

Re: Policy template to block MSN Messenger 6.2?

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.group_policy/2004-05/0485.html

From: Steven L Umbach (n9rou_at_nscomcast.net)

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In Windows XP Pro you can use Software Restriction Policies to prevent users from running or installing unauthorized software via hash/path/certificate rules. You could start with a hash of the executeable for version 6.2 and set it to disallowed but you can do much much more with combinations of path and hash rules. SRP takes a little time getting used to setting up and it can be applied via Group Policy to a large number of computers. You can also manage it for XP Pro computers in a W2K domain for computer configuration by managing the Group Policy for the domain from an XP Pro Computer. It is much more difficult to restrict on a W2K box though you can populate the disallowed Windows applications setting under user configuration/administrative templates/system to include the names of executeables and I would also add install.exe, setup.exe, and maybe msiexec.exe to the list. That configuration in W2K will not work if a user renames the executeable or is able to logon to the machine locally. Configuring your firewall or installing personal firewalls to not allow access to unauthorized internet applications may be another thing to look at. Ispsec filtering can be used as a crude built in firewall in W2K/XP Pro though software firewalls are able to have access rules mapped to MD5 protected executeable hashes. The links below may be helpful with the last link extremely helpful in showing how to maximize the effectiveness of Software Restriction Policies. ----- Steve

<http://support.microsoft.com/?kbid=310791>

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us;323525>

<http://www.microsoft.com/technet/prodtechnol/winxp/pro/maintain/rstrplcy.msp>

"Dave Yates" <DavidYates@ambitionIT-a4e.co.uk> wrote in message news:c8a3rh\$dg\$1@sparta.btinternet.com...

> *I would also like a solution to this if anyone can help. We have just under*

> *200 Win2K PC's and we run a training organisation, and the clients seems*
> *infatuated with MSN, Yahoo, AOL etc, so if anyone knows a way of blocking*
> *installation and/or usage of this, it would be a great help.*

>

> *Thanks*

>

> *Regards*

microsoft.public.win2000.group_policy: Re: Policy template to block MSN Messenger 6.2?

>

> *Dave*

>

>

> *"KJ" <kpj@sympatico.ca> wrote in message*

> *news:8220ce8e.0405131801.10ebade7@posting.google.com...*

> > *The company I work for discourages Messenger use. In the past, we used*

> > *a registry setting to prevent MSN messenger from running however it*

> > *only works up to version 4.7. We have had a rash of people downloading*

> > *newer versions and installing it. Unfortunatley, we have some critical*

> > *apps that require everyone to have local admin rights on thier pcs.*

> >

> > *The XP system.adm policy has a setting to block messenger, but it*

> > *doesn't seem to work on ver 6.2. and I suspect that that setting is*

> > *ignored on Win2K pcs.*

> >

> > *Will system.adm from Windows Server 2003 block the newer versions of*

> > *MSN Messenger (post 4.7) and will the policy apply to Win2K systems? I*

> > *would try it but I don't have access to that version of Windows*

> > *Server.*

> >

> > *If anyone has another automated method for disabling MSN Messenger*

> > *6.2, please do tell. I have searched like crazy and can't find an*

> > *answer.*

> >

> > *Thanks,*

> > *KJ*

>

>