
Technical Note # 082002-1 : Using file directory paths greater than 50 characters with TrafMan

Like most DOS programs, TrafMan has a limit of 50 characters to the length of a file directory path. This limit is imposed by the actual operating systems calls TrafMan uses to access files and directories, and can only be changed by very radical modifications to the program which are not practical at this point in the software's life.

However, there is a simple workaround with the command line SUBST command. This command is available on all Microsoft operating systems (including Windows XP) and allows you to associate any path on your system to a single drive letter.

For example, suppose you had a network server where you wanted to post a complete copy of the database for all users to access. The path to this directory from a user's machine might be:

```
G:\NY\gov\server\traffic\region7\archive\database\2002\TrafMan\Binned  
G:\NY\gov\server\traffic\region7\archive\database\2002\TrafMan\Count
```

These are 69 and 68 characters each; too long for the TrafMan file directory setup. To make this work, create a batch file named **T.BAT** in the TrafMan directory with the following lines (note that the "K:" can be any unused drive letter):

```
SUBST K: G:\NY\gov\server\traffic\region7\archive\database\2002  
TRAFMAN
```

Change your desktop shortcut to run **T.BAT** instead of **TRAFMAN.EXE** when you want to execute TrafMan.

Double click the shortcut to run TrafMan and change the file directories for the Binned and Count database as follows:

```
Binned Database: K:\TrafMan\Binned  
Count Database : K:\TrafMan\Count
```

That's it. TrafMan will now access the remote directory instead of the local one regardless of the length of the remote path.