

Re: How can I change the admin password of all our XP PC's on the doma

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Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.active_directory/2007-10/msg01589

- *From:* "Cyborg" <andrewwhite@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 24 Oct 2007 16:20:07 +0100
-

I understand, otherwiae this tool did it for me in the end:

<http://www.netikus.net/software/nttoolkit/index.html>

"Jorge Silva" <jorgesilva_pt@xxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message <news:eb0ItUcFIHA.2004@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Passwords stored locally in the SAM databse are very easy to crack, and there are many tools that do this in seconds, so changing the name or password won't do any good because:

- You don't go to each workstation and check if that user changed the local admin password.
- These tools generally present you all existing accounts and it's easy to identify which one is the one.
- Some of these tools are also able to enable a disabled account...

So security..... it's a matter of time...

;)

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=====
I hope that the information above helps you.
Have a Nice day.

Jorge Silva
MCSE, MVP Directory Services
=====

"Austin Osuide" <austin@xxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message <news:uCFU6McFIHA.4712@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

My absolute favorite Jorge!

I believe that for a domain joined workstation, disable the local admin account. It's cheaper in the long run.

You'll have people who'll rile against this, but when you check it out, it's a viable option.

Makes sure user data is redirected to file servers and backed up. If the box has a problem (usually network related e.g. issues with drivers) that means you can't use a domain admin account to logon, it is usually quicker to

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rebuild than troubleshoot.

Laptops will present special requirements that may make you want to bend the rules for them but I think the idea of disabling the local admin account has its merits.

Regards,

Austin

"Jorge Silva" <jorgesilva_pt@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:ea28U0bFIHA.1184@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Cyborg, I don't think that you should spend money on any kind of software to do what you want.

If you want to control the Local Administrators on the workstations, just disable the Local Administrator (you can do this using GPO, as I already mentioned before), and then use another GPO or Script that adds a existing security group in your AD as member of the local Administrators on the workstations.

To finish, add only the users that you think that should be members of local administrators on the workstations.

--

=====
I hope that the information above helps you.
Have a Nice day.

Jorge Silva
MCSE, MVP Directory Services
=====

"Cyborg" <andrewwhite@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:F475B711-F46F-4167-A11C-306F61642FFD@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Is there a command line method to reset it as we can get LANDesk to run the script against any PC?

"Austin Osuide" <austin@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:uWj98ZZFIHA.5272@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

My point exactly!
Because of the complexities involved, people sell you Enterprise Class software that helps you address the issues.

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For example:

<http://www.liebsoft.com/index.cfm/products?id=378>

Hence my initial statement
that it's not an exactly
straight forward or cheap to
fix this.

Regards,

Austin

"Cyborg"

<andrewwhite@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote in message

<news:FA163985-AED2-443D-9F67-DF8A53A6287C@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

How
exactly do
you manage
it then?

"Austin
Osuide"

<austin@xxxxxxxx>

wrote in
message

<news:EE51F3C3-B622-4BE0-A6AA-E91B3D1CBF3A@xxxxxxxx>

And,
if
you
rename
the
account,
the
users
you
want
not
to
have
the
credentials
can't
tell
that
the
admin
account

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has
been
renamed
by
looking
in
computer
management
or
asking
some
other
friendly
admin?
Remember,
your
former
passwords
got
shared.
"Root
cause"
is
still
there.
If
you
also
have
a
lock
down
policy
so
these
computers
can
only
be
used
for
certain
purposes
and
users
do
not
install
anything
on
their

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machines,
you
have
a
way
out.
But
from
my
experience,
if
you
have
a
large
enough
set
of
users,
and
Admins
(they
are
also
part
of
this
problem),
you
need
to
Actively
manage
local
admin
passwords.
A
rename
is
more
"Security
Theatre"
in
the
event
of
a
credible
threat
because
the

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SIDs
what's
gone
after
and
that
wont
change.

Regards,

Austin

"Cyborg"

<andrewwhite@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote
in
message

news:A8195110-A9EB-49CD-89F7-C5A455D68247@xxx

This
looks
like
a
quick
fix
for
now?

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/816109>

"Austin
Osuide"

<austin@xxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote
in
message

[news:yI8Ti.3953\\$TY4.3104@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:yI8Ti.3953$TY4.3104@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Hi
Cyborg,

You've
got
a
problem
thats
really
not
very

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easy
to
solve
(read
cheap).
You
have
this
problem
because
it
is
the
nature
of
all
but
the
least
inquisitive
of
users
to
want
to
be
admins
on
their
workstations.
If
you
dont
give
the
user
accounts
admin
privilages,
they
go
for
the
local
admin
account.
Now,
your
next
problem
is

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how
do
you
manage
the
local
admin
account?
Do
you
set
the
same
one
on
all
workstations?
If
you
do
that,
all
that
needs
happen
is
one
user
finding
out
and
"word
gets
around"
or
the
document
that
"holds"
the
password
gets
into
the
wrong
hands.
Regular
use
of
the
password

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even
makes
it
more
insecure.
Will
you
change
it
regularly
on
all
workstations?
A
real
procedural
nightmare
depending
on
the
size
of
your
estate.
If
you
have
different
passwords
for
different
workstatis,
how
do
you
provide
ready
access
to
admins
who
require
it?
Several
home
grown
Apps
exist
which
derive
an

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admin
password
from
the
workstation
name
based
on
some
algorithm
but
securing
the
tool
becomes
the
issue
and
usually,
it
doesn't
take
a
rocket
scientist
to
reverse
engineer
them.
So
you
decide
to
pay
for
some
Enterprise
Class
tool
to
do
this
for
you
if
especially
you
have
thousands
of
boxes

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to
visit.
And
there
companies
out
there
who
wite
apps
for
just
that.
As
an
example
(
not
a
recomendation
by
any
way,
shape
or
form),
see:
<http://www.liebssoft.com/index.cfm/products?>

HTH,

Austin

"Cyborg"
<andrewwhite@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote
in
message
<news:B3A473D8-D40D-4ED0-B3E8-4A00>

Hi
this
is
great,
do
I
need
to
change

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```
GetObject("WinNT://"
&
strComputer
&
"/Administrator,
user")
objUser.SetPassword
"testpassword"
objUser.SetInfo
```

To
make
it
more
generic,
you
will
need
to
set
the
script
to
get
the
pc's
computer
name
before
trying
to
change
the
password.

"Cyborg"
wrote:

Somehow
many
of
our
users
know
the
local
admin
password
for
our

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XP
machines,
is
there
a
way
to
change
this
on
all
PC's
to
something
else,
like
a
group
policy?