

Re: Force local policies

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- *From:* "KM" <konstmor@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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travis,

I agree that a device should follow the network rules of a domain but there are some policies that don't affect how the device interacts with the network (like 'look and feel' options) where it would be nice if that could be retained on an embedded device. Regardless, as I've

Well.. I am still no with you here.

E.g., well-known 'look&feel' related policies of Explorer to provide user access to some system folders or, even more, hide/show some drives. This is often used in domain environments by administrators as a way to protect workstations from a mess that end user might be able to easy create if he'd have access to the system drives and folders. If local policies came first, domain administrators wouldn't have a way to protect the network from "curious users". I believe that for an embedded device if certian functionality is not required it should be removed, not disabled by a policy or etc.

Or, as Steves pointed out, it is always a good option to create an exception for a set of [embedded] devices and give the network administrators the policy set you're looking for those devices. Then they, the administrators, would be in control of the things there as it should be in domain environment.

learned more about the extent to which domain policy can control the user interface and behavior I've decided we should probably just completely eliminate domain support for our device. To accomplish this, I believe you referred to excluding the 'Netlogon/Netjoin'

Yes, that's what I meant. This component is responsible for joining your target computer to a domain.

component – but a dependency trail can be traced from this back to 'FBA: SCE' and then 'Windows Logon (Standard)'. Does anybody know if

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it is safe to exclude the 'Netlogon/NetJoin' component despite these dependencies?

Yup, it is safe to remove this component if you have no plans on joining a domain from the target. In fact, we've got a bunch of network enabled images without that component included.

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Regards,
KM

KM wrote:

travisr,

I'm far from being an IT guy, so excuse me if it sounds like I don't know what I'm talking about. Anyway, as I understand it, a computer on a domain will always override local policies with domain policies, if the policy exists on the domain. What I would like to achieve is to allow users to add the XPe installation to a domain but still guarantee enforcement of certain local policies. Does anybody know if there is any way to achieve this?

I don't know any way how to force local policies over domain ones unless it is set up on the server side. Although I am not an IT guy either and therefore not an expert in this. It does make sense, however, that domain policies are always on top of the local ones. Otherwise, corporate (domain) users would be able to set up thier workstation as they wish and easy break administring and maintating the network.

If not, perhaps this is something somebody from Microsoft might want to take under consideration – it may not make sense for a PC but for an embedded product it certainly does.

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I disagree. If you connect your embedded product to a network (and, worse, your product runs *PC* software) it must obey to the network rules set up by administrators of that network. You want to join a domain, you will have to use the domain rules. This is my opinion.

Also, if it isn't possible to ensure local policies are retained, can anybody tell me how to disable the ability to add a system to a domain without sacrificing other networking capabilities. Thanks in advance.

Well, not quite sure what networking capabilities you are interested in? After all, you can always remove Join Domain component from your config and that will break the device ability to login to a domain. Networking would work as it did before you removed the component. Some domain related stuff, of course, wouldn't work.

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Regards,
KM