

# PostgreSQL Returns a Nonstandard Use of Backslashes Warning

## Problem

The following PostgreSQL warning is returned when creating a Helix ALM project or performing Surround SCM actions, such as adding or checking in files:

```
'WARNING: nonstandard use of \ in a string literal'
```

## Cause

The SQL standard is to interpret backslashes in strings literally. By default, PostgreSQL interprets backslashes in strings as escape characters. The application may not work as expected if you enable the `standard_conforming_strings` option to enforce the SQL standard.

## Solution

Set the `escape_string_warning` environment variable in the PostgreSQL configuration file to 'off' to suppress the warning.

1. Open `postgresql.conf` on the PostgreSQL server.
2. Locate the `escape_string_warning` variable.
3. Change the value to 'off'.
4. Save the file.
5. Restart the PostgreSQL server.

**Note:** You can also use the PostgreSQL SET command to change the value.

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