

Why does IFileOperation skip junctions even though I passed FOFX_NOSKIPJUNCTIONS?

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The `IFileOperation::SetOperationFlags` method accepts a number of flags to modify the file operation, among them today's subject `FOFX_NOSKIPJUNCTIONS`. A customer reported that they couldn't get this flag to work: Whether they set it or not, the `IFileOperation` skipped over file system junctions. The term *junction* evolved two independent different meanings. The shell team invented the term *shell namespace junction* in Windows 95 to refer to a point in the shell namespace in which one type of namespace extension is grafted into another. For example, a directory of the form `name.{guid}` serves as the transition point between the default file system namespace and a custom namespace. Meanwhile, the file system team developed the term *NTFS junction point* to refer to a directory entry which links to another location. If you just hear the word *junction* by itself, you need to use context to determine whether it is short for *shell namespace junction* or *NTFS junction point*.

Since `IFileOperation::SetOperationFlags` is a shell interface, the shell interpretation is more likely (and is the correct one in this case). The `FOFX_NOSKIPJUNCTIONS` flag has no effect on the behavior of the `IFileOperation` interface on NTFS junction points; it modifies the behavior on shell namespace junctions.

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