

Re: Changing from App mode to Remote Admin mode via registry

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.terminal_services/2006-06/msg00363.html

- *From:* "Jeff Pitsch" <jeff@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 14 Jun 2006 23:36:03 -0400
-

Your application will simply break all the other applications installed on the server and your client base would be forced to reinstall all other applications on the terminal server. Is that really what you are trying to accomplish?

You are, in fact, completely wrong on how to activate/deactivate terminal services. You should really learn the OS your developing for. It would make your job much easier. Remote admin mode is simply activated by going to control panel, system, remote tab. App mode is done through add/remove programs as always before.

terminal services is not a simple reghack, it is a reconfiguration of the kernal and other system components. You cannot simply turn it on and off by a registry entry.

I also do not understand your stance in point #2. How is local install in app mode very bad but somehow a remote connection (which in your statement communication is completely broken until restart) is better? that makes absolutely no sense. Either network communication is completely broken or it is not. As well a local installation cannot be broken by simply taking away the network communication. Laptops would never work if this were the case.

Oh, and application mode to admin mode was never a simple reghack. There is way to much going on in the background that this would change. Again forcing your customers to move to admin mode then application mode is a complete disservice to them as you are destroying their TS environment unless your actually taking the correct steps to back and restore and set the correct timestamp on the shadow key.

Jeff Pitsch
Microsoft MVP – Terminal Server

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Re: Changing from App mode to Remote Admin mode via registry

"Steve Sawkins" <ssawkins@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:eHXCCHCkGHA.4652@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Sorry, thought I explained what I was trying to do...

We want to put a small note in our documentation about switching from application mode to remote administration mode.

We'd like to do this because our application doesn't install right now in application mode on Windows 2003 Server when the installer is running remotely. I explained all this with my original post.

I am familiar with the GetSystemMetrics API call. We're already using it to detect whether a session is remote or local. I can also detect if terminal services is installed and if we're in app. mode vs. remote admin mode with some other calls I'm making.

Presently our warning message for the uninstalleable case reads something like the following:

"This product cannot be installed on this server in it's present configuration. Please install the product locally or in remote administration mode."

I prefer a remote install in remote admin mode to a local install in application mode for two reasons:

1. The admin won't have to travel to a server and deal with getting physical access to the machine. I'm told this can be quite a process for some server sitting in a datacenter far away from the admin.
2. Our product breaks all network comm. when it's installed, and for a local install in app mode, comm. is not restored until the reboot. For a remote install in remote admin mode, the interruption is very minor.

So I would like to provide our users with a suggestion in our user manual of how to move from application mode to remote admin mode so that they can install our product and then move back to application mode.

If this was Windows 2000, I could do this pretty easily by telling them to reconfigure the server via the Windows Component portion of the Add/Remove applet.

Because it's Windows 2003 Server there does not seem to be a way to do this easily. It would be good to know if Microsoft supports making this mode

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change or not; no one here has said whether or not they do and this was clearly supported for Win2K.

You've posted before about the TSAppCompat value in the registry with some authority. I'll ask you what I asked Rob: how are you so sure that it can't

be used to toggle from app. mode to remote admin mode? Is there a KB article

or some other resource that tells you that this is unsupported on 2K3?

TIA,

Steve Sawkins

"Vera Noest [MVP]" <Vera.Noest@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:Xns97E2A36D27F63veranoesthemutforsse@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

What exactly is it that you want to achieve?

If you want to enforce that your application is installed from the physical console, you can check that in your installation procedure:

From http://ts.veranoest.net/ts_faq.htm

Q. How can my script / application detect if it is running in a Terminal Services client session?

A. You can detect if your application is running in a remote session by calling `GetSystemMetrics()`.

The following function returns TRUE if the application is running in a remote session and FALSE if the application is running on the console.

```
BOOL IsRemoteSession(void)
{
return GetSystemMetrics( SM_REMOTESESSION );
}
```

Vera Noest

MCSE, CCEA, Microsoft MVP – Terminal Server

TS troubleshooting: <http://ts.veranoest.net>

----- Please reply in newsgroup -----

"Steve Sawkins" <ssawkins@xxxxxxxx> wrote on 14 jun 2006:

So does Microsoft offer a way to change from Application mode to Remote Administration mode for a Win2K3 terminal server

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without
uninstalling terminal server?

Again, a Windows 2000 TS could legitimately do this(it was
in
the GUI), and the knowledge base article indicated that the
value was modifiable. The only "not configurable" value in
the
KB article was the ProductVersion.

Would you recommend some of the WMI provider stuff for
Terminal
Services? I notice that there's a
Win32_TerminalServiceSetting
class with a ChangeMode method that lets the caller set the
mode
to one of three values:

Value Meaning
0 Remote Desktop for Administration or Personal Terminal
Server. 2 Per Device. Valid for application servers.
4 Per Session. Valid for application servers.

I haven't had much success with these, but I can't find any
other sanctioned way of doing this.

Steve

"Rob Leitman [MSFT]" <robleit@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote in
message
news:%23LyMk%23vjGHA.4508@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

This registry value is a side effect of
changing the TS mode,
not what causes the change.

There are many registry values, but most
aren't meant to be
modified directly. Think of it as internal
data.

Rob

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warranties, and
confers no

rights.

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Can you point me to a KB article that discusses this for 2K3, or can you be a bit more precise about the risks associated with changing this value?

And thank you...I appreciate you taking the time to respond. If we need

to

open up a support incident I'm prepared to do that. It just seemed like

a

minor question.

Steve

"Rob Leitman [MSFT]"
<robleit@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote in
message
[news:erQ6vk\\$IGHA.5036@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:erQ6vk$IGHA.5036@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

That is definitely unsupported. Can't you just tell the users not to install from a remote session?

Rob

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See the TS
FAQ at

http://www.microsoft.com/windowsserver2003/community/centers/terminal/terminal_faqs.mspx

al_faq.mspx

"Steve
Sawkins"
<ssawkins@xxxxxxxx>
wrote in
message
news:%23qU6Ni1iGHA.4304@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

We're
considering
advising
users
to
change
the
TSAppCompat
value
and
reboot
to
move
from
Application
Mode
to
Remote
Administration
mode
so
that
they
can
install
our
product.

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We
can't
install
properly
on
a
Win
2K3
server

running

TS
in
app.
mode.
if
the
user
is
logged
in
remotely.

Are
we
remiss
in
suggesting
this?
Will
license
servers
or
unused

licenses

be
affected?

Simple
tests
in
our
lab
here
bear
out
the
fact

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that
this
does
seem
to
change
the
mode
completely
after
a
reboot,
but
we
have
not
tested
exhaustively.

I've
seen
posts
here
on
the
TSAppCompat
value
that
indicate
that

changing

modes
is
not
as
simple
as
changing
the
value,
but
I'd
like
to
have

our

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users
avoid
uninstalling
Terminal
Services
so
they
can
install
our
app.

If
we
can't
suggest
that
they
do
this,
is
there
any
other
way
to
move

from

app.
mode
to
remote
admin.
mode,
install
our
application,
and
move
back?

TIA,

Steve
Sawkins
Apani
Networks

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