# Running TapeTrack Utilities via Apache CGI

Configure Apache on Windows to allow execution of TapeTrack command-line utilities (such as TMSS10Inventory.exe) directly from a web browser using CGI.

This is useful for generating TapeTrack reports (CSV, text, etc.) through a simple URL call.

## Overview

By default, Apache only executes CGI programs from a configured CGI directory (normally /cgi-bin).

To run TapeTrack executables without copying them into Apache's CGI folder:

- Create an Apache ScriptAlias pointing to the TapeTrack executable directory
- Enable ExecCGI for that directory
- Allow Apache to treat .exe files as CGI scripts

## Prerequisites

- Apache 2.4 installed on Windows (example path: C:\Apache24)
- TapeTrack Server Utilities installed (example path:C:\Program Files\TapeTrack\TapeTrack Server Utilities\bin\tapetrack)
- Apache running as a Windows Service or console process

## Locate the TapeTrack Executable Folder

TapeTrack utilities are typically located in:

```
C:\Program Files\TapeTrack\TapeTrack Server Utilities\bin\tapetrack
```

Some installations may place the TapeTrack install on anther drive, such as D

## Edit Apache Configuration

Open the Apache configuration file: C:\Apache24\conf\httpd.conf

Add the following configuration near the existing ScriptAlias section.

Add this line:

```
ScriptAlias /tapetrack/ "C:/Program Files/TapeTrack/TapeTrack Server Utilities/bin/tapetrack/"
```

This creates a new URL path:

```
http://localhost/tapetrack/
```

which maps directly to:

```
C:\Program Files\TapeTrack\TapeTrack Server Utilities\bin\tapetrack\
```

## Enable CGI Execution for .exe Files

Add this directory block:

```
<Directory "C:/Program Files/TapeTrack/TapeTrack Server
Utilities/bin/tapetrack"> \\
AllowOverride None
Options +ExecCGI
Require all granted
AddHandler cgi-script .exe
</Directory>
```

This tells Apache allow CGI execution in this folder, treat .exe files as CGI programs.

## (Recommended) Restrict Access to Localhost Only

For security reasons, it is strongly recommended to restrict execution of TapeTrack executables to the local machine only.

Replace:

```
Require all granted
```

with:

```
Require local
```

Final recommended configuration:

```
ScriptAlias /tapetrack/ "C:/Program Files/TapeTrack/TapeTrack Server
Utilities/bin/tapetrack/"

<Directory "C:/Program Files/TapeTrack/TapeTrack Server
Utilities/bin/tapetrack">
AllowOverride None
Options +ExecCGI
Require local
AddHandler cgi-script .exe
```

```
</Directory>
```

## Restart Apache

After saving httpd.conf, restart Apache.

From an Administrator Command Prompt:

```
net stop Apache2.4
net start Apache2.4
```

Or restart Apache via Windows Services.

## Test Execution in Web Browser

Open a browser and visit:

```
http://localhost/tapetrack/TMSS10Inventory.exe?S=user:-pass@localhost
```

Replace user and pass with actual username and password.

If CGI is configured correctly, Apache will execute the program instead of downloading it.

## Running TapeTrack Inventory Report from Browser

TapeTrack utilities accept command-line arguments. CGI allows passing arguments via the query string.

Example command normally run from command prompt:

```
TMSS10Inventory.exe -S user:-passsword@localhost
```

To run this through the browser, use:

```
http://localhost/tapetrack/TMSS10Inventory.exe?S=user:-pass@localhost
```

Notes:

? begins the argument list

spaces are replaced with +

To avoid using your password in plain text in the URL, create a file C:\tapetrack\pw\user where user is the username and the contents of the file is the users password. The -S arg only needs to specify -S user@locahost and the password will be looked up by the process.

Attributes are separated using the & symbol

## Setting Report Format

TapeTrack utilities can output different formats depending on environment variables.

To force CSV output, the variable may be required, in a command prompt:

```
TMSSREPORTFORMAT=CSV
```

Other formats are text (default), PDF & Excel.

Using CGI, to set the report format locally, use the variable RPT

```
http://localhost/tapetrack/TMSS10Inventory.exe?S=user:-pass@localhost
&RPT=CSV
```

Or if the report format stays as CSV, you can set the value globally.

Add the following to Apache configuration (inside global scope):

```
SetEnv TMSSREPORTFORMAT CSV
```

Restart Apache after making changes.

This forces TapeTrack utilities run via Apache CGI to output in CSV format.

## Example: Generate CSV Inventory Report

Once TMSSREPORTFORMAT is set, run:

```
http://localhost/tapetrack/TMSS10Inventory.exe?user:-pass@localhost
```

The browser should display the CSV output, or prompt to open it in Excel.

## Security Warning

Executing .exe files over HTTP is powerful and potentially dangerous. Recommendations:

- Use Require local to limit access to the machine only
- Do not expose this server to the internet
- Consider firewall restrictions
- Only allow execution in a controlled folder

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