

## Re: FileCopy overwrites the existing file

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  - *Date:* 5 Dec 2006 05:17:25 -0800
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if you refer US  
Department of Defence they, depends on how documents are classified  
recommends up to 7 times rewriting with random data (if I remember well).

Three times is the actual standard. Indeed, there was a *\*SUGGESTION\**  
that overwriting data up to 7 times may be needed, but, again, this is  
just a speculation.

Concerning classification, AFAIK, top-secret data is still destroyed  
only by disk incineration.....

Recovering overwritten data is NOT a speculation, it can be done and any  
good software recovering company will do it without problems if the data  
was overwritten only once (we're talking about magnetic data storage  
disk here).

AFAIK, they deal only with such things as disaster (i.e mechanical or  
electrical damage to the disk) recovery, formatted disks, accidentally  
deleted files, etc, and still they never guarantee that absolutely all  
data will be recovered – when it comes to recovering data that has been  
actually overwritten, they are out of luck (unless they are able to  
find a copy of it somewhere on the disk, which happens quite  
often).....

Anton Bassov

Grzegorz Wróbel wrote:

anton bassov wrote:

The most naive believe here is that "the old data disappears  
for good"  
in case of overwriting the same sectors.

Re: FileCopy overwrites the existing file

Why is it naive???? There is a speculation that \*THEORETICALLY\* it may be possible to retrieve overwritten data with microscope, but this is just a speculation – no one has \*EVER\* demonstrated that it can get done in practice. Just to give you an idea, overwriting data 3 times (once with all 0s, once with all 1s and once with a random sequence) is the technique, approved by US Department of Defence for destroying \*CLASSIFIED\* data.....

Hah, why so many question marks? There are many standards of destroying classified data, each country has it's own, but if you refer US Department of Defence they, depends on how documents are classified recommends up to 7 times rewriting with random data (if I remember well).

Recovering overwritten data is NOT a speculation, it can be done and any good software recovering company will do it without problems if the data was overwritten only once (we're talking about magnetic data storage disk here). Upon what your claims that "no one has \*EVER\* demonstrated that" are based?

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Grzegorz Wróbel

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