"Cannot open backup device" message when trying to back up SQL database

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Symptom

When running Database Backup in SQL Server the following error message appears:

"Backup failed for server "XXXXXX". (Microsoft.SqlServer.Express.Smo)"

Additional Information:
System.Data.SqlClient.SqlError: Cannot Open Backup Device "C:\...". Operating System Error 5(Access Denied.).(Microsoft.SqlServer.Express.Smo)

Substitute your database server name for "XXXXXX".

Resolution

1) In Control Panel, open Administrative Tools.

2) Open Services.

3) Right-click the SQL Server(MSSQLSERVER) service and select **Properties**.

6) Select the Log On tab.

7) Make sure that the **Local System Account** radio button is selected.

8) If necessary click [Apply] and then [OK].

9) Right-click the SQL Server(MSSQLSERVER) service and select **Restart**.

Applies To

SQL Server 2005
SQL Server 2005 Express

Additional Information

This should only happen if the user is trying to back up the database to a folder other than the default SQL Backup folder.

Note: Make sure you have access to write to the folder where the database is being backed up.