



FTK ACTIVE DIRECTORY ACL AUTHORIZATION – CONFIGURATION GUIDE

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About Exterro

Exterro was founded with the simple vision that applying the concepts of process optimization and data science to how companies manage digital information and respond to litigation would drive more successful outcomes at a lower cost. We remain committed to this vision today. We deliver a fully integrated Data Risk Management platform that enables our clients to address their privacy, regulatory, compliance, digital forensics, and litigation risks more effectively and at lower costs. We provide software solutions that help some of the world's largest organizations, law enforcement and government agencies work smarter, more efficiently, and support the Rule of Law.

Configuring Active Directory ACL Authorization

This enhancement introduces granular, directory-level authorization for users authenticating via Active Directory (AD). It moves beyond simple authentication (verifying who a user is) to implement active authorization (verifying what that user is permitted to access).

When this feature is enabled, the application will enforce security policies by dynamically checking the authenticated user's permissions against the target network resource.

Warning: *Deployments with this configuration set should not utilize Network Share Permissions within the application (Administration > System Management > Network Shares)*

Note: *This behavior is not activated by default.*

Prerequisites

- The service account used to run the FTK Central web service and other FTK components should be enabled with the 'Trust Delegation' permission at the Active Directory (AD) level.
 - This permission allows FTKC to verify whether a specific AD user has access to a given shared path.
 - Without this permission, FTKC can only detect the NTFS permissions, but not the shared permissions.
- The service account should contain both NTFS and network share-level access to any file or folder that users might attempt to access through FTKC.
 - If a user has access to a folder (via AD) but the FTKC service account does not, no users will be able to access that file or folder via FTKC.

System Property

This functionality is controlled by the EnableNetworkShareACLChecking

- When set as True - The system considers the Active Directory permissions enabled for the user regardless of the Network Shares assigned to them in the FTK Central application.
- When set as False - The system considers only the Network Shares specifically assigned to the users in the FTK Central application, without performing any Active Directory (AD) based permission checks.

Notes:

- You can set the property value in the *ADG.WeblabSelfHost.exe.Config* file present in the below location on the machine where FTKC is installed:

```
<Drive>:\Program Files\AccessData\Forensic Tools\<version>\bin
```

- By default, the value is set as 'False'.

Access Validation Behavior

Conditions:

- UseAD is set to 1, 2, 3, or 4
- EnableNetworkShareACLChecking is set to true

When both the above-mentioned conditions are met, Workflow 1 will be activated for all Active Directory Users/Groups:

Workflow 1 - For AD users:

The system evaluates the user's permissions at both levels:

- NTFS (Security) level
- Network share level

If the user (or any AD group) has access to both levels, the user will be able to select the required network share path.

If the access is denied at either one of the levels, an error will be displayed and will restrict the users from selecting the location.

Workflow 2 - For non-AD users:

The system considers only the Network Shares specifically assigned to the users in the FTK Central application (Administration > System Management > Network Share Permissions), without performing any Active Directory (AD) based permission checks.

Note: Workflow 2 is used when the UseAD property is set to 0 or 5.

Contact Exterro

If you have any questions, please refer to this document, or any other related materials provided to you by Exterro. For usage questions, please check with your organization's internal application administrator. Alternatively, you may contact your Exterro Training Manager or other Exterro account contact directly.

For technical difficulties, support is available through support@exterro.com.

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