VSS Error: 0x800423f3 - Selected writer 'WMI Writer' is in failed state!

Problem

This VSS error is produced by a fault or corruption in the Windows Management Instrumentation repository. The error can also be identified by the following VSS state value: Status: 9 (VSS_WS_FAILED_AT_FREEZE)

Solution - Reset the WMI repository

1. Start the computer and press f8 on boot up and select 'Safe Mode without networking'.
2. Start an elevated command prompt
3. To make certain the WindowsManagementInstrumentation (WMI) service is not running, type:

```
net stop winmgmt
```

4. In the start menu **click 'computer'** on the right hand side. Go to the 'windows\system32\WBEM\ folder' and **rename** the Repository folder to something else like 'OLDRepository' **(right click and choose 'Rename Folder')**.
5. Reboot and restart as normal.
6. Go to (**Start > All Programs > Accessories**) and **select 'Command prompt'**
7. To stop the wmi service, type:

```
net stop winmgmt
```

8. Type:

```
winmgmt /resetRepository
```

9. Restart the system.

Related articles

- The Macrium Rescue Environment
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- Backup aborted! - None of the specified backup locations could be written to
- Macrium Services Provider License Agreement explained
- Backup aborted! - Unable to lock volume