

Unable to use backslashes (\) as directory separator in paths; 501 Syntax error in parameters or arguments

THE INFORMATION IN THIS ARTICLE APPLIES TO:

- EFT, v7.x and later

SYMPTOM

Unable to use backslashes (\) as directory separator in paths, causing a "501 Syntax error in parameters or arguments" error message.

RESOLUTION

Create the registry entries described below.

32-bit:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\GlobalSCAPE Inc.\EFT Server 7.0\
```

64-bit:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\WOW6432Node\GlobalSCAPE Inc.\EFT Server 7.0\
```

Create the DWORD values described below:

```
ReplaceBackslashWithSlashInPathsForFTP
```

```
ReplaceBackslashWithSlashInPathsForSFTP
```

Values:

1 = enabled; that is, backslashes (\) in paths are replaced with forward slashes (/)

0 = disabled

Default = 0

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It may be necessary to restart the EFT server service.

MORE INFORMATION

The SFTP specification (<https://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-secsh-filexfer-02>) says: "File names are assumed to use the slash ('/') character as a directory separator." EFT v6.5 does not precisely follow the RFC in this regard and allows using a backward slash ('\') as directory separator.

EFT 7.0 and later work according to the RFC. We've implemented this registry key to make EFT v7.x and later work the same way as v6.5 for backward compatibility.

GlobalSCAPE Knowledge Base

<https://kb.globalscape.com/Knowledgebase/11200/Unable-to-use-backslashes--a...>