

Re: ACCESS 2007 Missing User Level Security – ARRRGGGGHHHH What were they thinking?

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.security/2008-04/msg00158.html>

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- *From:* "Steve House" <sjhouse at hotmail dot com>
  - *Date:* Fri, 25 Apr 2008 18:46:43 -0400
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LOL – just realized I had typed "Word" instead of "Access" in the original message header/subject line ... yesterday was NOT a good day! ROFL.

"Rick Brandt" <rickbrandt2@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:SI8Qj.9824\\$V14.4058@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](news:SI8Qj.9824$V14.4058@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Steve House wrote:

Just discovered Access 2007 no longer supports user level security. What in the world are they doing here? Serious real-world applications very frequently need to restrict user's access to some but not all of the data in a system. For example, in a human resources application it is not at all unusual for clerical staff to need to view and update all the various elements of an employee's record EXCEPT for salary information while managers and only the managers should have the ability to view and edit the salary fields. And there can't be any backdoors allowed so that someone who who is allowed to only open a form that contains some of the fields in a data table would be able to view information they're not supposed to be privy to by opening a datasheet view of the same table. Removing the ability to control exactly what users of the system are able to view and change seriously cripples Access usability as a line-of-business database application development platform. What am I missing here? Are there any workarounds to establish object level, table level, and field level privileges in Access 2007 (other than sticking with Access 2003 or earlier file format) or are we stuck with an all or nothing scheme where anyone who is allowed to open the database at all has free rein to do anything in it they want to? I confess I am completely gob-smacked that MS could have done something so incredibly counter-productive!

Steve House

A 20-year veteran of database development in panic mode

Access ULS security was never very secure and the prevailing theory is that since a file based system can never be made secure that there was no point continuing the charade. I assume the

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lawyers had a hand in the decision.

You are aware that there are utilities one can find on the internet that will defeat ULS aren't you? They have been around for several years now.

—

Rick Brandt, Microsoft Access MVP

Email (as appropriate) to...

RBrandt at Hunter dot com