

## Re: Implementing EFS for select users

**Source:** <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.win2000.security/2005-10/0338.html>

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**From:** Roger Abell [MVP] (*mvpNoSpam\_at\_asu.edu*)

**Date:** 10/27/05

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Just a note as precaution, if the workaround outlined is followed . . .  
be sure that the accounts into which the common EFS cert/key is  
being imported do not have any pre-existing EFS encrypted files.

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"Pat Hoffer [MSFT]" <pathoff@online.microsoft.com> wrote in message  
news:94D6058F-B24E-4CF1-BC88-F7CFBDA6E929@microsoft.com...  
> It sounds like you want to encrypt common folders that are stored locally  
> on  
> these machines and allow access to them by selected domain users who log  
> onto  
> those machines. If that's the case, you would need to add each user's EFS  
> certificate to each file, and EFS in Windows 2000 cannot do that. (EFS in  
> Windows XP has a UI for adding users to encrypted files.)  
>  
> If this would be acceptable to your situation, a workaround is to share  
> the  
> same EFS certificate and key between users. Log onto the workstation as  
> the  
> user who encrypted the files and back up (export) the EFS certificate and  
> key  
> from his profile to a .pfx file. Have the other users log onto the same  
> machine and import that certificate/key into their profiles (just run the  
> .pfx file). Anyone who has that certificate and key and NTFS permissions  
> to  
> the files will be able to open the files. For that reason, be sure to  
> keep  
> the .pfx file private.  
>  
> If this would work for you, steps for backing up the certificate and key  
> are  
> at  
> <http://www.microsoft.com/windows2000/techinfo/planning/security/efssteps.asp>.  
> Look for "To back up your encryption certificate and private key."  
>  
> Thanks.  
> Pat  
> --  
> This posting is provided "AS IS" with no warranties, and confers no  
> rights.  
>  
>  
> "CYACOMINI (ILG)" wrote:

microsoft.public.win2000.security: Re: Implementing EFS for select users

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>  
>> Hello - here's a good one..  
>>  
>> We have our finance team and their workstations located on the same floor  
>> as  
>> a 3rd party company. As a result, we want to apply EFS to the finance  
>> workstations which connect to our banks etc. Problem is, I can't seem to  
>> work  
>> it all out !  
>>  
>> To explain, we have a total of 50 workstations in the finance team - only  
>> 4  
>> of which we want to apply EFS to (select folders). These machines are all  
>> in  
>> Active Directory and are used by multiple users at different times.  
>>  
>> Can anyone explain what i should be doing here, or even point me in the  
>> right direction ? I've got the Microsoft guides but they just dont seem  
>> to  
>> help - keep getting errors about the selected users not having the  
>> appropriate certificates.  
>>  
>> thanks in advance !  
>>  
>>
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