

Re: Allow User Interactive Login to Server

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2008-01/msg01465.html>

- *From:* "Dave Davis" <dhdavis1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 11 Jan 2008 18:05:55 -0600
-

Thanks. I've decided to be less compliant and go the consultant/advisor route. I'm going to meet with the parties involved and see if reasonable people can come to a reasonable compromise. If not, then maybe a written disclaimer is in order to protect me. I'll let you know what happens.
Dave

"Claus" <cjobs@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:%23v2cr3AVIHA.4196@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

That explains a lot :.)

--

Claus

"Susan Bradley" <sbradcpa@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:O8xrkgAVIHA.3400@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

BTW I "am" a CPA.

Dave Davis wrote:

Actually there is even more in the way of security that I am confronted with, but that's for a later post. Running the client app on the server is bogus. If that crisis ever did occur I would just log in for him and launch the app for him to play with. The hardware systems are all namebrand and high end (and my office door is literally 30 ft away from theirs) so that crisis is not likely anyway. I don't want anyone but admin to be able to log in remotely if I can help it. So, if they insist on him logging in to the server, what about one of the built-in accounts like server admin? If that one can only log in interactively (yes?) at

Re: Allow User Interactive Login to Server

least he would not have full administrator rights and he would not be able to log in remotely. And my client could see who is walking in to log in. I think the software is ok, but the vendor's configuration recommendations sure don't fit my idea of security. At this point maybe I'm looking for the least bad solution. And, I really appreciate your comments.

Dave

"Susan Bradley" <sbradcpa@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

news:evzVd4%23UIHA.3568@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

What crappy accounting software is this?

Jeeze does my industry not understand security or what?

Owen Williams [SBS MVP] wrote:

In article

<SCxhj.30393\$L27.1103@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, dhdavis1

@bellsouth.net says...

We have a customer running SBS 2003 Premium R2. We installed a client/server accounting package. At vendor recommendation we installed client side app and a server side management tool on the server too. The tool is used to

Re: Allow User Interactive Login to Server

manage the
accounting
database,
backup, etc.
The client
app is there
in case the
network
goes down
and they
must have
access to
their
accounting
data
anyway.
Accounting
app is
maintained
by their
CPA, an
outside
firm. I need
to protect
the
administrator
password.
The CPA
wants to be
able to log
in
interactively
at the server
to run the
management
tool and to
open a
specific
folder to
check
database
backup
results.
Also he
might need
to run the
client app
on occasion.
How can I
set up a user
account

Re: Allow User Interactive Login to Server

for him that
will allow
him to login
interactively
and be
restricted
to the
specific
tasks he
needs to
perform? It
would be
good if also
he could use
remote
desktop to
do these
tasks as
well. I have
never
set up a user
to login to
the server
before and
have a real
security
concern.

Your concerns are justified.

Out of the box, SBS only
allows users with
administrative rights to
logon locally to the server.
Power Users can remotely
login but get
only a stripped-down
version of Server
Management which restricts
them
to a subset of administrative
functions, like resetting
passwords.

Frankly, that's the way it
should be. I would be
EXTREMELY leery of
letting anyone except the
administrator logon to the
server. You
never know what mischief

Re: Allow User Interactive Login to Server

they might get into, even –
perhaps
ESPECIALLY –
accidentally.

The rationale here ("The client app is there in case the network goes down and they must have access to their accounting data anyway.") is, in my opinion, very weak. If that's really an issue, make sure all the network components are of high-quality and keep some spare components (NIC, switch, etc.) on-site.

If the client insists on pursuing this approach, I would absolutely demand that they – and probably the CPA firm as well – sign a disclaimer. Once someone else has local server access, all bets are off and you can no longer ensure the condition of the server. I'm serious. If this were my client and they refused to sign a disclaimer, I would terminate the relationship. I am not a lawyer, but to do otherwise it seems to me you are exposing yourself to a lot of potential liability.

-- Owen Williams (SBS MVP)

Re: Allow User Interactive Login to Server