

Impersonation and clicking links

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet/2007-05/msg02853.html>

- *From:* "Chris Herbert" <ok@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 24 May 2007 10:46:28 -0400
-

Hi,

I have a web page (site.com\page1.asp) which contains a link to a document on the same server (site.com\Restricted\doc1.pdf). I want to ensure that the only way people can access the file is by clicking the link, and not by pasting the URL into the browser. My idea was to use impersonation on page1.asp and to restrict the folder "Restricted" to only allow access to the user I define in the web.config file.

My problem is that I need anyone to be able to see page1.asp, and therefore allowed anonymous access to it. I stuck a couple of labels on page1.asp just to see what's going on, and I see that the User.Identity is null, and that the Principal.WindowsIdentity is "SERVER\username" as specified in my web.config.

When I click the link on the page, I still get prompted for a username and password to access doc1.pdf. I am guessing this is because User.Identity is null, but if that is the case, what is the point of impersonation? If I put in the username and password I can access doc1.pdf, so I know it's not a permissions issue.

If anyone could offer me some insight I would appreciate it.

Thanks

.