

## Re: FileCopy overwrites the existing file

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Development/microsoft.public.win32.programmer.kernel/2006-12/msg00270.htm>

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- *From:* Grzegorz Wróbel </dev/[null@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sat, 09 Dec 2006 11:07:38 +0100
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gtea wrote:

Thank you very much for your responses!

If a laptop was lost with overwritten (FileCopy) sensitive data, how much concern should we have that someone could retrieve that layer of data in a form practical enough to use? Does the risk level drop if the disk as been defragged? Does the risk level drop if whole disk encryption is used?

The chances are non-zero. If the disk was defragged before overwriting chances increase I would say. What kind of laptop it was and how it was lost? That's unlikely someone wanted to go trough the trouble of searching for deleted data on a laptop he just found.

But if the laptop had some important information and for example was stolen just to obtain this information then with luck the data good be recovered in usable form.

Except for standards of destroying data there are standards for transferring/copying and storing data and for the critical data there is usually requirement by companies/governments/other entities to keep such data only on encrypted harddrives. That is especially true for portable computers.

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