
CUSTOMER GUIDE: FLEETMATE Database Backup Feature

Applies to:

FLEETMATE Microsoft Jet FDB database files. This document does not apply if your FLEETMATE database is on a SQL Server instance.

Important:

If you're running FLEETMATE on a stand-alone PC, you *must* redefine the Backup Path to an external storage device, such as an external hard drive, USB Drive, or similar external storage device. This way, if the hard drive in your PC fails, you will have an externally stored backup copy to rely upon. Check with your IT support staff for additional information and recommendations.

If you are using FLEETMATE in a multi-user networked environment, the file server that contains your FLEETMATE JET database file should *always* be configured to run nightly (*or more frequent*) backups. Check with your IT support staff for additional information.

Overview:

A Jet database is very reliable as long your PC and/or network are operating properly. Although rare, hardware issues can damage a Jet database file.

Each time you exit FLEETMATE, it will make a backup copy of your Jet database file. The default backup path will be C:\Users\Public\FLEETMATE\Backup. Use the **Options | Preferences...** menu to point to an external device, such as a hard drive, USB Drive, or similar external storage device. **Do NOT set your backup path to the same folder where your *live* database file is stored.**

Identifying a FLEETMATE Database Backup Copy:

A database backup copy will appear similar to:

FLEETMATE.fdb.20220701-203025

Where:

FLEETMATE.fdb is your FLEETMATE database filename.

20220701 the date (*yyyymmdd*) the backup copy was made.

203025 the 24 hour time of day (*hhmmss*) that the backup copy was made.

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Locating the Backup Copy to Use:

The date/time-stamp represents the date and time that the backup copy was made. The time element represents 24-hour time (i.e., 203025 represents 8:30pm and 25 seconds).

Use the Date/Time-stamp to locate your most recent backup copy. Then, locate the next older backup copy for restoration. This is because the most-recent backup copy was likely made after the fault occurred. You may need to go back to several older backups to locate the backup that was made prior to the fault.

Using a FLEETMATE Backup Copy:

You should not attempt to open and use a backup copy as-is. You must first rename the backup copy to what your actual database is currently named, and then place the renamed backup copy into the appropriate folder. Follow the steps below:

1. Rename the known-good backup copy by removing the date/time-stamp information.
 - a. MyCompany.FDB.203025-203025 becomes MyCompany.FDB
2. Replace the faulty database file with the renamed copy from step #1.
3. Start FLEETMATE.
4. If the fault persists, that means that the backup copy you used in step #1 was made *after* the fault occurred. Go back to step #1 and use the next older backup copy that was made.

Once your known-good backup has been located and renamed, you will see the contents of your database prior to the fault.