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Character Restrictions with System Releases 2.5/3.5 and 4.0

Overview

Introduction

Prior to the introduction of System Release (SR) 2.5/3.5 and SR 4.0, code version table (CVT) download files were managed by the operating system manager (OSM) processes of the Digital Network Control System (DNCS). As part of the move to SR 2.5/3.5 and SR 4.0, these files are now managed by the broadcast file system (BFS) processes. One of the consequences of CVT download files being managed by the BFS processes is that certain characters that may have been allowed for file-naming purposes under the OSM processes are not allowed under the BFS processes. System operators who configure download files that use these restricted characters in the file name will find that Digital Home Communications Terminals (DHCTs) will not download new or existing code.

Purpose

This technical bulletin describes the impact of the use of special, restricted characters on the CVT download process, lists the restricted characters, and provides system operators with instructions on what to do should they inadvertently name a CVT download file using a restricted character.

Audience

This technical bulletin is written for system operators who use Cisco's Digital Broadband Delivery System (DBDS). Cisco engineers who help system operators manage their systems may also find this technical bulletin to be useful.

Related Publication

For complete instructions on how to download new code to DHCTs, refer to *Downloading New Client Application Platform Software Installation Instructions* (part number 4003052, published September 2005).

Document Version

This is the second release of this document.

Restricted Characters

Restricted Characters and System Upgrades

As part of the upgrade to SR 2.5/3.5 and SR 4.0, Cisco engineers check for restricted characters in download file names. Should a download file name contain a restricted character, engineers correct the file name so that only valid characters are used.

The user interface of the DNCS does not yet filter for restricted characters. Hence, the system operator could, theoretically, still configure a download file that is named using a restricted character. A download file named with a restricted character is never added to the CVT and, therefore, DHCTs never download the code.

Restricted Character Set

The following list contains characters that should *never* be used as part of a download file name:

| | | |
|---|---|----|
| / | \ | (|
|) | & | ; |
| # | ! | \$ |
| * | | ~ |
| ` | ' | < |
| > | ? | |

In addition, never include a blank space (Spacebar or Tab) in a download file name.

Correcting File Names That Contain a Restricted Character

A future service pack for SR 2.5/3.5 and SR 4.0 will contain filters for the DNCS user interface that will prevent restricted characters from being used as part of a download file name. In the meantime, should you inadvertently name a download file using a restricted character, follow these instructions to correct the situation.

- 1 Delete the associated download.
- 2 Delete the download file.
- 3 Recreate the download file using only valid characters in the file name.
- 4 Recreate the download.

For Information

If You Have Questions

If you have technical questions, call Cisco Services for assistance. Follow the menu options to speak with a service engineer.



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