



AN-314 Setting Up Databases on a Server and Multi-User Operation

In Brief

Some of our clients want to put the "Elite System" onto a network and allow access from a number of computers.

This allows you to;

- Run reports from any computer
- Import data into the data-bases from any computer
- Unload XL Memory Unloader units into a shared area

You cannot;

- Import on more than one PC at the same time.
- Import data on one PC and run reports at the same time on another PC
- You can't change configurations (eg change buttons or locations) at the same time as another PC is generating a report.

Changing an Existing Installation

We assume you have been using the "Elite System" on a stand-alone PC. You have installed buttons, wands, centres, locations etc. You also have a number of downloads.

A new Installation

If you have never run the Elite System before - just install it from the CD. This will create a set of blank data-base files onto your PC that you can then move onto a network area for multi-user operation.

Setting up Milti-User

To do this you must use Windows Explorer to copy a number of sub-directories (also called folders). If you are not sure about using this Windows program, then please get technical assistance.

Follow these steps;

1. Create a shared area on the network.
2. Give all users wanting to access Elite Reporter full access to that area

3. Map and assign the SAME drive letter to the area for all users (ie. map the storage on each PC to the same drive letter). For example "S:". This is extremely important. The letter does not matter – but all PCs need the same letter.
4. From the computer you have installed the Elite System in, COPY the data-base files into the shared area. Copy the complete "db" directory - it is located inside "C:\Program Files\Elite ID\EliteReporter".
5. If you have been using the Elite System, you will have some unloaded data. Copy it also into the shared area. It is located in "C:\EliteData". Copy the complete "EliteData" and all its sub-directories into the shared area.
6. On each and every OTHER computer you want to run the Elite System from, install the Elite-CD. Install it to run on Drive C - use the suggested defaults. This installs all the support files that are required to access the data-bases into each PC.
7. Now on **each** PC you must tell it where the data is now located (on your shared network area). You do this by using the "*BDE Administrator*" program in control panel.
 1. Exit any programs you are running.
 2. Get into "control panel" - "Start".. "Settings".. "Control Panel"
 3. Get into the "bde Administrator" option - double click on it (note : if the option is not in control panel then you have not properly installed the Elite-CD).
 4. On the left hand side is a list of "Aliases". Select the "EliteID" alias then delete it. Yes....delete it!
 5. Next, at the Object menu, use the "new" option. This will create a new alias (usually called "standard").
 6. Rename the alias to "EliteID". Spell it carefully!
 7. On the right hand side of the screen is an option called "Path". In that area select the shared network area where you have your data base installed. The example above would have "S:\db". Press on the "... " button to get a navigation dialog box so you can point to the new areas.
 8. Make sure that the full path to the "db" folder is shown.
 9. When the path is shown correctly, press the "Object Apply" option. This will save your setup.
 10. Exit "bde administrator".
8. Run Elite Reporter. It should run as if it were on the OLD pc - same passwords and all your data saved as well.
9. Repeat the BDE steps above for each PC you want to have access to the data.
10. You can also configure your XL Unloader program (use a later version please...V3.6 or better) to save data you unload into the shared area.

1. Get into the XL Unloader program.
2. Select the "Configure" option
3. In the unload directory, type in the name of the shared unloading directory.
From the above example, use "S:\EliteData\UnloadedData".
4. Close the configure screen
5. Repeat for each PC

Now, you can unload on any PC and it will be put into a shared network area and any PC can import the data and or generate reports.

Fault Finding and Fixing

Missing Files

This happens if you have NOT setup the alias using the "bde administrator" program properly.

Elite Reporter uses data files that are pointed to by the path you setup in the EliteID alias. If this is not correct then Elite Reporter won't find files and your system won't work.

Go back and re-create the alias and make sure the path points to your data files.

Not all PCs see the same files

If you have not changed the alias in a PC to point to the network data files, it will point to the wrong place and won't work as you would want.