

Advanced Tracker Technologies Inc.

Securing Access 97/2000 Data

Overview

Using Access as a data platform, whether it is Access 97 or Access 2000, leaves the data vulnerable to user manipulation. There are some steps which can be taken by the Network Administrator to help protect the underlying data.

Take note that applying the recommendations in this document will incur down-time for users of Advanced Tracker software, and should be scheduled for a time when user activity can be suspended.

Setup

The first step to securing the data is to restrict access to the data through a hidden share. Hidden shares make browsing for the data difficult, because hidden shares are never visible through Network Neighborhood. In order to create a hidden share, the share name needs to be followed by a dollar sign. For example, a shared folder named "Data\$" will never be visible as a resource off a computer, although it can still be access using UNC paths through Windows Explorer.

Of course, the act of creating a mapped drive to this hidden-share would completely defeat the purpose of hiding the folder, so any Advanced Tracker applications will need to use UNC paths to locate the data.

Employee Tracker

On each client computer running Employee Tracker, locate the "Datapath.Dat" file within the application folder (generally C:\Program Files\ETP) and adjust the path to the databases. Save the change and run Employee Tracker to ensure everything is running correctly.

All The Goodies

Enter setup mode for ATG (by placing the command-line parameter SETUP within a shortcut to ATG.Exe). Under the "Setup" menu, go down to Retrieval and enter in the path to the Employee Tracker data.

Symcod

Enter setup mode for Symcod (by placing the command-line parameter SETUP within a shortcut to Symcod.Exe). Adjust the Datapath for Employee Tracker to the new location.