FreeTW
the Tele-Web-Viewer

Installation and troubleshooting

Installation of FreeTw

 To install FreeTw please inflate its compressed files into a directory, then launch the FreeTw link that subsequently launches "FreeTw.exe"

 FreeTw.exe will test that the mandatory system components are present and eventually will propose their installation.

System components mandatory to execute FreeTw

Internet Explorer 7 .... IE7-WindowsXP-x86-eng.exe
Windows Media Player 11 .... wmp11-windowsxp-x86-en-en.exe
NET 3.5 Redistributable .... dotnetfx35_eng.exe

 At last, only if all prerequisites are met, FreeTw_core.exe will be executed – the actual application – and a window like this should be opened:

Installing auxiliary components

Usually in modern computer nothing important should be missing, if you experience problems please follow the hints hereafter.

Download the following compressed files, expand their content (creating subfolders) and then move all the files and the obtained subdirectory structure inside the "Extra" directory of FreeTw.

http://www.freetw.net/downloads/FreeTw_Extra_Codecs.zip (59 mega)
http://www.freetw.net/downloads/FreeTw_Extra_Installers.zip(45 mega)
http://www.freetw.net/downloads/FreeTw_Extra_VoiceInput.zip (69 mega)
http://www.freetw.net/downloads/dotnetfx35_eng.exe (237 mega)
http://www.freetw.net/downloads/DeviceDrivers.zip (10 mega)

In this way it should be possible to use the installators confortably all the times they are needed and especially when we'll have to copy an entire setup into another computer.

It is possible to access the "extra" folder even from within the Options of FreeTw as you can see in the following image.

"Edit"
    "Options"
        "Open the extra installers"

Inside the "extra" folder we'll find :

Mandatory system components
Internet Explorer 7 .... IE7-WindowsXP-x86-eng.exe
Windows Media Player 11 .... wmp11-windowsxp-x86-en-en.exe
NET 3.5 Redistributable .... dotnetfx35_ENG.exe

Codecs audio and video
AC3 Standard filter .... FreeTW / Extra / AC3Filter.exe
K-Lite codecs .... Kazaa Lite Codec Pack - 274f.exe
codecs for Vista .... Codec45_JVCG726E.EXE
codecs for Vista .... VistaCodecs_v472.exe
RealPlayer .... RealPlayer11GOLD_en.exe
JAVA .... Java (XP and Vista) - jre-6u7-windows-i586-p-s.exe

Mandatory for voice input
Folder "Voice input" containing 10 files. - Launch the file "Setup.exe"

Auxiliary visualizations for Windows Media Player
The visualization "PsychedeliaVizPack.msi" could be installed right-clicking and choosing "Install"
The visualization "Energy Bliss MP10.dll" could be installed copying this file in: "C:\Program Files\Windows Media Player\Visualizations"

In the following pages you could find hints and technical aspects related to the installations.

Technical aspects related to the manual installations

The files we're talking about into this document, downloadable from the FreeTw website, are updated to the middle of 2008 year.

You can find more recent versions in Internet and <mark>you could even find localized versions</mark> if you prefer them but please be careful because we didn't test these installation files. If the website from where you are downloading is something like "www.microsoft.com" that's allright but if the site name is, for instance, "www.super_trojans_&_virus.com" perhaps it is better to abstain…

Please pay attention to choose free of charge versions and to deactivate all checkboxes related to "Google toolbar" or "Yahoo toolbar" or mentioning about "some presents/gifts" or about "newsletters".

After finishing the installation and after having tested the correct behaviour of FreeTw, the "Extra" folder could even be deleted to free two hundred megabytes. My hint is however to leave it there because it could be useful in the future if you'll need to install some more codecs. Moreover is you'll either move or copy FreeTw onto another computer, it should be confortable to have yet all the needed files to restart it.

If FreeTw doesn't start with "Windows Vista"

Please assure that FreeTw resides into the folder "C:\Program Files\FreeTw" because in "Vista", for security reasons, the programs have to stay under "Program Files" and not in casual hard disk locations (in this case you have to "trust" the executable location with an hard and complex process) .

If FreeTw doesn't start with "Windows XP" or with "Windows Vista"

It is almost certain that the ".NET Framework 3.5 SP1" is missing (about 237 megabyte).
Install it from this URL : http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyId=AB99342F-5D1A-413D-8319-81DA479AB0D7&displaylang=en   (choose your language and confirm with the "Change" button before downloading)

The italian version, contained into an unique file, that is useful to install onto different computers without accessing Internet, could be downloaded from here: http://www.freetw.net/downloads/dotnetfx35_ita.exe

If it is not possible to enable the voice recognition

Download and install the file "SpeechSDK51.exe" (68 MegaByte long) that should be reachable at the following address :

http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyId=5E86EC97-40A7-453F-B0EE-6583171B4530&displaylang=en

The file to be installed is "Microsoft Speech SDK 5.1.msi" and, into the same folder, nine more files should be present for a total amount of about 68 megabyte. If you experience problems to download these files you could use the files deployed with FreeTw into the folder "Extra" / "Voice input"

ATTENTION: <mark>*Using "Windows Vista" (version different from english) there isn't any way to install the voice recognition, neither the english or different language one. When Microsoft will fix it up this problem, I'll notify you.*</mark>

Programs to be installed

FreeTw needs "Internet Explorer" version 7 (or following)
FreeTw needs "Windows Media Player" version 11 (or following)
The web pages visited with FreeTw could need : "RealPlayer ", "QuickTime Player" , "Java" and "Flash"

| Internet Explorer | Windows Media Player | Real Player | Quick Time | Java | Flash |

A lot of these installers (except for Flash) are present into the "Extra" folder.

If you cannot look at a specific movie format or streaming format
If the mandatory codec is missing
If you can see reversed movies (upside down)
If you can't listen to the audio

Install FFDShow <u>with its default options</u> or check its options if it's already installed.

If you can't see the "FLV" movies

Install the last version of FLVPlayer or use the file "FLVPlayerSetup.exe" that you could find into the "Extra" folder of FreeTw.

Note:
Maybe that FLVPlayer is not needed because the previously mentioned "FFDShow" manages the FLV files too – With XP Windows Media Player an error is always raised when an FLV movie is opened even if subsequently they are correctly reproduced. Installing FLVPlayer does non fix this error notification.

If you can't look at some video kinds with Windows-Vista

Attempt even with "Kazaa Lite Codec Pack - 274f.exe" or using "VistaCodecs_v472.exe" or "Codec45_JVCG726E.EXE" that you can find into the "Extra" folder, or look for the last versions of these codecs in Internet. Eventually you could try to install them more than once, adding or changing codecs and options.

In my experience with Vista however all was working well except for the "MOV" and "ASF" files. The "MOV" files could only be opened with QuickTimePlayer and the ASF files only using WinAmp. By contrast, using XP, they were playable with Windows Media Player too. The good news is that using Vista the FLV files don't lead to the notification error that you can experience with XP.

Hints to correctly visualize and in the most satisfactory way the movies delivered by Streaming

- Be sure to have a wide band connection available (ADSL).
- Close all the p2p applications like eMule, Winmx, DC++ etc etc.
- Close "Outlook", "Messenger" or any other program using the Internet connection that could be slowdowned by those programs.

Usually eMule only uses part of the band and the remaining bandwidth should be more than enough of the needed value of megabit needed by the streaming but the presence of eMule always slowdown a lot of seconds the opening of a new channel ans, sometimes, creates a not fluid video reproduction.

If Windows Media Player is not able to open the video streams

If the streams cannot be opened with "Windows Media Player" but it is possible using other programs, it is probable that into the system some configurations are wrong or there are some programs like, for example, Winamp, that are changing the file associations every time they are started. That modifies the default behaviour of the file opening mechanisms used by "Internet explorer" and "Windows Media Player". If it is the case and some is not working well, please uninstall or not use some programs.

Verify the following items:
- Be sure that the operating system is "Windows XP" or "Windows Vista" in original version (it is an absurd to use a computer costing thousands of Euros, maybe with the best video controller board, and then avoid to spend some tenth of euros for the operating system. The operating system costs less than a single car tyre and using an O.S. with 'tricks' is like driving a car with exhausted tyres only because it is possible to find them 'freeware' into a waste processing unit… at last the accidents are expensive)

- control that into the system has been installed "Windows Media Player - Version 11"

- control that all the files with video e audio extensions are associated with WMP and that there isn't any other program (for instance Winamp) that is changing the file associations at startup.

- if you aren't confident, it is a good practice to uninstall all the video e audio players (VLC, BSplayer, FLVPlayer, PowerDVD, Winamp etc..) preserving only WMP 11.

- control into the Windows firewall and eventually in that of the Antivirus Suite that WMP is not blocked.

If exploring the web pages, sometimes a debug window would appear

open :
- Control Panel
- Internet options
- Advanced tab

Please check "Disable script debugging" (all the two checkboxes)

If you experience problems to override, delete or move the files of FreeTW while executing manual upgradings.

In WindowsXP, it could be active the "ctfmon.exe" process that, while not being a virus, is extremely boring, locking folders and files and denying to delete, substitute or move them. This process is useful only for the Oriental Languages and you could erase it but using simple user interface commands it is impossible to stop it.

The "cftmon" process is visible in the "Task manager" and you could halt it with "End Process" but is is not enough because every time you launch an application it restarts. Even erasing the file "C:\WINDOWS\system32\cftmon.exe" it is not the right solution because "ctfmon.exe" is a very important feature for WindowsXP, that recreates it again in few seconds.

Even using "HijackThis" and removing the related informations from the Registry, the "ctfmon" process will be restored in a short time and sometimes you will find some file "in use" .

To get rid of this thing in a very simple way, let's open:

Control Panel
      Regional and Language Options
            Languages
                  Details
                        Advanced
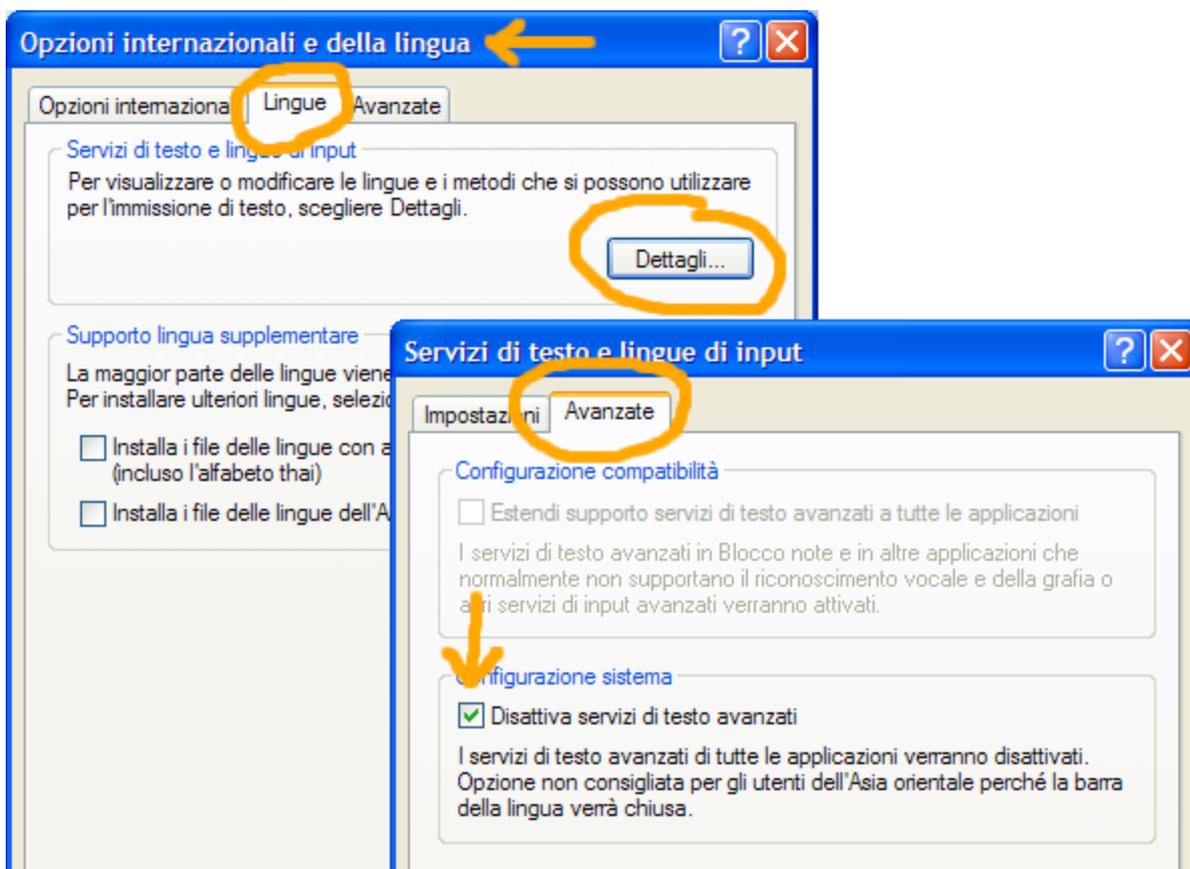
select the checkbox "Turn off advanced text services" , hit "Apply" and then "OK"

... the "ctfmon" service will immediately disappear and does no more interfere

Se e' difficile sovrascrivere, cancellare o spostare i file di FreeTW durante le operazioni di aggiornamento manuale su WindowsVista.

Su WindowsVista accade la stessa cosa che su XP, pero' i file non vengono bloccati dal processo "ctfmon.exe" ma da "conime.exe".

Non ho ancora trovato una soluzione per questo caso tranne che aprire"Gestione attivita'" e terminare il processo "conime.exe"

Qui riporto alcune frasi trovate su come disabilitare "conime.exe" anche se da me non hanno funzionato.

I accidentally found a workaround solution for this problem while trying to get rid of one other annoyance in Vista.

I was trying to get rid of the out of place looking language toolbar in UAC prompt and when I did, this problem was gone too. :)

The trick is to remove all other keyboard layouts except the one you use. To do this go to Control Panel - Regional and Language Options - Keyboard and Languages tab and then remove all unnecessary input languages except the one you use. After this console applications shouldn't spawn conime.exe (After all conime.exe is "Console Input Method Editor") anymore and as a added bonus the language toolbar won't show up in the UAC prompt anymore. :)

Migliorare la qualita' dei caratteri.

Su WindowsXP per default i caratteri visualizzati sullo schermo sono

E' possibile migliorare molto la qualita' dei caratteri con la procedura

Premere il tasto destro del mouse su una zona vuota dello schermo e scegliere :
- Proprieta'
- Aspetto
- Effetti

Abilitare la casella : "Usa il seguente metodo per smussare i caratteri.. "
Scegliere : "Clear Type"
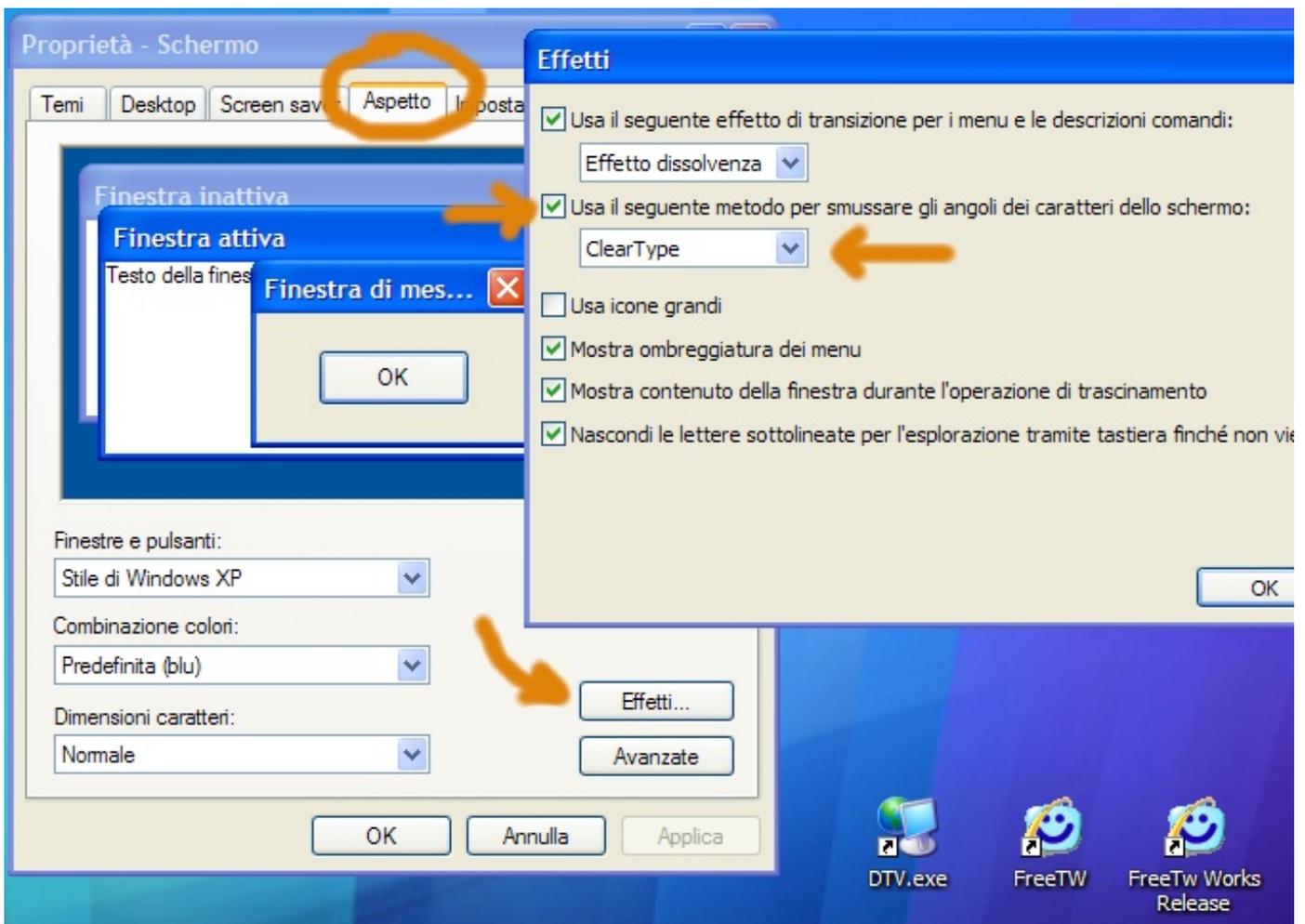
Impedire l'esecuzione di Servizi e Processi inutili.

Durante l'avviamento di WindowsXP e di WindowsVista vengono caricati molti processi inutili, non necessari al buon funzionamento del sistema.

Questi processi possono aumentare il tempo di avvio, disturbare il normale funzionamento e affaticare il processore con continue interruzioni relative ad aggiornamenti o controlli di software che non useremo mai, inoltre possono favorire le attivita' di software dannoso che nella confusione si mimetizza piu' facilmente.

Spesso il primo a soffrire per i disturbi causati dai processi inutili e' l'audio che diventa rauco, presenta delle mancanze per brevi istanti o arriva in ritardo rispetto al video.

1) Aprire MsConfig (C:\WINDOWS\ServicePackFiles\i386\msconfig.exe o simili..)

2) Selezionare la scheda "Servizi"
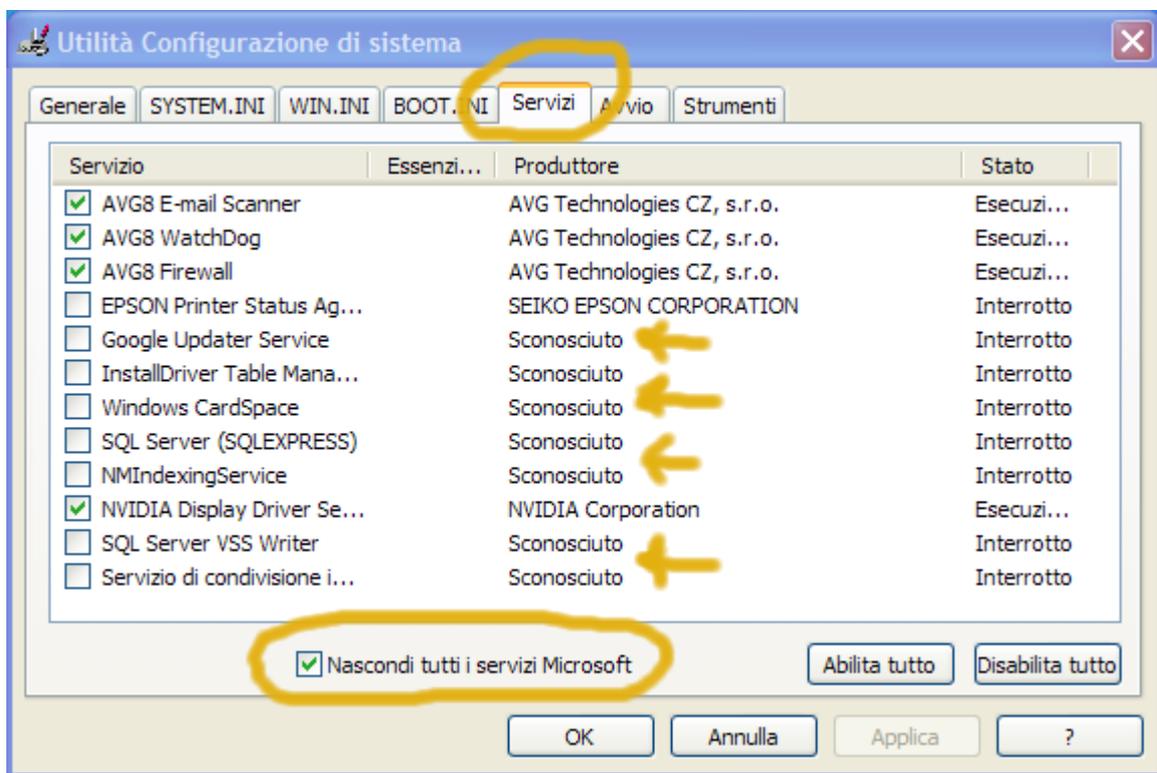
3) Abilitare la casella "Nascondi tutti i servizi Microsoft"

4) Disabilitare tutti i servizi con produttore "Sconosciuto"

5) Si possono disabiltare anche altri servizi ma e' bene provare che effettivamente non servano.

Io ho lasciato i processi dell'antivirus (AVG) e il display driver (NVIDIA) perche' so che mi servono ma ho provato a eliminare "EPSON printer status" e, dopo aver verificato che la stampante continuava a funzionare bene e a presentare il suo "Status" degli inchiostri, l' ho definitivamente lasciato disabilitato.

6) Selezionare la scheda "Avvio"
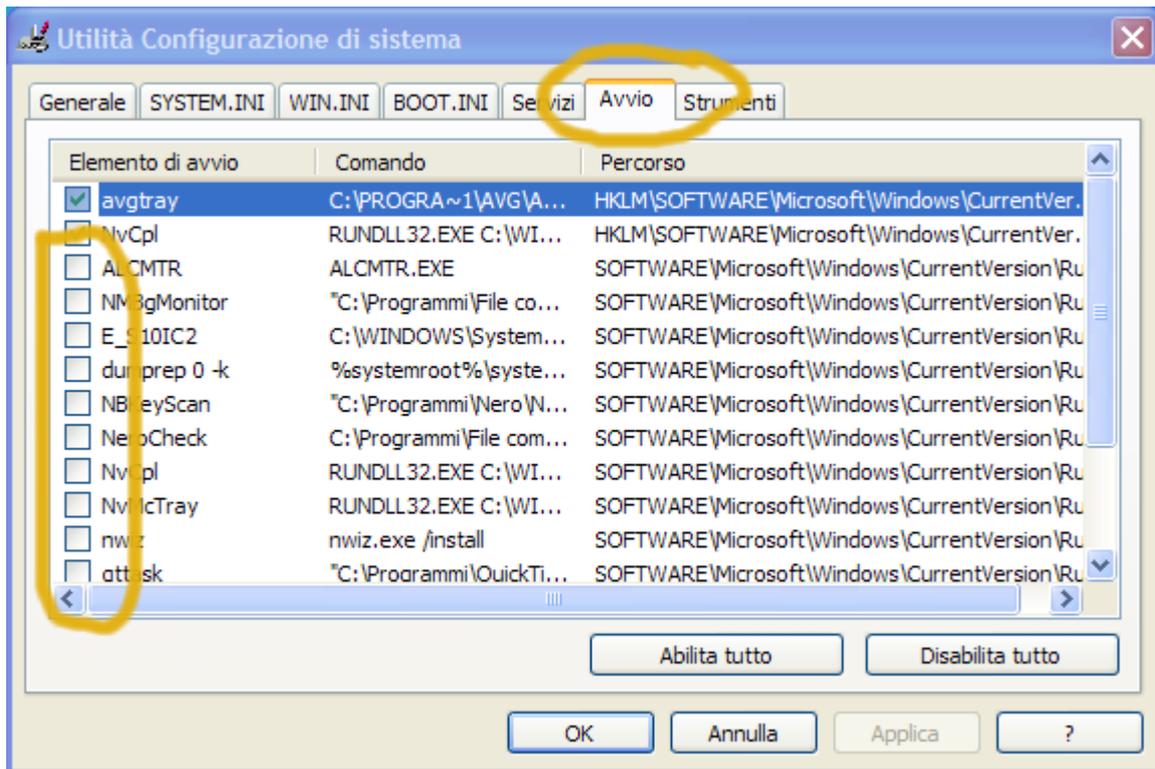
7) Disabilitare spietatamente tutto, o quasi. Io ho lasciato solo "AvgTray" perche' mi e' comodo per aprire l'antivirus dalla sua icona vicino all'orologio ma avrei anche potuto disabilitarlo senza influire sul funzionamento dell'antivirus.

8) Infine premere OK e, se si ha tempo, dare il consenso al riavvio che eliminera' tutti i processi e i servizi disabilitati, altrimenti fa lo stesso, l'eliminazione avverra' al prossimo riavvio.

Al primo riavvio di Windows si aprira' una finestrella indicante che alcuni elementi non vengono caricati, mettere il segno di spunta sulla casella che dice "Non dirmeno piu'" e premere "OK"

E questo e' il risultato !
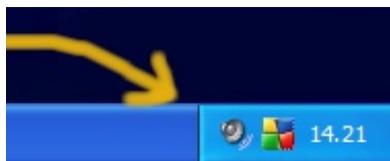
Ormai sto lavorando con solo 26 proce... mai sentito la ma...

Le prestazioni del sistema pero' so... velocissimo, non si inceppa mai e...