Tech Info Library

AppleShare: Inherited Privileges Problem (2/96)

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TOPIC --

The "Inherited Privileges" feature of AppleShare version 3.0 and 3.0.1, 4.0,
4.0.x, 4.1, and Pro does not seem to work properly. Sometimes, privileges are
inherited, and sometimes they are not.

DISCUSSION ---

If you are experiencing this problem, you should upgrade to AppleShare 4.2 and
then follow the solution outlined in this article, see "The Fix" section. After
following one of the procedures provided, you should no longer experience this
problem.

NOTE: AppleShare 4.2 is supported only on NuBus equipped PowerPC-based Power
Macintosh and Workgroup Server computers. AppleShare 4.2 will not be available
as a stand-alone product, it will only be sold with Workgroup Server bundles and
upgrades from AppleShare 4.x.

What is the Inherited Privileges Problem
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This is a problem that affects AppleShare version 3.0 and greater, including
AppleShare 4.1 and Pro.

The symptoms are: when users logged on to the server and create a new folder
within an existing folder on the server, the access privileges of the new folder
do not inherit the privileges of the parent folder.

The "owner" is the user that created the folder. The name in "user/group" is the
same as that of the parent, but only "owner" has check marks under See
Folders/See Files/Make Changes (User/Group and Everyone does not have any check
marks here).

What Causes This To Happen
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The most common cause is one of the following actions:

Administrator Changes The Access Privileges

The Administrator changes the access privileges to a folder in AppleShare Admin,
and selects the option Change All Enclosed Folders. This feature sets all
enclosed folders with the same privileges as the parent folder. After making
this selection and clicking Save, a dialog box asks you to select Inherit or
Explicit privileges for the enclosed folders.

It is when the Administrator selects Inherit that the problem occurs. Each
enclosed folder has the Same as enclosing folder feature turned on, and each
folder created within this folder does not properly inherit the privileges of
the parent.

Administrator Selects "Compact Access Privileges"

The Administrator selects Compact Access Privileges for the entire volume. This
is a command within the AppleShare Admin program that lets you compact your
access privileges (stored in AppleShare PDS file), by seeing which folders have
the same exact privileges of its parent, and setting that folder's privileges to
Same as enclosing folder.

Again, the problem in AppleShare software prevents folders created within these
folders to not properly inherit the privileges of the parent.

The Fix
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Install AppleShare 4.2 and preform one the following procedures. If you do not
have AppleShare 4.2, you can reverse the problem to some degree by doing one of
the following:

Select The "Affected" Parent Folder

Select the "affected" parent folder in AppleShare Admin's Access Information
Window, and again click on Change all enclosed folders. Then click Save. When
prompted to change the enclosed folders to either Inherit or Explicit, select
Explicit.

This returns all privileges to explicit, and any new folders created within
properly inherit the privileges of the parent. Unfortunately, it also changes
all enclosed folders to the privileges of the parent, which may or may not be a
desired outcome.

Here are definitions for explicit and inherit access privileges:

Explicit - Retain access privileges regardless of the enclosing folder.
Inherit - Always change to reflect access privileges of enclosing folder.

From The AppleShare Admin's Access Information Window

From within AppleShare Admin's Access Information window, individually select
the folders that have been set to Inherit privileges (these have the Same as
enclosing folder checkbox selected). De-select the Same as Enclosing Folder
option, and check the privileges. All folders created within this folder now
correctly inherit these same privileges.

To Duplicate The Problem
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Step 1

Log on to an AppleShare 3.x server and create a folder named Level 1, with all
privileges enabled for Owner and Everybody.

Step 2

Open the Level 1 folder and create two folders with the following names:

• Level 2/explicit
• Level 2/dynamic

Check the access privileges on both Level 2 folders; they should be the same as
the Level 1 folder.

Step 3

Select the Level 2/dynamic folder and select the "Same as enclosing folder"
option. Note that the access privileges selections become inactive (grayed
out).

Step 4

Save the new privileges.

Step 5

Open the Level 2/explicit folder and create a new folder and check its access
privileges. This folder has the same privileges as the Level 2/explicit and
Level 1 folders.

Step 6

Open the Level 2/dynamic folder and create a new folder and check its access
privileges. This folder allows all privileges to the owner but does not allow
any privileges to anyone else.

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08 Feb 1996 - Corrected grammatical error.
11 Jan 1996 - Added AppleShare 4.2 information and fix.
09 Jun 1995 - Added definition of explicit and inherit access privileges.

Support Information Services

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