

## Re: RWW – log off after timeout?

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2007-08/msg02276.html>

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- *From:* "SusanV" <[svanallen@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:svanallen@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 16 Aug 2007 10:45:59 -0400
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The article I linked uses a screensaver (and thus the idle timer) to log the user off, but you're right, files transferring while the user is off getting a cup of coffee would kick the idle timer despite actual activity as it's looking at human interface devices for idle, not data transfer...

Also, good point on the connecting drives issues, however, it's vital that I allow this functionality. We have users who travel all over the world and have to transfer files – sometimes databases up to half a gig in size – back to the home base before leaving the jobsite. These users \*normally\* only connect using company issued laptops – however I do have a couple of users who will connect from home occasionally... I trust my TrendMicro Suite though, kind of have to! The optional setup would be an FTP site, and I'd \*really\* rather avoid that, as there are so many friggin holes in ftp...

I found another option here to my original issue – a hack to allow multiple concurrent remote desktop sessions, I can post the link if you're interested (NOTE – this hack is probably a EULA violation)

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SusanV

"Merv Porter [SBS-MVP]" <[mwport@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:mwport@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:OEDieKB4HHA.4476@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:OEDieKB4HHA.4476@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

I think you may be chasing your tail Susan. There are several ways to "force" a logoff of a user, but you never know if that user was actually doing something at the time of the logoff or if the session has just been "orphaned" (user did not log off the LAN workstation, RWW session timed out, RDP session was left running).

I've been fighting this same thing for quite some time and haven't found a suitable solution other than VNCing into the workstation. IMHO, a forced log off is not the answer (data can be lost if the user leaves files open, but not saved, and a forced logoff is implemented). We really need a way to determine if the RWW part of the session has "timed out" while the RDP session still running. Even then, we would still not know if the user had open files on his workstation when RWW timed out (again, the Open Files

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and Sessions parts of Server Management might give us clues about this).

BTW... I also have a problem with RWW users "connecting their drives" to transfer data. Since you don't know where the remote machine has been, who it's been talking to, or what the state of its antivirus/antispysware is, this seems like a perfect path for trojans or other malware to inject themselves into the network. I normally remove the "Connect Drives" option in RWW so the RWW user doesn't even know about it.

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Merv Porter [SBS–MVP]

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"SusanV" <svanallen@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:%234O827A4HHA.3400@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:%234O827A4HHA.3400@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Thanks Merv, I'd never heard of this software before! I looked into an article on shadowing an XP Remote session but boy it was fugly... If I can't work out the logoff, this will be very helpful! I'd rather get the logoff working, though, so that if user A leaves a machine locked on Friday night User B can still get in on Saturday without interrupting my weekend <grin>

I found this article, which will logoff using a screensaver, rather than locking the machine:

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/314999>

However, I can't implement this on the in-house folks – only the RWW connections.

Next step – how can I set a policy to set the user's screensaver to the winexit.scr if the user logged on via Remote Desktop, and to whatever's in their profile if logged in locally?

<digs deeper>

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SusanV

"Merv Porter [SBS–MVP]" <mwport@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

[news:unu4%232A4HHA.5740@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:unu4%232A4HHA.5740@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

I normally install TightVNC (www.tightvnc.com, a remote control program) on each workstation and put only the "listener" portion on the SBS server. From the server, this allows me to access their workstation session and "look over their shoulder" to see if there is any activity. If there appears to be no activity, I can then log them off from within

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the TightVNC user interface, then close the TightVNC session.

You can also look for activity in these two places in the Server Management Console, although I'm convinced this 100% reliable as I've seen a few times when the info at this places was not accurate. (This is where VNC comes in handy).

Server Management | Advanced Management | Computer Management | System Tools | Shared Folders | Sessions  
Server Management | Advanced Management | Computer Management | System Tools | Shared Folders | Open Files

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Merv Porter [SBS-MVP]

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"SusanV" <svanallen@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:%23TTognA4HHA.1208@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:%23TTognA4HHA.1208@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Hi all,

I have 2 PCs setup for users who are out of the office to connect to via RWW in order to transfer files or whatever, all is working fine, however sometimes a remote user will "forget" to log off, leaving the machine locked. I can unlock it by forcing a logoff, but I hate to do this as I can't tell whether the user is actually active or simply left the session open – on a couple of occasions I've bumped a user who was in the middle of something during a time they are not normally logged on, and needless to say they weren't best pleased.

Is there a way to force a RWW session to log the user off after a set time of inactivity?

Failing that, is there a way to check if the user is active before

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bumping them?

I know this is more of a "training" issue, but  
some refuse to be  
trained <g>

TIA,

SusanV