

Roaming profiles and the Local Settings Folder

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We have a Win2k3 server based network. I am setting up roaming profiles for users in my organizational unit.

I have used group policy to redirect the Application Data and My Documents folders to a shared on the network. This seems to be working OK.

The problem that I am having seems to be associated with the Local settings folder for each user.

As I understand it, the Local Settings folder is part of a user's profile, but it does not roam, and can not be redirected to another place. When the documentation says that "the Local Settings folder does not roam", I understand this to mean that it does not get automatically downloaded to the user's computer when he logs on, and does not get automatically uploaded to the network share when the user logs off.

However, it is my understanding that it is still part of the user's profile, and is used by a variety of programs for storing information including Outlook's PST files and Internet Explorer settings.

When I set up a user's profile on the network shared, I copied the latest version of his profile from his local computer. This copy included the Local Settings folder. I have also verified that the local group policies in

Computer Configuration\Administrative Templates\System\User Profiles

are all set to not configured. In particular, the setting "Delete cached copies of roaming profiles" is not configured.

When the user logs on, he reports that Outlook can't find the PST file, and various Internet Explorer settings don't work. Many of the things in IE that don't work seem to be related to JavaScript.

I have the user log off, and I go back and look at his profile both on the network share, and on his local hard drive. I find that his complete profile is still intact on his local hard drive, but that the Local Settings folder in the network share copy of his profile is gone!

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When I look in the Event Viewer, there are no error messages.

1. How can I prevent the Local Settings folder from being deleted from the network copy of the roaming profile?
2. Is the loss of the Local Settings folder from the network copy of the profile the reason that I am seeing the problems that I am with Internet Explorer?
3. Am I correct in understanding that Outlook, IE, and other programs will use the Local Settings folder of the profile stored on the network share to store their settings and data?

Thanks for your help.

Jim

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