

Re: How can I identify a system uniquely using MFC code

Source: <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VC/microsoft.public.vc.mfc/2006-06/msg00904.html>

- *From:* "Ed Weir \((ComCast\)" <Anon@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 12 Jun 2006 20:06:05 -0700
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"Bruno van Dooren" <bruno_nos_pam_van_dooren@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:ug75QYgjGHA.3440@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

|> I am working on a MFC application. I need to identify every
|> system which uses this application. How can I do this using MFC? Is
there

|> any unique identifier for a PC which can be retrieved using MFC?

| You can find the computer SID in the registry.

| More details over here:

| <http://www.sysinternals.com/Utilities/NewSid.html>

| --

| Kind regards,

| Bruno van Dooren

| bruno_nos_pam_van_dooren@xxxxxxxxxxxx

| Remove only "_nos_pam"

This use of an SID is woefully inadequate for security, as the site you have referenced illustrates so well; anyone can change the SID of a computer, so how can we expect the data on our hard disk to be secure? This is just one more example of dangerous security assumptions and coding done by the 'experts' at MSFT.

A more secure method would be to create a one-way sha-256 or AES-256 hash of:

- 1.) volume ID + SN
- 2.) User ID
- 3.) User domain
- 4.) Machine name
- 5.) OSINFO
- 6.) User PIN or passphrase

to lock the user to the hardware in use. In the event of a hardware failure the last element can be used to recover the ID if necessary. There is of course more to it than this, certain code which needs to be written to implement the hash and to later validate it as well as to recover the ID after hardware failure or machine migration.

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Point is, the SID is anything BUT secure...

-- Ed.

hex->bin->b64
F9E7707A2AF502D0A899C6ACB43A2D35EB7E

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