

Re: Securing an MDF file

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/SQL-Server/microsoft.public.sqlserver.server/2004-07/3619.html>

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Hi,

You can use the Encrypted File System Support on Windows 2000

Windows 2000 support encrypted file system property.

Below are the steps encrypt the data files:

- 1) Logon with the SQL Server startup account
- 2) Stop SQL Server and sql agent service
- 3) Right click the data files, select properties, click Advance button, check the "Encrypt contents to secure data"
- 4) Start the SQL Server service

See the below KB for more information:–

HOW TO: Encrypt Data Using EFS in Windows 2000

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb:en-us:230520>

Note:

If you change the SQL Server startup account you have to redo the same, otherwise SQL Server service will not start.

"With EFS, database files are encrypted under the identity of the account running SQL Server. Only this account can decrypt the files. If you need to change the account that runs SQL Server, you should first decrypt the files under the old account, then re-encrypt them under the new account."

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Thanks

Hari

MCDBA

"Brian McGuigan" <Brian.McGuigan@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message news:9F7AB169-5441-4B27-8D15-C3D29C7E53FC@microsoft.com...

> We are creating and installing a custom application using an MDF file

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under SQL Server 2000. We create our own MSDE Instance to deploy our Application. We wish to protect both the data and the structure of this file from a Database Administrator who has another SQL Server installation on the same machine. Is this possible and how do we go about it? Can we assign Password Protection at the overall MDF File level?