

## Re: CGI XPSP2 IIS5.1 – can't write a local file from CGI .exe

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Internet-Server/microsoft.public.inetserver.iis/2004-11/0311.html>

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**Date:** 11/04/04

Date: Thu, 4 Nov 2004 03:56:44 -0800

Well, you just need to give the identity that is doing the read/write operation in the CGI access to read/write in the appropriate folders. And since you control all the configuration, you should know the right identity. Since you do not, I suggest you first revert all your random permissions changes back to the original state before you really screw up the server.

Now, the identity depends on how you configured IIS. Please read all the possible options since you have a lot of configuration choices.

If Anonymous access is enabled, then it is the configured Anonymous user (default is IUSR\_Machine, but you can customize this yourself — so please make your best judgement on what it is). Keep in mind that if you customized anonymous user identity AND you gave the wrong credentials, Anonymous access will be broken, by-design — you screwed up the anonymous user credentials so IIS cannot use it to serve anonymous requests.

If Anonymous is not enabled and some other Authentication method is enabled, then it is likely the login user that is using the browser, assuming the machine running the browser and machine running IIS have access to the same user database like Active Directory or the local SAM. Otherwise, no authentication is selected and you'll always get 401.2.

If the vdir is pointing to a UNC share, then it is either pass-through authentication (whatever identity you've impersonated from the above steps), or a specific UNC username/password that you specified in configuration for the vdir. Realize that with scenarios involving any machine other than the web server (like the UNC server), successful pass-through authentication depends on whether the authentication is "delegatable" (privileged security operation whereby two other machines choose to trust credentials given by YOU, a third party, by means of either mutual trust in the same Active Directory or implicit trust. In other words, Basic authentication is implicit trust since it passes the username/password from client to server... so the server can easily re-use those credentials to access resources, at the cost of the user losing control over WHO can impersonate them. Meanwhile, Integrated Windows authentication requires the machines to

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mutually trust the same Active Directory which also configures whether delegation is allowed on the server — so there is implicit control of who can re-use the user's credentials to access resources).

Finally, if you have CreateProcessAsUser set to FALSE, then the identity running the CGI is NOT any of the impersonated identity (what we talked about above) but rather the process identity, which is LocalSystem.

Or, you can use File Mon from [www.sysinternals.com](http://www.sysinternals.com) to pragmatically see what identity is getting access denied.

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//David  
IIS  
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//  
"Larry W" <LarryW@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message  
news:B4EE88C8-ABA0-4423-96C5-BF7252DF989A@microsoft.com...  
I am trying to use a CGI .exe program that needs to write a graphics file to  
a local directory, such as images. Trying to open the file for writing  
fails. I wrote a simple test program that verifies the behavior. I suspect  
that it is a permissions issue, since I can open a file for reading from the  
same directory in my test program. I have set the permissions on the images  
directory to read and write. I have even added the Users group to the  
IUSR_<machine> account. What do I need to change to be able to write a file  
from the CGI program?  
Thanks.
```