

# Can Group Policy Use Rules That Refer to Custom Local Groups?

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[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.group\\_policy/2005-12/msg00072.html](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.group_policy/2005-12/msg00072.html)

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- *From:* "Will" <[westes-usc@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:westes-usc@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
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Can group policy be used to populate each member server with rules that include local groups that are not BUILTIN groups, but custom? For example, we want to create a local group on each machine that builds a list of users that are allowed to run as services (Logon as a Service right in group policy). We want that group name to be standardized, something like ServiceUsersGroup. The group policy would then give the Login as a Service right to a group ServiceUsersGroup, and the contents of that group gets administered locally since it is a local group.

The reason we wanted to do this is that we wanted to stop applications that just automatically insert themselves into this right. We want the decision to run as a service to be a conscious decision that we control and that can't be done secretly. We also have some service userids that would be defined at the domain level and would be able to run on any workstation, so we need group policy for that as well, but we don't want to deny additional users to be added for specific machines.

What we are finding is that if the local group doesn't exist on a particular member server, then it appears that group policy simply kicks up a 1202 event code and stops trying to apply itself further.

Are we trying for a design here that Microsoft just didn't anticipate, or is there a better way to accomplish the same requirements?

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Will

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