

XP in an NT Domain Issue – policy problems and drive mapping issues

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Date: 07/01/04

Date: 1 Jul 2004 07:57:51 -0700

I'm pulling my hair out trying to figure out this problem! Below you'll find the best description of my problem. Any help would be greatly appreciated! Thank you in advance! Feel free to e-mail me at tonyr@REMOVEmitchellair.com with any problems. Just remove the REMOVE when e-mailing.

- 1.) I started with a fresh machine installed with XP
- 2.) Trying to integrate this machine with an NT domain that uses a simple login script and also a few different policies (ntconfig.pol).
- 3.) Here's what happens:
 - a. Join XP machine to NT domain DOMAIN
 - b. Reboot
 - c. Logon with credentials
 - i. XP runs parts of the NT logon script – I know this because I see at least one program run that is included in the script.
 - ii. XP discovers the ntconfig.pol file and tries to load it, but only loads part of the default user policy. There are other policies that are supposed to be initiated after this (i.e. – Default user settings are in place but if they are part of XYZ group then those settings are applied also).
 - iii. XP after finishing trying to run the script and policy proceeds to the desk top where immediately an error balloon pops up stating "Could not reconnect all network drives. Click here to open My Computer and see the status of your network drives"
 - iv. In My computer drives showing are local hard drive (C:\), the user's personal shared directory (p:\) shown as username\$ on 'Primary Domain Controller' and the main shared directory (s:\) shown as shared on 'Primary Domain Controller'. There is an additional drive that shows as disconnected (I'm assuming this is what is causing my error from iii) which is shown as sharename on 'Primary Domain Controller'...
 - v. Now in the NT policy there are several drives that are supposed to be mapped automatically. This is not done through a login script. In the current machine that I'm working on there should be 7 drives mapped including the shared and personal drives mentioned in iv. So essentially, I'm only showing 2 of my 7 drives that I need to map to.

At first I thought fine, I'll just manually map the drives not big deal. So I went to My Computer → map network drives and proceeded to try and map a drive. Here's what I get

1. All the drives that should be mapped are already displayed in this window – but don't show up in My Computer, Windows Explorer, etc. I also cannot access these drives by typing the drive letter in an address bar or run box (i.e. typing G: would open the 'G' drive)
2. The Back and Finish buttons are both grayed out.
- 4.) Now this is my history. I need to figure out the following to ensure this user (and others) are up and running the same as they were with their NT machines.
 - a. I am assuming that the grayed out buttons and the fact that everything is already listed there and I can't change it is being pulled from an NT policy. Is there a way to disable/ignore/bypass/anything the NT policy in XP? I'd rather just create a Group Policy in XP and use that as a master to copy to new XP machines until we actually get Windows Server 2003.
 - b. What is the best way to have my XP machines integrate well into my NT domain?
 - c. Anything else anyone can think of!