

Re: Viewing Local Security Policy on Windows 2003 Member Server?

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- *From:* "Darren Mar-Elia" <dmanonymous@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 17 Oct 2007 08:42:48 -0700
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Windows ships with a default security set up that is defined by regular security templates, typically found in c:\windows\inf. Those templates can be view using the Security Templates editor MMC snap-in and can show you what the default settings are prior to joining a domain. Once you've joined the domain, those original settings are not viewable through any interface.

—
Darren Mar-Elia
MS-MVP-Windows Server--Group Policy

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Policy-related

"Will" <westes-usc@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:xMCdnfSpSKbZPIjanZ2dnUVZ_hKdnZ2d@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

"Darren Mar-Elia" <dmanonymous@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:uO3xHeHEIHA.536@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

That's correct. You will only see the effective security policy using gpedit.msc. I don't know of any tools that will show you the default security policy in the absence of a domain, while you're in the domain. My rough understanding of the way that works is that for member servers and workstations in the domain, their local LSA policy is temporarily suppressed by any domain policy they receive. There may be APIs that would query that "raw" policy directly but I haven't seen them. I think the best you can do is view one of the default security templates that are applied to windows when its installed, like setupsecurity.inf or defltwk.inf

I realize the Windows 2000 way of presenting the information was confusing to many, but in terms of ability to do research on the state of a machine, the Windows 2003 way looks like a step backwards.

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Where is the file that stores the local machine policy prior to merging with group policy stored? That file cannot be opened directly by any utility that would show the policy in a GUI, resolving the SIDs?

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Will

"Will" <westes-usc@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:SYqdnRYNobOFHJjanZ2dnUVZ_vCknZ2d@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

"Alan" <alan@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:uXIGfVGEIHA.1316@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Can't you just add the Group Policy Object Editor through MMC and scope it to the local machine?

Maybe I am missing something?

Maybe I am doing this wrong, but I start MMC, Add-In Group Policy Object Editor, specify Local Machine, and Add. When I go to view the policies, they are NOT the local policies, but are the domain policies.

--
Will

"Will" <westes-usc@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote in message
news:UsqdnTDIGY-K7YjanZ2dnUVZ_s-pnZ2d@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Is there an application that will show the current values stored in *local* security policy on a Windows 2003 member server. I know I can use rsop.msc to view *group* policy, but I don't want group policy of the domain as applied to the member server. I want to see what are the native security settings that would be in effect on the member server if it were not in the domain at all.

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Windows 2000 secpol.msc
used to show you both the
local and effective settings.
It looks like Microsoft
removed that from Windows
2003. Is there any way to
recover this local view short
of removing the computer
from the domain and
rebooting?!