

Re: Disabling USB mass storage

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/securityfocus/focus-ms/2005-03/0076.html>

From: Susan Bradley, CPA aka Ebitz – SBS Rocks [MVP] (sbradcpa_at_pacbell.net)

Date: 03/04/05

Date: Fri, 04 Mar 2005 10:18:00 -0800
To: Steven Hay <shay@communitysavings.ca>

Huh? You use group policy and shove out permissions. You can build permission registry keys as a group policy item.

Set up a USB OU, assign groups of folks, make sure your selected folks are in another OU.

Example here:

Terminal Services – Quickbooks installation issues:

http://hem.fyristorg.com/vera/IT/TS_apps_QB.htm

Steven Hay wrote:

>Yes, we're looked at that document. There are two problems with the "MS
>fix" however:
>
>1. It's a daunting task to justify the cost in time of logging into over 600
>systems one at a time to change the registry on each to disable usb drive
>creation. MS didn't seem to think about this on an enterprise scale. We
>considered just batching up a large reg change to push out as well; but this
>would mean we couldn't know if they all worked or failed for sure, as well
>we were concerned about the potential for systems failure as direct reg
>edits can be risky. Even if only 2% of the systems failed, it wouldn't be
>worth it the downtime costs.
>
>2. We would like for IT staff and a few select managers and systems to be
>allowed access. USB keys when properly used can be a powerful tool for our
>IT staff. This would be an "all or nothing" approach. Something on the
>network level is much more preferable to the system level, and I'm guessing
>sysadmins who work on 500+ node decentralized networks are in the same boat.
>
>We tried restricting usbstor.sys through the GPO, but I think the file gets
>local system level access and runs anyways <grumble grumble>.
>
>I sincerely appreciate the responses everyone's given so far, we're
>collecting all the suggestions and are going to review each of them