Tech Info Library

ABS Tech Note: AS07 Guest Access Bug (6/94)

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Revised:        6/24/94
Security:       Everyone
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TOPIC ---

This technical note describes a bug that may happen when using guest access with
AppleSearch.

DISCUSSION ---

When you set up access privileges on folders that are either AppleSearch
information sources or subfolders of information source folders, AppleSearch
guarantees that the access privileges would be honored. That is, if someone can
not see a folder by mounting a volume on AppleShare, AppleSearch would neither
show that folder as an information source, nor return any files contained in
that folder as hits.

If you log in as Guest, sometimes this guarantee is violated. Guest users can
occasionally see all the things superusers can see. At other times, Guest access
works correctly.

Workaround

There are a couple of work-arounds:

• Disallow guest access to your AppleSearch Server.
• Set up accounts for all your users.
• Always log-in as an ordinary user immediately after launching the server,
  but never login as superuser.
• Set up a pseudo-guest account that users can use.

Note that this problem is pertinent only on the servers where administrators
really use access privilege protections among information sources. If all your
information is available to all your users, this problem does not arise.

This problem will be fixed in AppleSearch 1.4.

Support Information Services

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