Backing Up the AppleShare PDS File (12/95)

Article Created: 11 October 1994
Article Reviewed/Updated: 19 December 1995

TOPIC --

Can you provide details about how AppleShare keeps track of access privileges
(file permissions) and how to backup and troubleshoot problems with privileges?

DISCUSSION ---

Retrospect by Dantz Development Corporation will maintain information about file
access privileges when you perform a backup, provided the AppleShare file server
software is running during the backup and during the restore. However, you
cannot restore the file access privileges only. You must restore all the shared
data to correctly restore the access privileges. This can be time-consuming and
often causes loss of data that was created since the last backup. Here are some
alternatives that may help you avoid loss of access privileges.

There are two files to be aware of when dealing with AppleShare access
privileges:

• The AppleShare PDS file, which maintains access privileges to folders,
  is an invisible file located at the root level of the volume being
  shared.
• The Users & Groups Data File, which maintains user specific information
  like User Names, Group Names, and Passwords, is visible and is located
  in the Preferences folder inside the System Folder of the server.

It is possible that the AppleShare PDS file could be accidentally reset after a
clean system install. This could happen if you don't restore the old Users &
Groups Data File to the root level of the new System Folder before launching
AppleShare Admin. The AppleShare PDS file might also be damaged (a sign of this
is the AppleShare File Server never finishes "starting up"). You can make a
backup of AppleShare PDS and keep it on a floppy. To do this:

1) Using a disk utility such as ResEdit or Norton Disk Tools, locate the
   AppleShare PDS file at the root level of a shared volume (except for
   CD's).
2) Make it visible.
3) Drag copy the AppleShare PDS file to a floppy disk.

Keep this backup in a safe place in the event you have to use it to recover from

a problem. As a safety measure, don't forget to make the AppleShare PDS file on
the hard disk invisible again after you make the backup copy.

IMPORTANT: Whenever you make changes to your Users & Groups Data File (add or
delete users), make a new backup of the AppleShare PDS file afterwards. This
will keep these two files "in sync" with each other.

In the event of a reset or damaged AppleShare PDS file, to restore the backup to
the server:

1) Quit the AppleShare Admin and File Server applications.
2) Make the AppleShare PDS file visible by using a disk utility program.
3) Drag the AppleShare PDS file at the root level of the volume to another
   folder or to the trash.
4) Insert the floppy disk that contains the AppleShare PDS backup.
5) Drag the backup AppleShare PDS file from the floppy disk to the root
   level of the shared volume.
6) Launch the AppleShare Admin program.

Any folders created on the shared volume since making the AppleShare PDS backup
will inherit the privileges of their parent folder. Any new folders shared as
separate volumes since the backup was made will need to be reshared.

If your Users & Groups Data File and AppleShare PDS file have gotten out of sync
(for example, you made changes to Users & Groups without making a new backup of
the PDS file), you may get errors when trying to look at or change folder
privileges with AppleShare Admin. For example, if the PDS file indicates that a
certain user is the owner of a folder, and that user has since been deleted,
you'll get errors. However, logging in to the file server from a workstation as
Administrator appears to reset privileges to those folders. You can later change
them from within the Admin program.

Article Change History:
19 Dec 1995 - Made correction for accuracy.

Support Information Services
Copyright 1994-95, Apple Computer, Inc.

Keywords: knts

===

This information is from the Apple Technical Information Library.

19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 16492