

Re: Printer will only work in Admin Account

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.print_fax/2004-10/0831.html

From: Bruce Sanderson (*bsanders_at_junk.junk*)

Date: 10/24/04

Date: Sat, 23 Oct 2004 18:06:32 -0700

No, I don't know if lexprss.exe (lexpps.exe?) has to be able to communicate over the network for the printer to work.

Sounds to me like the "Dell 920" is really a Lexmark multi-function device that Dell has re-branded. From the pictures on the Dell and Lexmark web sites, the 920 looks very much like the Lexmark x1150 PrintTrio.

The folks that build the drivers for Lexmark printers seem to have their own strange way of doing things. See for example <http://members.shaw.ca/bsanders/CleanPrinterDrivers.htm#LexmarkDriver>.

If the printer is actually connected to a USB port on the local computer, there should not be any need for the printer driver to communicate over the network, which is what firewalls like Zone Alarm control. But, like I said, printer driver writers sometimes do strange things.

Unfortunately also, some of the people that design and build software expect every user to be an administrator and don't even think about making it possible to use their software/hardware with non administrative user accounts. It's difficult to determine this without actually trying to use the stuff.

Sorry, but I could not find any information on either the Dell or Lexmark site about what you can do to allow limited users to use that particular multi-function device.

About the only way this is going to change is for enough customers to complain loudly enough to the vendors so they pay attention. Maybe, whoever you bought the printer from will take it back/exchange it for one that does not have this limitation.

When you change a user account from administrative to limited, what you are actually doing is changing what "Groups" that user account is a member of. Administrative user accounts are members of the Administrators group; limited user accounts aren't. Group membership is only read when the user

logs on. Any group membership changes affecting the user account made after that will only have an affect on the users rights and permissions when they logoff and logon again. This is normal behaviour for all Windows operating systems.

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Bruce Sanderson MVP Printing

It is perfectly useless to know the right answer to the wrong question.
"Libra" <Libra.1e7mdl@pcbanter.net> wrote in message
news:Libra.1e7mdl@pcbanter.net...

>

> To Bruce Sanderson,

> Thank you for your reply. I used the "cut" method to move a program
> I installed in my Admin account to the All Users Program files and it
> worked.

>

> I have the Dell 920 all-in-one printer which is only shared on the XP
> Home computer among the Admin and 2 limited users. The work-around I've
> used is to make a limited user an admin, let them scan once and then
> change the account back to a limited user again. The scan will work
> until the user logs out.

>

> When I installed this printer Lexpps.exe asked for server rights in
> ZA, so I gave them although everything I've read about Lexpps.exe
> indicates it is needed for a Network Shared printer. In the past, when
> I disabled Lexpps.exe in Zone Alarm the printer wouldn't work anymore
> and I got errors. I don't know if this is coincidence or not, but I
> gave Lexpps.exe rights now. Do you know if it's necessary to run the
> printer?

>

> Thank you.

>

> Sincerely, Libra

>

>

> Bruce Sanderson Wrote:

>> Programs and printers are different kinds of animals.

>>

>> Unfortunately, the people that build program (software) installation
>> programs

>> don't always think about multi-user environments. A well written
>> installation program will either add the program's shortcuts to the
>> All

>> Users profile or ask the installing user if the program is to be
>> available

>> to All Users or just the installing user and put the program shortcuts
>> in

>> the appropriate place depending on the answer.

>>

>> It is quite common for the program's shortcuts to be put into the
>> Profile

>> for whichever user account installed the program. So, to make an
>> already

>> installed program available to everyone that logs on, move the
>> program's

>> shortcuts from the installing user's Profile to the All User's
>> Profile.

>>

>> The All Users Profile is at %systemdrive%\Documents and Settings\All
>> Users

>> (e.g. c:\Documents and Settings\All Users). Program shortcuts are

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>> normally
>> put into %systemdrive%\Documents and Settings\All Users\Start Menu or a
>> sub
>> folder therein.
>>
>> An individual user's Profile is at %systemdrive%\Documents and
>> Settings\username. Program shortcuts specific to a particular user
>> will be
>> in %systemdrive%\Documents and Settings\Start Menu or a sub folder
>> therein.
>>
>> Now to Printers:
>> A Local Printer will automatically available to any user that logs on
>> at
>> that computer. A Network Printer will normally only be available to
>> whoever
>> Adds the printer, but see
>> http://members.shaw.ca/bsanders/NetPrinterAllUsers.htm for how to add
>> a
>> Network Printer for all users.
>>
>> A printer that has a name of the form "PrinterName on ServerName" is a
>> Network Printer; a printer with a name not like that is almost
>> certainly a
>> Local Printer, even if the printer is actually connected directly to
>> the
>> network or is shared from another computer.
>>
>> --
>> Bruce Sanderson MVP
>>
>> It is perfectly useless to know the right answer to the wrong
>> question.
>>
>>
>> "RAMI" RAMI@discussions.microsoft.com wrote in message
>> news:4BAD1F28-8CEF-46B8-9967-FCBF573B54D8@microsoft.com...-
>> Ditto. I have one printer installed (an HP LaserJet). I can print
>> only
>> from
>> the Administrator logon. The printer does not even show up as
>> installed
>> on
>> the other user accounts. What do I need to change to make the
>> printer
>> (and
>> other programs I install, for that matter) show up on all (or
>> selected)
>> user
>> accounts?
>>
>> "Libra" wrote:
>> -
>>
>> Hi,
>> I have XP Home (I just got this computer about 2 weeks). After
>> installing SP2 I installed a Dell 920 all-in-one printer. The
>> printer
>> will only work in the Admin account. A few days ago after reading a
>> post here, I removed the printer and reinstalled it with all users as
>> Admin. I then rebooted and checked it in Admin and changed the Users
>> back to limited users. I blocked Lexprss.exe in Zone Alarm (since
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>> I'm
>> not sharing with another computer, only the users). It wouldn't work
>> and giving Lexprss.exe rights didn't help it.
>>
>> I again removed and reinstalled the printer today following the same
>> procedure and gave Lexprss rights. It worked when the account was in
>> admin. I rebooted and changed the accounts to limited users and it
>> wouldn't work. I then gave a user account Admin rights and it
>> worked,
>> switched to limited and it continued to work. When I logged off the
>> account and went back on it wouldn't work.
>>
>> Can anyone help? I was on with tech support for 5 days and no one
>> could fix it. I have removed and reinstalled the printer at least 15
>> times. I was going to return the computer and printer but at one
>> point
>> it seemed to be working and now I have lost that opportunity. This
>> computer is my daughter's and I don't want her surfing around with
>> admin rights.
>>
>> I would appreciate any help with this. Thank you.
>>
>> Sincerely, Libra
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>> Libra
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