

Re: Must all users be administrators?

Source:

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From: Dave (newsATfureyDOTnet)

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Correct me if I am wrong, but GROUP POLICIES override this (local admin can do anything) capability!

I have one workstation that has a user as Administrator (workstation) and I have restricted them to the extreme via group policies. They cannot install/add/remove anything, they can't save to desktop, can't change screen saver or background etc. They can't even see their C: drive.

The user can't login locally as their DOMAIN account is the one with Admin privileges.

Dave

"Dave Nickason [SBS MVP]" <gwdibble@NOSPAM.frontiernet.net> wrote in message news:uXKuDXoPEHA.904@TK2MSFTNGP12.phx.gbl...

> *I'm very lucky in this regard to work for a boss who is computer savvy and security conscious. He is also quite conscious of the cost of having me running around fixing problems all day. If you can get the management behind you, the employees will know that they're fighting a losing battle, and they'll give up. A couple points:*

>

> *A user with local admin rights can do anything to a workstation. Think of the costs to the company of having a careless user accidentally delete the "Documents and Settings" directory, for example, thereby killing the data of*

> *all that machine's users. Or, having to pay you to come in and recreate the*

> *workstation from scratch because someone blew up the OS.*

>

> *A user with admin rights can install anything – forget about the annoying screen savers and the time wasted on games. How about viruses, trojans, keystroke logging software, back doors, spyware, and any of a variety of other types of malware.*

>

> *How about the damage that could be done by a malicious user? Bypassing AV?*

> *Kazaa? Illegal activities exposing the company to liability? Theft of*

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> *company data?*
>
> *I have two categories of users – the owner, who installs a variety of*
> *shareware apps, unsupported add-ins, etc. and has constant computer*
> *problems. And everyone else – power users whose only installations are*
> *controlled by SUS, who generally have no problems at all.*
>
>
> *"Anna Clark" <anna.clark(remove this)@verizon.net> wrote in message*
> *news:uE3OCBhPEHA.2468@TK2MSFTNGP11.phx.gbl...*
>> *Hi Dave:*
>>
>> *You are probably right on with this solution, but there is still the*
>> *larger*
>> *question of young aggressive 20 to 30 year olds that grew up with*
>> *computers*
>> *wanting to do what ever they want with "their" computers.*
>>
>> *Making them Administrators seems to keep them quiet, but then*
>> *applications*
>> *get removed, printers disappear, and all kinds of "unapproved" apps get*
>> *installed on the computers.*
>>
>> *There must be a way to control this.*
>>
>> *Anna*
>>
>>
>> *"Dave Nickason [SBS MVP]" <gwdibble@NOSPAM.frontiernet.net> wrote in*
>> *message*
>> *news:%23judI\$cPEHA.3044@TK2MSFTNGP10.phx.gbl...*
>>> *What happens if you go into the security settings of the folder in*
>> *question,*
>>> *and give whatever permission Administrators have to Authenticated*
>>> *Users?*
>>> *Theoretically, that would solve the problem.*
>>>
>>> *I ran into this with a program from the abstract company, where it*
>>> *wanted*
>>> *to*
>>> *write files to the workstations' root directory. I asked them to*
>>> *change*
>>> *their program to write to a directory under Documents and Settings*
>>> *rather*
>>> *than give the users write permissions to the root directory. They were*
>>> *willing to rewrite their program knowing that they were going to run*
>>> *into*
>>> *the issue on every default winxp workstation they installed it on.*
>>>
>>> *IMO giving all users admin rights is an invitation for a disaster.*
>>> *You'll*

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> >> *have no control over what's installed on the workstations, including*
> >> *spyware, downloaded trojans, kazaa, shareware, etc.*
> >>
> >>
> >> *"Anna Clark" <anna.clark(remove this)@verizon.net> wrote in message*
> >> *news:ePYPI%23bPEHA.2580@TK2MSFTNGP09.phx.gbl...*
> >> > *Hello everyone:*
> >> >
> >> > *One of my sites has a problem. They are a mortgage broker company and*
> > *use*
> >> > *a*
> >> > *software that requires that they save their loan applications to a*
> > *folder*
> >> > *on*
> >> > *the local workstation.*
> >> >
> >> > *Unless their domain id is part of the local administrators group, they*
> >> > *cannot*
> >> > *save the file.*
> >> >
> >> > *Moreover, it seems to me that to make an end user any less than an*
> >> > *administrator over the local system is just asking to make trip after*
> > *trip*
> >> > *to the site to give disgruntled users permissions to do this and*
that.
> >> >
> >> > *How do others handle this problem, if it is a problem... or have I*
> > *missed*
> >> > *something basic.*
> >> >
> >> > *I take care of SBS W2K, and SBS 2K3 sites where the clients are XP*
Pro
> > *or*
> >> > *W2K Pro and face this issue at all of them.*
> >> >
> >> > *Thanks for your input.*
> >> >
> >> > *Anna*
> >> >
> >> >
> >>
> >>
> >
> >
>
>