

Re: Identity Problems with Outlook Express

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- *From:* "PA Bear" <PABearMVP@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 27 Sep 2006 03:07:49 -0400
-

See <http://www.insideoe.com/tips/forceid.htm> --
~Robear Dyer (PA Bear) MS MVP-Windows (IE/OE, Security, Shell/User)

Keith wrote:

Well, sure the identity would have been protected by the password for the first time out – but if you forget to click "exit and log out" then it just happily lets you back in. There's no other way of doing that that I know about.

K

Ron Sommer wrote:

Wouldn't all of this been accomplished by creating a new Identity and deleting the old one?

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Ron Sommer

"Keith" <keithspragg@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:1159285381.090499.160180@xx>

Hi all,

I'm just writing to let you know of a problem that I recently solved with the help of this group and for the 'tomsterdam' website, along with a little bit of cunning.

A customer of mine had several annoying problems with their email using Outlook Express, and after finally re-installing outlook express with the registry setting turned on to disable OE, they were able to get their mail again.

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However, now the problem was that the Identity didn't request a password, even though this option was turned on. The user also wanted OE to ask for a password every time he opened OE.

So far so good – I added a second identity called "Do Not Use" which kicked identities back in to life, and then applied the tomsterdam vbs script method to change the shortcuts to OE so that they forced the script to run.

<http://www.insideoe.com/tips/forceid.htm>
[link to the Force ID via VBS script article]

This left one last problem – as the user usually opens IE6 first, then clicks Tools → Mail and News → Read mail, but obviously that does not run the script – much googling found me the following key in the registry

[the usual boilerplate applies – don't go and change things in the registry unless you take a back up, etc, etc, yadda, yadda]

[HKLM/ Software/ Clients/ Mail/ Outlook Express]

From here, you can go to shell/open/command and change the (Default)

key away from "%ProgramFiles%\Outlook Express\msimn.exe" and change it to the location of your script (I put my script in "c:\Documents and settings\All Users\IDforOE.vbs").

This changes IE's link to Outlook Express. The last thing to change was the most obscure of the settings, but is done for completeness. I realised that if I clicked on an email link in a webpage, OE would launch without asking for the identity log in – So, I went back and looked, and worked out the following:

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First, paste the following in to a new notepad file:

```
Set WshShell = WScript.CreateObject("Wscript.Shell")
```

```
'Clear the values from the registry  
WshShell.RegWrite "HKCU\Identities\Last Username", ""  
WshShell.RegWrite "HKCU\Identities\Last User ID", ""  
WshShell.RegWrite "HKCU\Identities\Default User ID", ""  
WshShell.RegWrite "HKCU\Identities\Start As", ""
```

```
'Launch Outlook Express, from a MAILTO link
```

```
WshShell.Run "Msimn.exe" /mailurl:%1
```

It looks very like the Tomsterdam solution, except the final line – notice the /mailurl:%1 there.

Save this file as OEmailTo.vbs and put it in the same place as your other vbs script. I put it in the c:\documents and settings\all users\ folder.

Now head back to Regedit and go back to [HKLM/ Software/ Clients/ Mail/ Outlook Express]
Then navigate to:

..... Protocols /mailto /shell /open /command

and change the (default) key from
["%ProgramFiles%\Outlook Express\msimn.exe" /mailurl:%1] (without the square brackets) to
["c:\documents and settings\all users\OEmailTo.vbs" %1] (also without the square brackets).

Now go and check it in a web browser, and hey—presto – keeping your identity secure is finally achieved!

Keith Spragg.