

Encryption Question

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- *From:* "CLEAR-RCIC" <CLEARRCIC@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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We have some .dlls that we have written that use config files to store configuration information such as usernames and passwords. In a previous posting I asked for some suggestions for encrypting the passwords. Someone suggested DPAPI and after some research this sounded like a good idea. After implementing this solution I find that there is a problem. DPAPI decryption is user based. The password that is stored in the config file is only decrypted correctly if the person running the application is the same person who encrypted it. This works fine for simple apps. However in my case the .dlls that I've written could be called by an application, a web service or a windows service all which may be running under the context of a different user account.

Now that I realize this, I think DPAPI is the wrong choice. Can anyone offer a suggestion of a simpler method of encryption. FYI: The passwords that I'm storing aren't admin password. The are usually just domain accounts that have rights for certain directories.

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 - ◆ **[Re: Encryption Question](#)**
 - ◇ *From:* Jan
- Prev by Date: **[.Net Redistributable Installation Insists on CD](#)**
- Next by Date: **[Re: Row font color in Datagrid](#)**
- Previous by thread: **[.Net Redistributable Installation Insists on CD](#)**
- Next by thread: **[Re: Encryption Question](#)**
- Index(es):
 - ◆ **[Date](#)**
 - ◆ **[Thread](#)**