

Allow Numeration When an Empty Destination File Exists

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Applies to: EFT 8.x and later

Summary

An EFT outbound transfer configured to **Numerate** matching destination files can fail when a zero-byte (0 KB) file with the same name already exists at the destination. By default, EFT's `IgnoreZeroFiles` advanced property is enabled. In this specific situation, that default behavior bypasses the configured smart-overwrite/numeration handling and the transfer can fail because the destination file already exists.

Symptoms

You might see an error similar to the following in the EFT log:

```
ERROR Common <> - CopyFile failed, couldn't open destination file: C:\Destination\file.txt;  
(0x50 (80) The file exists.)
```

This can occur when all of the following are true:

- The source file is larger than 0 KB.
- A same-named destination file exists and is 0 KB.
- The outbound transfer is configured to Numerate matching files.

Cause

`IgnoreZeroFiles` is an EFT ClientFTP advanced property. Its default value is `true`. When it is enabled and EFT finds a 0 KB destination file for a non-empty source file, EFT does not apply the normal smart-overwrite rule in this case. Consequently, the Numerate rule is not used and the transfer can fail with a file-exists error.

Resolution

Set `IgnoreZeroFiles` to `false` so EFT applies the configured smart-overwrite behavior, including Numerate, when a same-named 0 KB destination file exists.

Important: This is a global advanced property for EFT outbound ClientFTP transfers. Test the change in a non-production environment first and schedule an appropriate maintenance window before changing it.

1. Back up `AdvancedProperties.json`.

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2. Open `AdvancedProperties.json` in the EFT ProgramData folder. For example:
`C:\ProgramData\Globalscape\EFT Server Enterprise\AdvancedProperties.json`.
3. Add the following name/value pair. If the file already contains other properties, retain valid JSON syntax and separate entries with commas.

```
{ "IgnoreZeroFiles": false }
```
4. Save the file.
5. Restart the EFT Server service.
6. Repeat the transfer with a non-empty source file and a same-named 0 KB destination file. EFT should apply the transfer's Numerate rule rather than fail because the original destination name exists.

To Restore the Default Behavior

Remove the `IgnoreZeroFiles` entry, or set it to `true`, then restart the EFT Server service.

Related Information

For general instructions and precautions when editing advanced properties, see [Advanced Properties](#).

GlobalSCAPE Knowledge Base

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