

Re: restricted groups for local admin rights

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.group_policy/2005-08/msg00432.html

- *From:* "Steven L Umbach" <n9rou@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 24 Aug 2005 14:01:34 -0500
-

Restricted Groups will not want to do what you want them.

Whether the user is in the local administrators group on a domain computer should have no bearing on if user configuration Group Policy applies to the user or not as long as the user is logging on as a domain user. The problem is a if local administrator wants to and knows how to they could create a local user on the computer to logon to the local computer in the domain and then bypass domain user configuration Group Policy.

If Group Policy is not applying to a domain user that way you expect you can use the support tool Gpresult to see what Group Policies are being applied to the user and the last time they were applied to the domain user. For Windows 2003 and XP Pro you can also use the Resultant Set of Policy mmc snapin to get detailed information about what Group Policy settings apply to a computer or user and from what Group Policy. You should also be using Group Policy Management Console to manage Group Policy if you are not yet.

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us;323276> ---- RSOP link

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsserver2003/gpmc/default.msp> ---- GPMC

Try adding the domain user account to the power users group on the domain computer to see if the application will work then. If it does you can then modify permissions to folders and registry to make the application work as a regular user. XP Pro has a security template called compatws.inf that will change permissions on the computer where it is imported into via Local Security Policy to give regular users the same permissions as the power users group without the extra abilities of the power users such as creating local users or creating shares.

If making the user a power user does not work then it can be more difficult to impossible to get the application to work as a regular user. The first place to start would be to contact the publisher of the software and ask then what do I need to do to make your program work for a regular in the operating system you have it installed on. Don't be surprised if you get the run around but it is worth a try and imparting your disappointment if they can not assist with the specific reasons why.

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More advanced techniques to try to get an application to work for a regular user would be to use free tools such as filemon and regmon from SysInternals to track down "access denied" entries in the logs for filemon and regmon when they are started with the runas command using administrator credentials while logged on as a regular user trying to run the application then making permission adjustments and trying again in a trial and error fashion. If the user lacks a user right then auditing privilege user for failure only via Local Security Policy on the computer where the application is trying to be run may show related failures in the security log for lack of user rights. Having said all that it is sometimes not possible to get some applications to run as a regular user because of the way the application interacts with the operating system doing things that only a administrator can do. --- Steve

"Sher" <Sher@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:4CECF05D-E55A-436A-8474-96CB4757A69E@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

> Steven,
> OK I have not explained myself very well. The reason I was looking at
> restricted groups was because I have a user who needs to use a program
> that
> requires local administrator rights. I just am trying to make that
> program
> work. I installed it and it will run under my administrator account but
> will
> not run under the user account. (this program is a must to manage our
> phone
> systems).
> My goal is to give the user local administrator rights but still have the
> user restricted by the group policies. In other words, an example is
> still
> restricted from the run command, the start menu, and screensaver options
> and
> not allowing saved data to the c: drive.
> When I try to test it after giving local administrator rights, the user's
> gp's are not applied.
> Any suggestions on how to make this program work?
> Thanks and sorry for all the posts.
> Sher
>
>
> "Steven L Umbach" wrote:
>
>> First off be sure to use Restricted Groups at the Organizational Unit
>> level
>> and NOT at the domain level or you run the risk of adding users to the
>> administrators group for the domain. Then when you configure it at the OU
>> level the computer accounts that you want these users to be local
>> administrators on must be in the OU [or child OU] where you have the
>> Group
>> Policy linked to. You will not be able to browse to a local
>> administrators

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>> group. Simply type in administrators as the group name. From what you
>> describe you want to use the "member of" option for restricted groups.
>> That
>> way you can add a global group to the administrators group without
>> affecting
>> the current membership of the local administrators group on the computers
>> you want to enforce Restricted Groups assuming that you do not want to
>> strictly enforce membership of the local administrators group. I am not
>> sure
>> what icon lock means offhand. When testing your Restricted Groups be
>> sure
>> to reboot or use gpupdate to refresh computer configuration on your XP
>> computers as it can otherwise take up to two hours for changes in Group
>> Policy to propagate to domain computers. Hope some of this helps. ---
>> Steve
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>> "Sher" <Sher@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
>> news:6B6CC986-FCD7-4527-B625-F8AD24247106@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
>> > Hi all,
>> > 2003 server using gp for windows xp workstations
>> > My goal is to use restricted groups under gp to add several users to
>> > the
>> > local workstation administrator group.
>> > I have read several articles on how to do it but it is confusing to me.
>> > My questions:
>> > can I use my current custom gp and just add the restricted group there
>> > or
>> > will it override the other restrictions in the gp for the users that I
>> > add
>> > to
>> > the restricted group?
>> > Can you give me the steps to set this up. (when I tried the other
>> > articles
>> > steps I couldn't browse to the local administrators group to add it as
>> > the
>> > restriction point. In other words, I don't know how to tell the
>> > restricted
>> > group to be related to the local admins group)
>> > Also, under restricted gp the icon has a lock picture on it. What does
>> > this
>> > mean?
>> > Sorry, the restricted groups process hasn't clicked for me yet? I know
>> > I
>> > could use this for other things also but just can't seem to understand
>> > the
>> > process.
>> > Thanks in advance for any help,
>> > Sher
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• **References:**

- ◆ **restricted groups for local admin rights**
 - ◇ *From:* Sher
 - ◆ **Re: restricted groups for local admin rights**
 - ◇ *From:* Steven L Umbach
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