Removing a drive letter from the MS System Reserved partition

Introduction
This article explains the steps required to remove a drive letter from the Microsoft System Reserved (MSR) partition.

You can also use the same steps to remove a drive letter association from any partition.

The MSR partition is required to boot Windows 7 and later operating systems. Ordinarily, this partition does not have a drive letter assigned to it. If a drive letter is assigned then this can cause problems with Microsoft Volume Shadow copy Service (VSS).

If you receive the following error (or similar) when the MSR partition is included in a disk image then removing the drive letter association should resolve the issue:

Backup aborted! - Failed To Create Volume Snapshot Result Code: 0x8004231f

1. Start the Windows Disk Management Console. **Click 'Start', type 'diskmgmt.msc'** (without quotes) and **press ENTER**.
2. In the Windows that opens, **right click on the 'System Reserved' partition** in the lower pane and **select 'Change Drive Letter and Paths..'**

3. In the dialog that opens, **click the 'Remove' button**.

4. **Close the Disk Management Consol**e and restart Macrium Reflect.

After removing the drive letter create a fresh image of your system including the MSR partition.