



Using the sdeservice Command

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The sdeservice command for ArcSDE, available on Windows operating systems, can be used to alter the SDE user password. ArcSDE runs as a background service on Windows. Any process that runs in the background on Windows must run as a Windows service. Information about Windows services is stored in the Windows Registry, a key component of a Windows operating system. The Windows Registry keeps track of everything from your computer's hardware to the services that should automatically start on boot.

ArcSDE service information is stored in the Windows Registry. You must use the sdeservice command to create the registry entries that support ArcSDE. This command provides the information the ArcSDE server needs to start (such as its license manager) and that Windows requires (such as which executable to run when starting the service).

When you create the ArcSDE service you must identify the SDE user password. This password is stored as an encrypted value in the registry. With this, and other pieces of

information in the registry, the ArcSDE service can start automatically on Windows. The giomgr process logs into the database as the SDE user and uses the password that is stored in the registry.

In some cases, you may need to modify the configuration of an existing ArcSDE service. While these modifications can be made through the Registry Editor, managing the ArcSDE registry entries with sdeservice is the safest choice. Some of the entries, such as the ArcSDE administrator password, are encrypted and can only be created or modified by the sdeservice command.

In your organization, it may be necessary to periodically change the SDE user password.

Figure 1: sdeservice -o modify

```
sdeservice -o modify
-r <SDEHOME|SDE_DBA_PASSWORD|LICENSE_SERVER|NLS_LANG>
-p <old_DB_Admin_password> -v <new_value> [-i <service>]
[-q]
```

Changing the SDE user password in the database or in the Windows operating system is only the first of two steps required when changing the password. You also must change the password in the registry. If you do not change the SDE password in the registry, you will not be able to start the ArcSDE service. To alter the password in the registry, use the sdeservice -o modify command shown in Figure 1. This command can also be used to modify the SDEHOME directory, the SDE password, the location of the License Server, and the NLS language. Once the SDE password has been changed in both the database and the registry, you will be able to start the ArcSDE service.