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AppleShare: Server Maintenance and Backup Questions

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TOPIC -----

What is the best and safest way to operate a file server? AppleShare 2.0 and an Internet router on a Macintosh IIfx.

When I need to install software on the server, I need access to the Server Folder. I have to shut down the server and start up a floppy. This presents a problem, because the Internet router is running -- which disconnects my users from printer access. I know I could move the Router to another unit, but it seems more appropriate to have it on a dedicated unit.

Also, I need to have the database users log off of the databases in order to do a clean backup, so perhaps an automatic backup software package would be better so it could run at night. Also, the backup software selected must be compatible with AppleShare's concurrent software philosophy.

Other than installing software through a remote node, I don't know of any way of installing software on an AppleShare server short of bringing the server down to do it. Secondly, it seems impossible to back up a database that is in use on a server.

DISCUSSION -----

You are correct in your assumptions of the way the system works. To install the software on the server you must bring the system down, which will cause the router to go down. The best time to do network maintenance and upgrades on a large network or on a network that cannot be brought down is at night or on the weekend.

If you back up a database file that is opened, you will not get a proper backup. Any files that are open will not be saved. It is best to do this after hours, also.

There are many backup programs that start at a specified time. That should be the best solution.

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