

## Re: USB disable policy template problem

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.general/2006-12/msg00926.html>

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- *From:* "Jon Rowlan" <[jon.rowlan@xxxxxxxx](mailto:jon.rowlan@xxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 20 Dec 2006 07:40:58 -0000
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I was beginning to think that may be the best way Graham.

However, the links to resellers of that do not give me a clue as to the cost of this software ... some of the approved resellers links don't work and others link to sites that don't seem to mention the software at all.

How much is it approx. in your home currency?

Is this the software that was currently aquired by Microsoft btw ??

many thanks,

jON

"GrahamN" <[u30337@uwe](mailto:u30337@uwe)> wrote in message [news:6afeb8043dede@xxxxxx](mailto:news:6afeb8043dede@xxxxxx)

This template is not a real policy but a more a preference. By default preferences are hidden from GP template Editor. To make them shown, you need to change view settings within Filtering. To unveil it Open GPEditor by running gpedit.msc snap-in Select Administrative Templates folder from there Select View|Filtering command from the management console's menu bar to open Filtering dialog box; Check Filter by Requirements information check box within the Filtering dialog box; Check the categories your want to display within Select the items to be displayed listbox Uncheck the Only show policy settings that can be fully managed checkbox and click OK to apply changes and close the dialog box. Now you should see the preferences displayed on right panel of management console.

To add administrative template you need to select Action|Add/Remove Templates

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command within the Group Policy Editor snap-in, choose the \*.ADM file you want to add to your Administrative Templates folder.

All that said, bear in mind that this template will tattoo your users' registry with its settings because of its nature. So if you'll remove it from the GP, you will NOT remove settings made by it from clients. Additionally, the list of devices that can be locked by this template is pretty limited to USB, CD-ROM, Floppy and LS-120. When the first to really can present itself a serious treat for corporate security, the last pair is rarely used nowadays.

From my point of view, Bluetooth, Blackberry and Wi-Fi devices are representing much more 'dangerous' devices that can harm corporate security.

Storage of portable devices today is enough to steal some data quick and imperceptibly. After the some troublesome happend to us we at our company decided to take this more seriously. We decided to purchase USB & Ports Security option for Scriptlogic's Desktop Authority (<http://www.scriptlogic.com/products/desktopauthority>). It allows us to implement various levels of internal security for different departments or offices. Thus we disabled already noted wireless devices, opened USB sticks and CD-ROMs for read-only access and leaved the access to PCMCIA devices for mobile group only.

Jon Rowlan wrote:

I have downloaded the Microsoft provided USB/Floppy/CDROM disable policy template (ADM) file.

I am using GPMC but cannot seem to get the settings to apply to a group policy linked to the domain.

These are preference type policies ... does that make a difference?

I want, for example, to disable the USB storage for certain user group but allow for others. Failing that I'd like to disable the device completely for all users if that's the best I can achieve.

But I don't seem to be able to find where to apply these settings so that they actually get applied to WXP SP2 workstations.

jON

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