

Guide to secure your Exchange Reporter Plus installation



Description

The Exchange Reporter Plus installation directory contains important files required for it to function properly, including files that are used to start and stop the product and the license file. Unauthorized access to the installation directory could indicate a user is tampering with the directory's contents, which could result in potential security threats such as confidential information disclosure or rendering the product inoperable. This document discusses the measures to prevent unauthorized users from accessing the Exchange Reporter Plus installation directory and modifying its contents.

For new Exchange Reporter Plus installations

For new installations of builds 5713 and above, only the following types of user accounts are automatically provided access to the installation directory to ensure file security and integrity:

- Local system account
- Account used during product installation
- Domain Admins group
- Administrators group

Important:

- If the product is installed as a service, ensure that the account configured under the **Log On** tab of the service's properties has been assigned **Full Control** permission for the installation directory.
- To allow other users to access the installation directory, they have to be assigned Full Control permission for the installation directory. Refer to the [appendix](#) for step-by-step instructions for the same.

For existing Exchange Reporter Plus instances

Unauthorized users can be prevented from accessing the Exchange Reporter Plus installation directory for builds lower than 5713 in two ways:

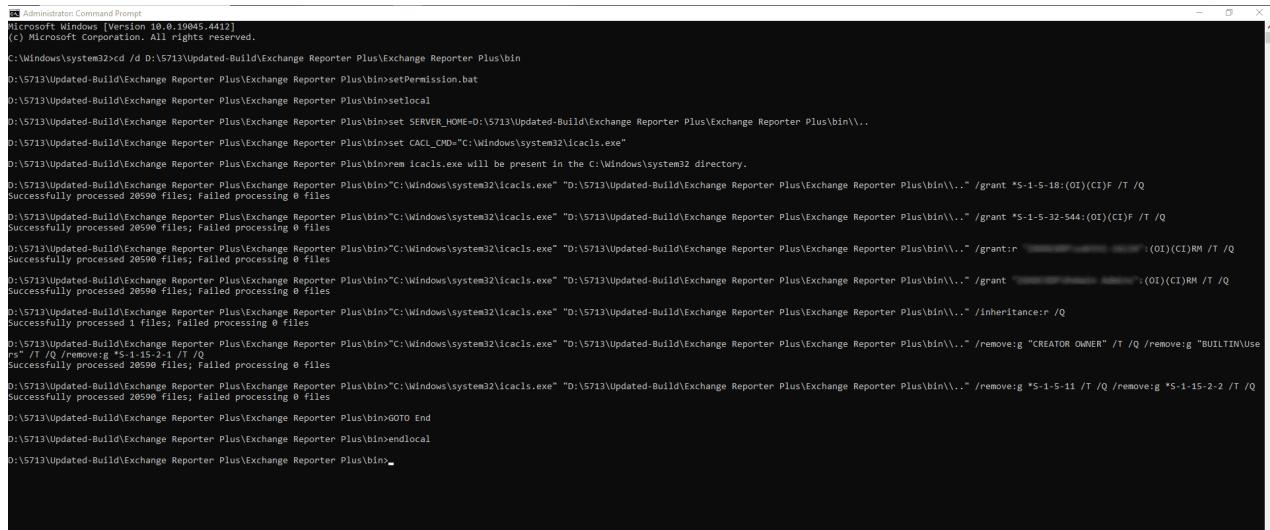
- i Run the SetPermission.bat file
- ii Remove unnecessary permissions manually

i. Run the SetPermission.bat file

By this method, access to the installation directory is automatically restricted to only the necessary accounts.

Update to build 5713 or higher using [service packs](#).

Open **Command Prompt** as an administrator and navigate to **<installation directory>/bin** folder (by default **C:\Program Files\ManageEngine\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin**.) Run the **SetPermission.bat** file.



```

Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19045.4412]
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C:\Windows\system32>cd /d D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>SetPermission.bat
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>icacls.exe
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>setLocal
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>set SERVER_HOME=D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin\..
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>set CACL_CMD="C:\Windows\system32\icacls.exe"
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>rem icacls.exe will be present in the C:\Windows\system32 directory.
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>"C:\Windows\system32\icacls.exe" "D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin\.." /grant *S-1-5-18:(OI)(CI)F /T /Q
Successfully processed 20590 files; Failed processing 0 files
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>"C:\Windows\system32\icacls.exe" "D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin\.." /grant *S-1-5-32-544:(OI)(CI)F /T /Q
Successfully processed 20590 files; Failed processing 0 files
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>"C:\Windows\system32\icacls.exe" "D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin\.." /grant: [REDACTED]:(OI)(CI)RM /T /Q
Successfully processed 20590 files; Failed processing 0 files
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>"C:\Windows\system32\icacls.exe" "D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin\.." /grant [REDACTED]:(OI)(CI)RM /T /Q
Successfully processed 20590 files; Failed processing 0 files
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>"C:\Windows\system32\icacls.exe" "D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin\.." /inheritance:r /Q
Successfully processed 1 files; Failed processing 0 files
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>"C:\Windows\system32\icacls.exe" "D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin\.." /remove:g "CREATOR OWNER" /T /Q /remove:g "BUILTIN\Users" /T /Q
Successfully processed 20590 files; Failed processing 0 files
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>GOTO End
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>endlocal
D:\5713\Updated-Build\Exchange Reporter Plus\bin>

```

Figure 1. Shows the **SetPermission.bat** file being executed through the Command Prompt interface.

ii. Modify required permissions manually

To remove access permissions for unnecessary groups manually, such as **Authenticated Users** and **Domain Users**, follow the steps outlined below.

- 1 Disable Inheritance for the **installation directory** (by default **C:\Program Files\ManageEngine\Exchange Reporter Plus**). Refer to the [Appendix](#) for step-by-step instructions.
- 2 Remove access permissions for all the unnecessary groups. Refer to the [Appendix](#) for step-by-step instructions.
- 3 Provide **Full Control** permissions to the following for the product's installation directory:
 - i. Local system account
 - ii. Domain Admins group
 - iii. Administrators group
 - iv. For users who can start the product

Refer to the [Appendix](#) for step-by-step instructions for the same.

- 4 Assign the **Full Control** permission for the installation directory folder to users who can start the product. Refer to the [Appendix](#) for step-by-step instructions.
- 5 If the product is installed as a service, ensure that the account configured under the **Log On** tab of the service's properties has been assigned the **Full Control** permission for the folder.

Notes:

- Microsoft recommends that software be installed in the Program Files directory. Based on your specific needs or organizational policies, you can choose a different location.

Appendix

Steps to disable inheritance

1. Right-click the installation directory and select **Properties**.
2. Navigate to the **Security** tab and click **Advanced**.
3. Click **Disable inheritance**.
4. Click **Apply** and **OK**.

Steps to remove unnecessary accounts from ACL

1. Right-click the installation directory and select **Properties**.
2. Navigate to the **Security** tab and click **Edit**.
3. Select all the unnecessary groups and click **Remove**.
4. Click **Apply** and **OK**.

To assign full control permissions to users

1. Right-click the installation directory and select **Properties**.
2. Navigate to the **Security** tab and click **Edit**.
3. Click **Add**.
4. Enter the user or group name, and click **OK**.
5. Under the **Permission for Users** section, in the Allow column, check the box to allow **Full Control** permission.
6. Click **Apply** and **OK**.

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