



Tech Info Library

AppleShare: TOPS Compatibility

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Security: Everyone

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Overview

AppleShare volumes mounted with the new network Chooser on an AppleShare WORKSTATION Macintosh can be made available (via TOPS on the same Macintosh) to the TOPS network. The AppleShare volume can then be accessed from any TOPS station on the network, including MS-DOS computers.

TOPS allows MS-DOS connectivity to the AppleShare file server. AppleShare volumes mounted on a Macintosh workstation and then published via TOPS are 'available' in a PC TOPS window. The volume can then be mounted by the PC and accessed like any other TOPS volume.

Potential Trouble Spots

TOPS does not recognize AppleShare folder access privileges. Publishing any AppleShare volume via TOPS gives the same access privileges to any TOPS station that might access the volume. This means that if an AppleShare user published a private volume or folder via TOPS, the volume or folder would be available to all other TOPS users on the network. When an AppleShare volume is accessed through any TOPS station, it appears to the AppleShare server that the AppleShare workstation that originally mounted the volume is accessing the server. This extends the access privileges of the original user to all TOPS workstations, effectively bypassing the AppleShare user privileges and restrictions.

Volumes and folders can safely be accessed through AppleShare or through TOPS, but not both. AppleShare uses the Apple AFP file transfer protocols, while Centram uses a proprietary file transfer scheme. An AppleShare volume or folder that has been first mounted by an AppleShare workstation and then published via TOPS should not then be mounted through both AppleShare and TOPS at the same time on another AppleShare workstation. Calling the file or folder will result in the two different file transfer mechanisms clobbering each other.

TOPS should NOT be installed on the AppleShare Server. This could work if ALL volumes were published from the File Server as "Read-Only" volumes, though there is probably no reason to configure any network this way. The reason for this conflict is that AppleShare keeps a copy of the server directory, which would not be properly updated if a server volume were modified by any TOPS users.

AppleShare shows all folders on the mounted volume, irrespective of whether the workstation user has access privileges to the folders. If an AppleShare volume has first been mounted by an AppleShare user, published via TOPS on the Macintosh workstation, then viewed through the TOPS window on any TOPS workstation, all the folders in the volume will be listed. If the volume is mounted via TOPS and private folders are opened with the Finder, the folder's window will be empty. Attempting to mount a private folder via TOPS will cause an error message.

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