

## Re: Create simple file share on the fly

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*Source:*

[http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security\\_admin/2007-09/msg00107.html](http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2007-09/msg00107.html)

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- *From:* Vinson <[Vinson@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Vinson@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 13 Sep 2007 23:14:01 -0700
- 

I accept that there must be a subtle difference when creating the share manually versus WMI, but in tinkering, I cannot reproduce the problem. My WMI share routine faithfully works. Of course, I am not using Virtual Machines here to connect; I am using an actual XP Workstation. I wonder if WMI is having a problem in creating the share, but it has no way to report it to you. You can place the command line below as the final line in your WMI script to report any latent errors. It should return 0 if all is well, and some other number if it is not.

```
Wscript.Echo errReturn
```

Other errors:

2 = access denied  
8 = unknown problem  
9 = Invalid Name  
10 = Invalid Level  
21 = Invalid Parm  
22 = Share Already Exists  
23 = Redirected Path  
24 = Missing Folder  
25 = Missing Server  
(Anything else means the operation could not be completed).

You might experiment with actual workstations to see if the script is working, or if it fails in every instance. Since I cannot reproduce the trouble, I am not sure what else to suggest. You might also post the salient portions of your WMI script if you want others to test it or debug it with you.

Vinson

"consultmac2" wrote:

Thanks again Vinson, especially for the "." alias.

I'm familiar with the concepts of security descriptors from other

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platforms and remembering some experience I had with it under NT4. I went through most of the article whose URL you gave me , and a linked article, as refreshers.

But no matter how I compare the shares made through the script with the shares that I make from the Windows GUI, I can't find a difference in any of the Security descriptor settings between them.... even down in the advanced levels.

But I found another clue to a possible difference. As I said, when using the script generated shares, none of the vmware virtual machines (VMs) that reference said share can successfully read anything in it. But one of the VMs attempts to map the share to a drive letter (T:) to use instead. When it hits that line (A 'NET USE...' command) it throws up an error that the username and password for that share are invalid (I'm paraphrasing)... and the 'NET USE...' command isn't including a username at all. But that command works fine in that VM when attempting to map a share that I 'hand made' via the GUI.

Soooo, I deduce that the script is creating shares that have at least some subtle difference in the username and/or password attributes when compared to the ones that I create via the GUI. Perhaps the GUI-created ones make some assumptions that the script does not.

Any ideas down that path? I can't see those attributes reflected anywhere in the Security tabs of the Properties on those shares. If the script can't be made to function differently in this regard, perhaps there's a way to refer to the shares in the VMs in a more flexible way... to account for the differences. ?

Thanks again.

On Sep 12, 11:26 pm, Vinson <Vin...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

There is a simple way to specify that the script use the name of the computer it is being run on. Simply use a period instead of the computer's name, like so:

```
strComputer = "."
```

There is also an environment variable called COMPUTERTNAME in virtually every version of Windows which can be pulled easily into any program. This variable will obviously have the computer name in it. Drop to DOS, and type SET to see all the environment variables, listed.

Security Descriptors (rights and permissions) gives me a headache, but fortunately, there is an article for that, too. Shares have both rights and permissions, and if you need to change them on the fly, this article should help. Here ya go...

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<http://www.microsoft.com/technet/technetmag/issues/2006/05/ScriptingGuy/>

Vinson

"consultmac2" wrote:

Thanks again for the reference. It does seem like it should be helpful.

Indeed, I've translated it to perl (ActivePerl) and it does create a share by the name that I specify, on the folder that I specify. The thing I'm doing differently than in the example is that I specify my local computer's name in place of the 'remote' computer's name (since the example called for creating the share on a remote computer, and my requirement is different).

Follow-up question #1: Is there a more efficient way to do this for a folder on the local computer than probing for the computer's name and specifying it in the place of the 'remote' computer's name?

More important question #2: Could there be something to do with privileges or rights that I'm not handling with that script? If I create the share manually via the Windows GUI, the VMWare virtual machines can access files within that folder/share. But when I have the script create it, the VMWare virtual machines all fail to be able to see inside it. Perhaps its related to referring to my local computer in a 3rd-person fashion? or not?

Thanks.

On Sep 11, 10:06 am, Vinson

<Vin...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

I do see that the link wraps in my original post, but it still works for me.

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The mechanics of these forums can be strange.

Below, I have cut the original link in half. You will have to reassemble the link below by cutting and pasting the first half to the second. Hope this works.

<http://www.microsoft.com/technet/scriptcenter>

[/resources/qanda/jan05/hey0107.msp](#)x

Vinson

"consultmac2" wrote:

Vinson,

Thanks! However, I can't tell which issue you are especially recommending since the URL was cut off. See below. Can you clarify?

On Sep 10, 10:48 pm,

Vinson

<Vin...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote:

I would suggest using WMI. It is like VB script, but

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has libraries  
for just  
what you  
are trying to  
do. Here is  
one way to  
do it:

<http://www.microsoft.com/technet/scriptcenter/resources/qanda/jan05>

Vinson

"consultmac2"  
wrote:

I'm  
trying  
to  
find  
out  
how  
to  
define  
a  
file  
share  
on  
the  
fly  
(assuming  
the  
capability  
is  
enabled)  
via  
a  
DOS  
(or  
other)  
command  
file/  
script,  
or  
perhaps  
VB

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as  
a  
last  
resort.

I'd  
like  
to  
be  
able  
to  
take  
a  
user  
supplied  
directory  
on  
a  
local  
drive  
and  
be  
able  
to  
temporarily  
(or  
perm)  
associate  
a  
file  
share  
with  
it.  
I'm  
attempting  
to  
work  
with  
some  
compiled  
programs  
that  
I  
don't  
have  
source  
code  
access  
to...

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that  
uses  
this  
technique  
to  
communicate  
with  
spawned  
virtual  
machines  
(via  
virtual  
LAN).

Clues,  
or  
pointers?

Thanks