

Re: Problem running a script on startup

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.general/2004-05/5015.html>

From: Allan Cady (*allancady_at_yahoo.com*)

Date: 05/26/04

Date: 26 May 2004 12:38:30 -0700

Interesting suggestions all...

None of these suggestions work quite as I want, but I made a little compromise and went with the Task Scheduler solution. I have it working now.

In case anyone's interested, here's a little more detail on what I'm up to, and the hurdles I had to cross to get there.

I'm administering a web server which is built with a stack of two machines, serving different roles. There are services on machine 1 that need to wait to start until services on machine 2 are ready. This is Windows 2000 Server, and we don't have a domain or any other network infrastructure that would make cross-machine control easier... just two independent machines talking over a LAN.

Someone suggested I could use psexec (<http://www.sysinternals.com/ntw2k/freeware/psexec.shtml>) for the cross-machine communication. I built a vbscript that uses psexec to ask machine 2 if it's ready, then once it is, the script runs a bunch of NET START commands on machine 1. The script runs just fine from the command line. So the next task was to get it to run on system start. This was the most difficult challenge.

The Task Scheduler solution looked promising... I had forgotten that it included an option to schedule something on computer startup. The problem was, in my original scheme, the Task Scheduler service was one of the services that I wanted to start from the script after machine 2 was ready. So a bit of a bootstrap problem there.

The startup script capability of the group policy at first looked like the better way to go... easy to configure, and it didn't depend on Task Scheduler. But when I tried it, I got an error from psexec... it couldn't connect to machine 2. I get the following message from psexec:

microsoft.public.win2000.general: Re: Problem running a script on startup

A specified logon session does not exist. It may already have been terminated. Connecting to 192.168.0.145...
Couldn't access 192.168.0.145:

I suspect this is related to the fact that the script is running as LocalSystem, instead of as an actual user. But I don't know.

I couldn't find my way around that, so I eventually decided that the possible consequences of Task Scheduler starting early were minimal enough to tolerate, so I scheduled the script in Task Scheduler. Now the script runs fine on startup.

I haven't tried the service (srvany) option.

Thanks for the help,

Allan

"Dave Patrick" <mail@NoSpam.DSPatrick.com> wrote in message news:<OtQczvMQEHA.3708@TK2MSFTNGP10.phx.gbl>...

> Use the Group policy editor

> %windir%\system32\gpedit.msc Computer Configuration\Windows

> Settings\Scripts\Startup

>

> --

> Regards,

>

> Dave PatrickPlease no email replies – reply in newsgroup.

> Microsoft Certified Professional

> Microsoft MVP [Windows]

> <http://www.microsoft.com/protect>

>

>

> "Allan Cady" wrote:

> | I have a script (vbs) that needs to run on system startup, regardless

> | of whether any user logs on. I thought I knew how to do this, but I'm

> | not seeing the result I expected.

> |

> | I added a registry value in

> | HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run, with

> | the correct command to run the script. But when I restart the

> | machine, as far as I can tell, the script isn't getting run until I

> | log on as an interactive user. (I can tell whether it has run without

> | logging on.)

> |

> | Does anyone have any idea why it's doing this, and more importantly,

> | what can I do that will make the script run without logging on?

> |

> | I'm doing this on Windows 2000 Server.

> |

> | Thanks,

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> /

> / *Allan*