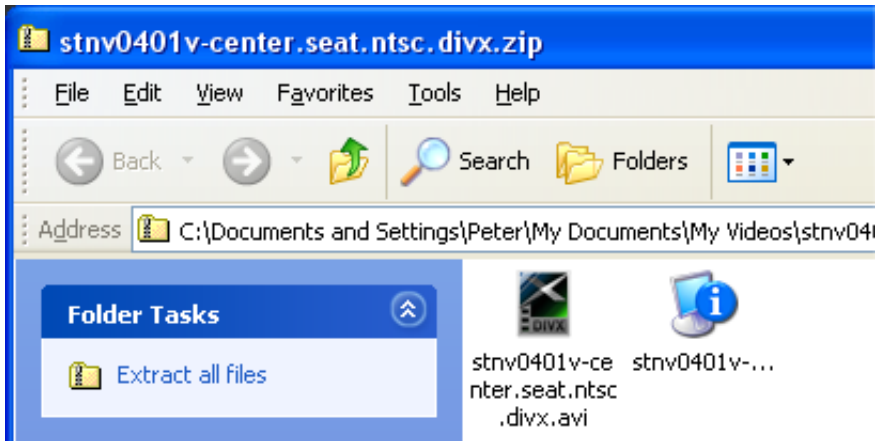


- The file will now download, depending on the speed of your internet connection, this can take some time. While the file is downloading, remove any tick mark on “Close this dialog box when download completes”

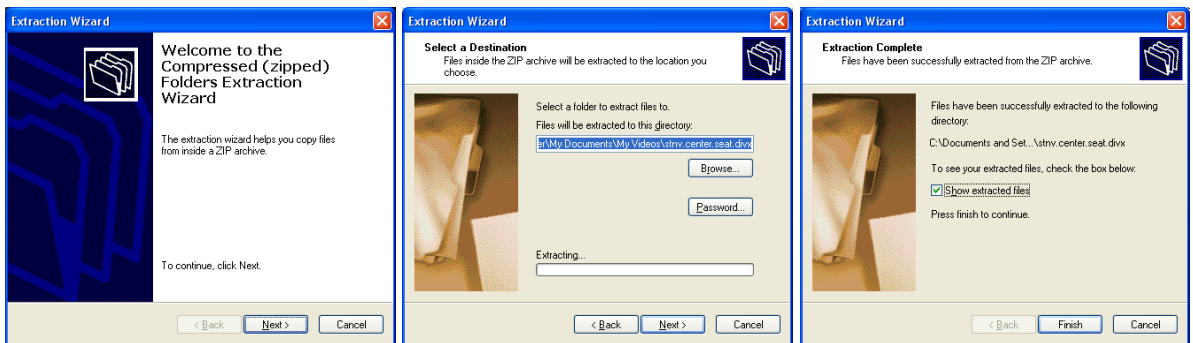


- Once the download has completed, click on “Open”.

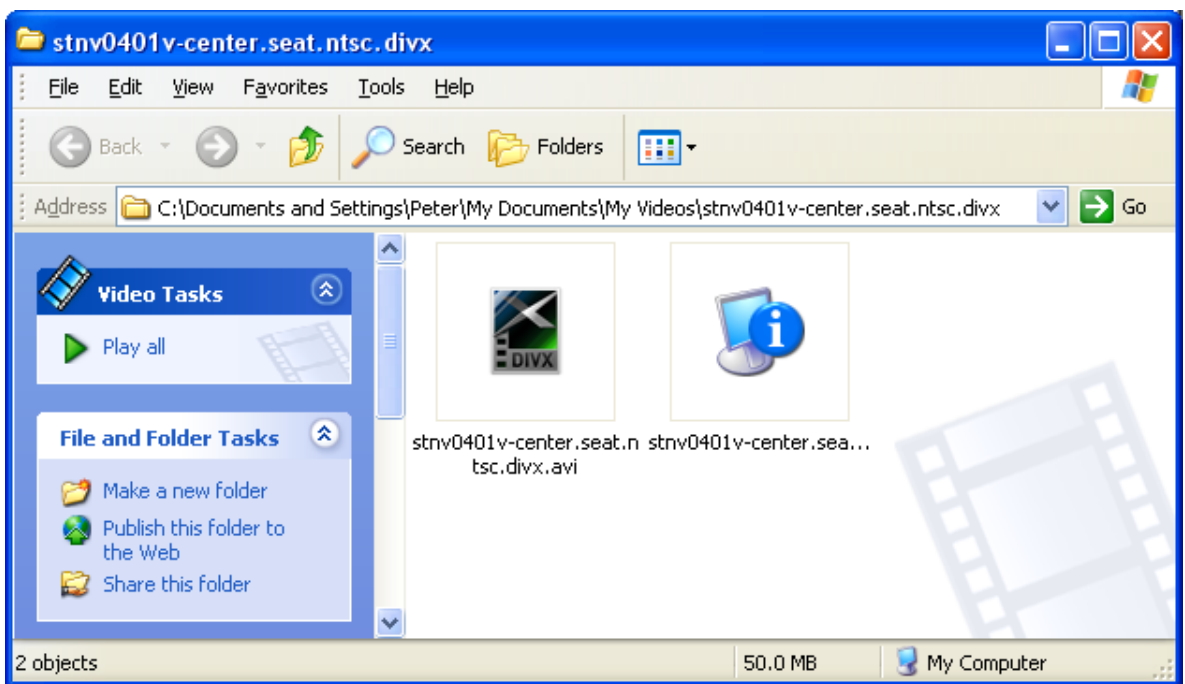
9. A new window opens and shows 2 files. Click on “Extract all files”.



10. A wizard appears - just click on “Next” twice and then finally on “Finish” as shown. After the files have been extracted, you can delete the .zip file.

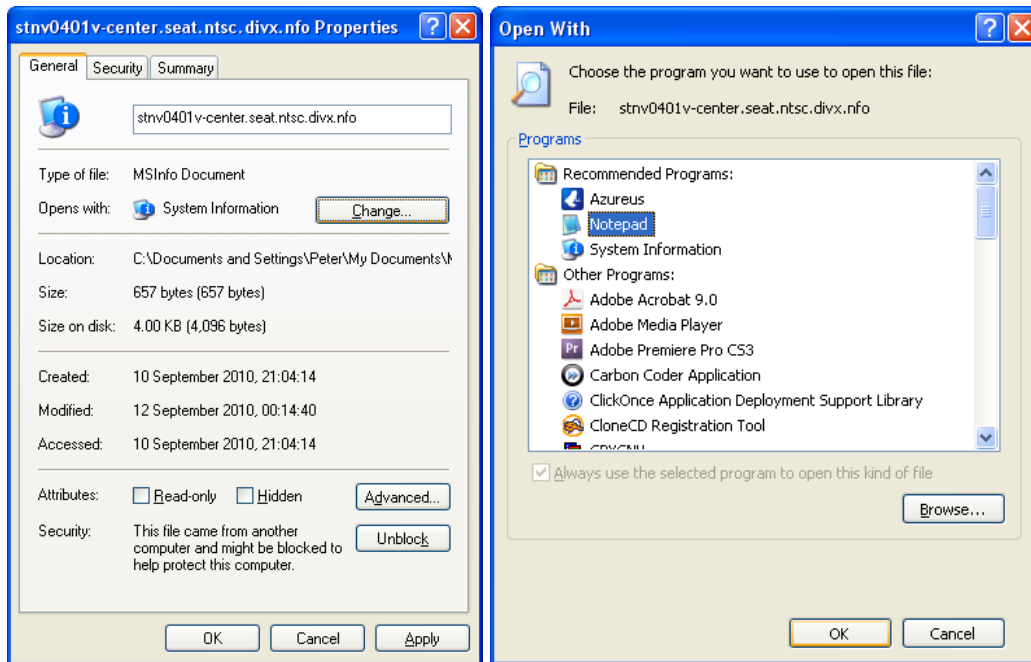


11. A new window opens showing 2 files:



The \*.avi file contains the actual video in DivX format. If you are unsure what DivX is, it is explained later in this document.

The \*.nfo file is a text file containing information about the film. This file can be viewed with Notepad and/or deleted as required. Please note, by default, Windows associates \*.nfo files with “System Information”, which is not suitable to view these files. We recommend right clicking on the \*.nfo file and selecting “Properties”. If “Opens with: System Information” is displayed, click on “Change”, select “Notepad” and then on OK, twice. This only needs to be set once. You can then click on the \*.nfo file and read it correctly.



12. Now double click the \*.avi file (“stnv0401v-center.seat.ntsc.divx.avi” in this example). If your system is already capable of showing DivX files, the film will start. If you receive an error message stating that the video format can not be recognised, you will need to install the DivX driver (see the next page for more details) before you can view the film on your computer.

13. If you have a DVD player that can play DivX files (the user manual will tell you this, often “DivX Certified” or “MPEG4” is written on the unit), you can also simply burn the \*.avi file onto a CD and watch the film on your television. If you need subtitles, some DVD players will also recognize the .srt subtitle file as well. If so, you need to save the respective \*.srt file with the .avi file on the CD. We recommend using Nero to burn the files on CD using ISO mode. Most recent DVD players now support DivX (MPEG4) playback, older ones may not.

## **What are DivX and XviD?**

Most people are aware that the tracks of an Audio-CD can be converted into much smaller files in the so-called MP3 format, which can then be played on MP3 players, etc. Whereas an Audio-CD will only play about 80 minutes, a CD of the same size will store many hours of sound, of similar quality, in MP3 format.

The MP4 standard is basically the counterpart for video where you can convert a movie on a DVD to the MP4 (aka MPEG4) standard, for example, to allow the same movie to fit on a CD, while maintaining the same high picture quality. MP4 is the standard format used by Quicktime for example.

DivX and XviD are two popular video formats which are based on the MP4 video standard. DivX is a commercial video format whereas XviD is a free open source variant and this means that, anything which plays DivX will also play XviD so the differences can be ignored. In the rest of these instructions, we will simply refer to both formats as “DivX”.

DivX has become a highly popular format as it allows high quality films to be stored in reasonably small file sizes – this makes it an ideal format for distributing films like our New Voyages / Phase II episodes via the Internet. Downloading a 400MB DivX file takes a lot less time than a 4.7GB DVD image would, for example.

## **How do I play DivX files?**

A number of the latest DVD players can already play DivX files. All you need to do is burn the DivX files onto a CD or DVD, insert them into your DivX compatible DVD player and enjoy the show. If you are unsure if your DVD player will play DivX, have a look at the operating instructions. If it tells you it can play DivX or MPEG4 files, then our episodes should play properly.

In order to play DivX files on a computer, you will need to install a DivX driver first. Once installed, you can use any application, like the Windows Media Player, Real Player, etc. to play the videos – just double-click on the \*.avi file name (e.g. “stnv0401v-center.seat.ntsc.divx.avi”).

Before trying to install the DivX driver, try starting one of our videos to see if it works. If you get an error message, then you will need to install the DivX player on your computer. The DivX player is free and can be downloaded here: <http://www.divx.com>

Please note that the latest version of the DivX player will also play subtitles, whereas other video players may need additional software (see below).

Alternatively, you can install the VLC Media Player, which will also play the subtitles without any additional software. The VLC Media Player is free, will play almost anything, and is easy to use.

It can be downloaded from here: <http://www.videolan.org/vlc/>

Installing the VLC Media Player is the easiest method of viewing our DivX files with subtitles.

## How Do I watch Episodes with Subtitles?

We are now offering subtitles in German and other languages where available, using the popular SRT format. These can be played on your computer and recent DVD players as well, that recognise the SRT format (please see the operating instructions of your DVD player).

Download the respective subtitle file for your language separately from our website. Then extract it from the zip file and put the extracted \*.srt file in the same directory and with the same file name as the video file, apart from the \*.srt ending. \*.srt files with different file names may be deleted.

### ANSI or UTF-8?

There are two text formats commonly used with subtitle files: ANSI and UTF-8. The DivX player requires files in UTF-8 format, for example. You will find the versions in respective subdirectories. We suggest you copy the file from the UTF-8 directory to the same directory as the downloaded video file first. If you find that some characters (especially punctuation or foreign characters) look strange, then you should use the ANSI version instead.

e.g. in our Center Seat example, the file names look like this:

- stnv0401v-center.seat.ntsc.divx.avi (Video file, PAL or NTSC according to your local system)
- stnv0401v-center.seat.ntsc.divx.srt (respective subtitle file in ANSI or UTF-8)

The \*.srt file is a simple text file and can be opened with Windows Notepad, for example.

If you do not want subtitles, you can simply delete the file or rename it to something else.

Please note that we used to provide a \*.txt info file with our videos (now \*.nfo files instead). In some cases, your video software may try to open this as a subtitle file and then display an error message. If this happens, we suggest simply deleting that \*.txt file as it is not required to watch the film.

If you are using the VLC Media Player or DivX Player to view the video, the subtitle file will be recognised automatically and played with the video. You can switch off the subtitles within the program as desired.

If you have installed the DivX player and subtitles do not work, please update your DivX player to the latest version (free) at [www.divx.com](http://www.divx.com).

Other video players may need you to install a small driver so that subtitles will work on your system. In this case, we recommend you install the DirectVobSub driver, which can be downloaded from <http://www.divxmovies.com/subtitles/>

Once installed, you can view the video with Real player, Windows Media Player, etc. and the subtitles should appear automatically.

The \*.srt file works with most players, provided DirectVobSub has been installed.

Note: Older stand-alone DivX capable DVD Players may not recognise \*.srt files. Please check your manual.

## ***What is a WMV file?***

Files with the \*.wmv extension are Windows Media Video files and should play well on any current Windows based computer. We use \*.wmv files primarily for trailers and some previous New Voyagers episodes were initially released in this format. Just click on the file and it should play immediately without problem. We no longer release our episodes in this format proprietary format, as we prefer the open DivX formats instead.

We hope this document has helped you to better understand how to play our videos. Please check the information section on [www.startrekphase2.de](http://www.startrekphase2.de) for updated versions of this document. If you subscribe to our RSS feed, we can inform you automatically when updates are made.

## ***How you can help us make more Phase II episodes***

If you enjoy our episodes, we invite you to donate towards the costs of making them. As making such videos cost a lot of time and money, your donation can help us release new episodes more quickly. Every cent donated will be used for the New Voyages/Phase II project costs.

<http://www.startrekphase2.de/donate.html>

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See also <http://www.trekcon.de>