

# Re: SBS 2003 folder redirection, offline files, ..and more

---

*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2007-06/msg04593.html>

---

- *From:* TravisF <[tdqh1922@xxxxxxxx](mailto:tdqh1922@xxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 29 Jun 2007 13:40:04 -0700
- 

On Jun 29, 12:57 pm, "Les Connor [SBS MVP]" <[les.con...@xxxxxxxx](mailto:les.con...@xxxxxxxx)> wrote:

With some creative GPO configuration, you can set up off-line folders so they're only active when you log onto a specific computer (or computers), but not others.

I often have to do this in cases where we have older DOS based LOB applications that require users have admin rights on workstations, and a "boss" who likes to roam around the facility, logging onto various workstations, and who also has a laptop.

The challenge is to have my doc's redirection enabled for the desktops, without off line folders, and a synchronized copy of the "boss" documents on his laptop, but nowhere else – as with local admin rights his documents – once synced to a workstation – are no longer private ;-).

--

Les Connor [SBS MVP]

"TravisF" <[tdqh1...@xxxxxxxx](mailto:tdqh1...@xxxxxxxx)> wrote in message

[news:1183134625.384440.136570@xx](mailto:news:1183134625.384440.136570@xx)

On Jun 21, 3:58 pm, "Dave Nickason [SBS MVP]" <[gwdib...@xxxxxxxx](mailto:gwdib...@xxxxxxxx)> wrote:

You can have both redirection and Home Folders. That's what I do – I've set up a different location for the documents outside of the home folders. A few of my users use the home folder for any purpose they wish, knowing

Re: SBS 2003 folder redirection, offline files, ..and more

it's  
backed up while the desktop PC is not. Most don't use the  
home folders  
so a  
lot of them are sitting there empty.

You don't need a drive letter for redirection – it's pretty much  
automatic  
and fully configured by group policy.

If something blows up: Right now my docs are redirected to  
the server  
and  
cached on my local PC with Offline Files. If my client PC  
blows up, I  
can  
log in at any other PC in the office and see the server copy of  
my docs –  
redirection will be set up on that PC the first time I log in and  
I'll  
just  
magically see my docs on the server. If the server blows up,  
I'll be  
able  
to see all the cached copies of my documents that are stored  
on my local  
PC.  
Although I would not want to rely on the cached copies as  
my only backup,  
I  
could easily restore from the cache on this PC if I had to.

If I log in at a different PC, my documents will cache in my  
own profile  
on  
that PC. That can be a minor drawback due to the time taken  
by the first  
sync and the drive space used, but it's a minor annoyance and  
you're kind  
of  
stuck with it anyway, as the policy is going to force that  
sync. Users  
of  
shared PCs don't have access to each other's synched files. If  
I log

Re: SBS 2003 folder redirection, offline files, ..and more

into a  
client PC that I don't normally use, I just cancel the sync. I'm  
trying  
to  
develop the habit of using the local admin account for  
routine IT chores  
at  
client PCs to avoid this altogether.

Backup works fine, although I never gave any thought to  
why. As for  
recovering files, the users can do that themselves with  
shadow copy. If  
you  
need access for the Administrator account, you'll have to take  
ownership  
and  
change the security settings. This can be a minor pain as the  
default  
permissions don't even let the administrator see the size or  
number of  
files  
in the users' directories.

I'm not familiar with Netware, but I drank the SBS kool aid  
in 1998 and  
never looked back. Once you roll this out, you'll see that  
there's  
little  
or nothing that could make redirection any easier than it is.  
Besides, a  
little complexity is good for job security : -) All seriousness  
aside,  
my  
current SBS box has been running since Feb '06 without a  
single moment of  
unplanned down time. I'm willing to put up with a little  
complexity for  
that level of bulletproof-ness (what's the correct term for the  
state of  
being bulletproof, anyway?).

"TravisF" <tdqh1...@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message



Re: SBS 2003 folder redirection, offline files, ..and more

Ok so what happens now if they do this with folder redir / offline enabled – they go to another machine , logon.. won't it try to sync the new machine's "my documents" with that on the server? I don't want that to happen – just need them to get at their files...in this case...off the server. I want to have it as automatic as possible – cause otherwise they will forget if its set to manual then they will scream where's my documents when its deleted..... you know...

As well....regarding backup...this excerpt from

<http://technet2.microsoft.com/windowsserver/en/library/ab9f7e44-afbf-...>

"Grant the user exclusive rights to My Documents. If selected, this sets the NTFS security descriptor for the %username% folder to Full Control for the user and local system only; this means that administrators and other users do not have access rights to the folder. This option is enabled by default. Note: Changing this option after the policy has been applied to some users will only effect new users receiving the policy."

I'm wondering will a backup application have trouble with this if..."administrators and other users do not have access rights to the folder".

Of course we don't want other users to even be able to read others

Re: SBS 2003 folder redirection, offline files, ..and more

documents so yes the user must have exclusivity that way. But administrators should be able to "see" everything .  
What if we have to recover a deleted document or folder?

Man I miss Netware's (NWadmin) simplicity sometimes... (sniff)...

Thanks;  
Travis– Hide quoted text –

– Show quoted text –

Thanks for the replies here.  
Ok right. The folder redirection / offline files is working on my sbs 03 server very good.  
But am I getting this right from what you are saying?  
For instance, when I logon onto my own pc, my documents is redirected to the server and cached on the pc.  
Great. Now if I go to another pc and login with the same id, the "my documents" on my profile on THAT pc will get redirected on the server. Won't it overwrite the "my documents" from my own pc? I don't want that to happen. That seems kinda dumb. I'd like a way so that only my documents on my pc are redirected regardless if I login elsewhere. Or for other clients of course who know nothing of this activity.

Thanks;  
Travis– Hide quoted text –

– Show quoted text –

That doesn't seem to be the case.  
If userB logs on after userA, userB does not see a "my doc" under \docs and settings belonging to userA – even if he's (userB) administrator.  
So it must cache it elsewhere and encrypt it? I did not use efs.  
Logged in as userB , I searched (even hidden files) and I can find

Re: SBS 2003 folder redirection, offline files, ..and more

Re: SBS 2003 folder redirection, offline files, ..and more

files belonging to userA which I know where there. This is a good thing.

Thanks;  
Travis

.