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AWS 95: NFS File Copy and Slow Finder Visibility (11/93)

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TOPIC -----

I'm using NFS between a SGI UNIX computer and an Apple Workgroup Server (AWS) 95.

The volume is exported from the AWS 95, and mounted on the SGI. I copy files from the SGI onto the mounted volume, 6 at a time. The desktop on the AWS 95 doesn't get refreshed for an hour, so the files aren't visible until then. The copied files can be found with Find, or are visible in the command shell, but I want to know why the refresh takes so long. Is there anything that can be done to speed this up? The time it takes increases with the number of people attached.

DISCUSSION -----

There is no good way to correct this situation. We recommend that NFS volumes be kept separate from volumes used for AppleShare for this very reason. The changes made by an NFS client are done behind the Finder's back and require the folder be closed and reopened before the changes will be reflected on the server and then the client. The problem is that there are 3 different caches involved that store information on files and there locations.

A workaround is to turn off the AppleShare Pro Folder Cache. With the Folder cache off, the folders on the server and the clients will sync up within 90 seconds. It is not necessary to do any window manipulation on the server or the clients.

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