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AppleShare Network: Auto-Logon Problem

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TOPIC -----

I have one and sometimes two Macintosh computers on my AppleShare network that have been giving me some problems. When these systems are turned on in the morning, they automatically ask for a password, so they can log on to the net. Some mornings, however, they come up and bypass the logon screen and start up without even going to the server.

To remedy this, I go to the Chooser, select AppleShare, and redefine what it is that I want saved for the next time the machine starts. Then, it works fine for quite a while. The network is okay, because there are machines before and after these machines on the net. I have rebuilt the system (6.0.3), re-installed AppleShare numerous times, and so on.

DISCUSSION ------

Automatic logon to an AppleShare server is done through two pieces of software: The AppleShare file itself (the RDEV that appears in the Chooser and is also an INIT) and the AppleShare Prep file, which stores the auto-logon information (volume name, password, and so on).

If the machines fail to log on (but AppleShare is active) you can manually mount the volumes without rebooting—then the most likely problem is that the RDEV can't find the AppleShare Prep file during startup. This could be due to either corrupt System software or a corrupt directory structure. Because you've already rebuilt the System, it's probably the latter.

Run Disk First Aid against the hard drive. This does minor repairs on the directory. You may also want to rebuild the Desktop. A definite cure would be to back up and reformat the hard drives, but you will probably be able to solve your problem without resorting to this. Copyright 1991 Apple Computer, Inc.

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