Knowledge Base

HOW TO: Publish non-MSI Programs with .zap Files

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Windows 2000 Server
- Microsoft Windows 2000 Advanced Server
- Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional

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SUMMARY

This step-by-step article describes how to publish programs that are not installed with Microsoft Installer (MSI). Non-MSI program can be published only to users, and are installed using their existing Setup programs. Because non-MSI programs use their existing Setup programs, these programs cannot:

- Take advantage of elevated privileges for installation.
- Be installed on the first use of the software.
- Install a feature on the first use of the feature.
- Roll back an unsuccessful operation (install, modify, repair, or removal), or take advantage of other features of MSI.

To publish a non-MSI program, you need to first create a .zap file for the program.

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Creating the .Zap File

Create a .zap file for the program based on the following sample file:

```
[Application]
; Only FriendlyName and SetupCommand are required,
; everything else is optional.

; FriendlyName is the name of the program that
; will appear in the software installation snap-in
; and the Add/Remove Programs tool.
; REQUIRED
FriendlyName = "Microsoft Excel 97"

; SetupCommand is the command line used to
; Run the program's Setup. If it is a relative
; path, it is assumed to be relative to the
; location of the .zap file.
; Long file name paths need to be quoted. For example:
; SetupCommand = "long folder\setup.exe" /unattend
; or
; SetupCommand = "\\server\share\long _
; folder\setup.exe" /unattend
; REQUIRED

SetupCommand = "setup.exe"

; Version of the program that will appear
; in the software installation snap-in and the
; Add/Remove Programs tool.
; OPTIONAL
DisplayVersion = 8.0

; Version of the program that will appear
; in the software installation snap-in and the
; Add/Remove Programs tool.
; OPTIONAL
Publisher = Microsoft
```

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Publishing the Program

1. In **User Configuration**, right-click **Software Installation**, and then click **New**.
2. Click **Package**.
3. Type the path to the folder containing the .zap file.
4. Click **Open**.
5. In the **Files of Type** box, click **ZAW Down-level applications package (*.zap)**.

6. Click the .zap file, and then click **Open**.

7. Click **Publish**, and then click **OK**.

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REFERENCES

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