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AppleShare 3.0: Upgrading Client Software Highly Recommended

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TOPIC -----

I've recently installed AppleShare 3.0.

When I configured the server using Admin, I set up each user with NO password, and I also set the minimum length of each user's password to 4. Additionally, I checked the option that forces the users to change their passwords the next time they log on.

When I try to log on to the server from the IIX, I get a message that an unknown AppleShare error has occurred. It's not fatal -- I just can't log on. By adding a 4+ letter default password to each user, I can then log on.

Since I support an installed base of over 80 File servers and 6,000 Macintosh computers, I want to stress that whatever options we install with AppleShare 3.0, they must work with 2.01 client software. It's unlikely that most of the installed base will migrate to 3.0 client software.

Configuration:

- Server: Macintosh SE/30 4/80 with System 7.0 and AppleShare 3.0 (all product options) installed.
- Client: Macintosh IIX 5/40 with System 7.0 and AppleShare 2.01 client code.

DISCUSSION -----

The source of your problem is exactly what you are trying to avoid. Without the AppleShare 3.0 client software installed, the client software doesn't understand the messages the server sends to it. For example, using an all AppleShare 3.0 setup, if you need to change your password, you will get the dialog that allows you to change your password. If you have old client software, then you will only get an unsuccessful log-on message. The ability to log on without getting help from an administrator is more than a minimal benefit.

If an administrator is going to take advantage of AppleShare 3.0's extended security features such as minimum password length, or change password at the next log on time, then we highly recommend that you install the client software. You can install it over the network, without restarting, and it won't cause any disruption in the users' operation.
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