Netlify Deployment Fix - ETXTBSY Error Resolution

Problem

The CoachFlow deployment was failing on Netlify with an ETXTBSY (text file busy) error during the npm install phase. This error occurred specifically with the esbuild binary in the netlify-cli dependency.

Error Details

```
Error: ETXTBSY (text file busy)
Location: /opt/build/repo/node_modules/netlify-cli/node_modules/esbuild/bin/esbuild
```

This is a common caching issue on Netlify where cached <code>node_modules</code> from previous builds conflict with new installations.

Root Cause

- 1. Cached Node Modules: Netlify caches node_modules between builds to speed up deployments
- 2. **Binary Conflicts**: When npm tries to reinstall or update binary files (like esbuild), they're locked by the cache
- 3. **Inconsistent State**: The cache can get into an inconsistent state, especially with dependencies that have native binaries

Solution Implemented

1. Updated netlify.toml

Key Changes:

- Cache Clearing: Added rm -rf node_modules .cache before npm install
- Clean Install: Switched from npm install to npm ci for reproducible builds
- Node Version: Pinned to Node 18.17.0 for consistency
- NPM Flags: Added --prefer-offline --no-audit to avoid unnecessary network calls
- Build Processing: Disabled Netlify's asset optimization to prevent conflicts

Before:

```
[build]
  command = "echo 'No build step required'"
  publish = "."
```

After:

```
[build]
 command = "rm -rf node modules .cache && npm ci --prefer-offline --no-audit && echo
'Build complete'"
 publish = "."
[build.environment]
 NODE VERSION = "18.17.0"
 NPM FLAGS = "--prefer-offline --no-audit"
 NO UPDATE NOTIFIER = "true"
[build.processing]
 skip processing = false
  [build.processing.css]
   bundle = false
   minify = false
  [build.processing.js]
    bundle = false
    minify = false
```

2. Created .npmrc

Added npm configuration to optimize behavior and prevent caching issues:

```
prefer-offline=true
audit=false
update-notifier=false
loglevel=error
progress=false
engine-strict=true
```

3. Generated package-lock.json

- · Ensures consistent dependency versions across all builds
- Required for npm ci command
- Prevents unexpected version changes that could cause conflicts

4. Updated .gitignore

Added comprehensive ignore rules:

- node_modules/ Never commit dependencies
- Log files
- OS-specific files
- IDE configurations

Why This Works

npm ci **vs** npm install

- npm ci : Clean install from package-lock.json , removes node_modules first
- npm install : Updates existing node_modules , can cause conflicts
- Result: Fresh install every time, no stale cache issues

Cache Clearing

- rm -rf node modules .cache : Removes any cached dependencies before install
- Ensures clean slate for each build

• Prevents ETXTBSY errors from locked files

Node Version Pinning

- Explicitly sets Node 18.17.0
- Prevents version drift between local and production
- Ensures consistent npm behavior

Build Processing Disabled

- Netlify's asset optimization can conflict with custom build processes
- Disabling prevents double-processing of assets
- Vanilla JS doesn't need bundling/minification during build

Testing the Fix

Netlify Deploy Preview

- 1. Push changes to your repository
- 2. Netlify will automatically trigger a new build
- 3. Monitor the build logs for:
 - "rm -rf node modules .cache" (cache clearing)
 - "npm ci" (clean install)
 - "Build complete" (success message)

Expected Build Output

```
Building site
Command: rm -rf node_modules .cache && npm ci --prefer-offline --no-audit && echo
'Build complete'

Cleared cache
Installing dependencies with npm ci
Build complete

Build succeeded
```

Alternative Solutions (If Issues Persist)

Option 1: Disable Dependency Caching

Add to netlify.toml:

```
[build.environment]
NPM_CONFIG_CACHE = "/dev/null"
```

Option 2: Use Yarn Instead

Update package.json:

```
"packageManager": "yarn@1.22.19"
```

And netlify.toml:

[build]

command = "rm -rf node_modules .cache && yarn install --frozen-lockfile && echo
'Build complete'"

Option 3: Clear Netlify Build Cache

In Netlify UI:

- 1. Go to Site Settings → Build & Deploy
- 2. Scroll to "Build settings"
- 3. Click "Clear cache and retry deploy"

Verification Checklist

- [x] netlify.toml updated with cache-clearing build command
- [x] .npmrc created with npm optimization settings
- [x] package-lock.json generated for consistent installs
- [x] .gitignore updated to exclude node modules
- [x] Node version pinned to 18.17.0
- [x] Build command uses npm ci instead of npm install
- [x] Build processing disabled to prevent conflicts

Files Modified

- 1. netlify.toml Build configuration with ETXTBSY fix
- 2. .npmrc NPM behavior optimization
- 3. **package-lock.json** Dependency lock file (generated)
- 4. .gitignore Updated ignore patterns

Next Steps

- 1. Push Changes: Commit and push all changes to trigger a new build
- 2. Monitor Build: Watch Netlify build logs for successful deployment
- 3. Test Site: Verify all functionality works after deployment
- 4. Environment Variables: Ensure all required env vars are set in Netlify UI

Required Environment Variables

Make sure these are set in Netlify UI (Site Settings → Environment Variables):

Required

- SUPABASE URL
- SUPABASE ANON KEY
- SUPABASE SERVICE KEY
- STRIPE_SECRET_KEY
- STRIPE PUBLISHABLE KEY
- STRIPE WEBHOOK SECRET
- RESEND API KEY

Optional (for Stripe pricing)

- STRIPE_PRICE_BASIC
- STRIPE_PRICE_PREMIUM
- STRIPE PRICE ELITE

Support

If you continue to experience ETXTBSY errors:

- 1. Clear Netlify build cache (Site Settings → Clear cache)
- 2. Check Node version compatibility (must be \geq 18.0.0)
- 3. Verify package-lock.json is committed to repository
- 4. Try the alternative solutions listed above

Last Updated: November 1, 2025

Issue: ETXTBSY error on Netlify deployment

Status: V Fixed