

## Re: FYI – Planned change to default handling of username:password@server in URLs

*Source:* <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Scripting/microsoft.public.scripting.jscrip/2004-02/0075.html>

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*Date:* 02/04/04

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"Lasse Reichstein Nielsen" wrote:

: > and it seems that the reason this patch was released for basically  
: > a COSMETIC fix because people though they saw a different URL on  
: > their status bar of all things.  
:  
: Not just a cosmetic problem. The address in the address bar could even  
: be faked, which is a serious security problem.

That's not what I read. It IS just a cosmetic problem if you have an updated browser.

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Note In this case, Internet Explorer 6 Service Pack 1 (SP1) and Internet Explorer 6 for Windows Server 2003 only display "<http://example.com>" in the Address bar. However, earlier versions of Internet Explorer display "<http://www.wingtiptoy.com@example.com>" in the Address bar.

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It will still redirect you but if the link is disguised, you still need to look at the code. This is a false sense of security that will hurt more than it will help.

How many people do you think read the source code before clicking on a link? I would be surprised if it was 1%. So, a link disguised, which still can be is no different now than it was before.

It could have easily been a setting in your options, under the security tab, like it is for email attachments in OE, so you could turn it on if you wanted but yet Microsoft, once again, thought they knew what's best for you. It was a ridiculous modification.

Ya, hindsight is great. Don't depend on non-standards. If that is true then we need to dump Microsoft because they set their own standards consistently. That is a weak argument.

microsoft.public.scripting.jscript: Re: FYI – Planned change to default handling of username:password@server in UR

Here you go. Let's see if the user is anymore secure.

<http://kiddanger.com/lab/where.html>

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Technet Script Center - <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/scriptcenter/>

WSH 5.6 Documentation - <http://msdn.microsoft.com/downloads/list/webdev.asp>

MSDN Library - <http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp>