

Do Win Server Products demand password authentication?

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Hi there,

Earlier today, I was trying to setup a shared folder between two XP Pro machines in a Workgroup environment. I had some trouble, but was ultimately able to resolve it ... in a strange way.

I was attempting to force the remote XP machine to ask the connecting XP machine for a username and password in order to gain access to the remote share.

The connecting machine and remote machines did NOT have a common username/password combination. I would try to connect to the remote share from the connecting machine and I'd simply receive an "Access is Denied" error.

I did find an odd way to achieve the ends, though. I found that I could force the password box by setting a "Network Password" in the User Accounts Control Panel that contained...

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MACHINENAME/USERNAME  
WRONG PASSWORD
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I presume that since a correct username and wrong password get passed to the remote machine, the remote machine gives me another chance to type in the correct password.

Here's what I don't understand:

Isn't this different with Windows' Server products?

Let's say I have an XP Pro machine with a Joe username trying to connect to a machine that has no Joe username. All else being equal --- the workgroup name, a typical secpol, etc. --- wouldn't the server install present the XP Pro machine with a username/password challenge rather than an "Access is Denied" error?

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