

Re: Where is the user impersonation token stored?

Source:

<http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet.security/2005-10/0093.html>

From: Gery D. Dorazio (*gdorazio_at_enqueue.net*)

Date: 10/10/05

Date: Mon, 10 Oct 2005 15:36:36 -0400

Hi Dominick,

Thanks for the feedback. Can you explain a little more with respect to IIS?

Here is the scenario that has me stumped and really the reason for the post:

- 1) User requests a restricted page and the Windows popup dialog appears so the user logs in and is authenticated. Then the page is served up.
- 2) The user then clicks on another secured page link and is directed to that page...no popup since he is already authenticated.

Here is a question that may hit the core of the problem:

How does IIS handle authenticated Windows accounts during client-server requests to a web server?

Here is my thinking as to what happens and the source of my confusion:

When an HTTP request is finished and the response is sent back to the client the worker thread is finished and recycled...at least that's how I understand it. Along with this understanding the server then would have no knowledge whether the user is logged in....eg http is stateless. Then for subsequent requests IIS would have to log them in automatically for each request since they already logged in once. But what happens on the next request? Where does IIS (or some ISAPI authentication filter/extension) get the information to re-logon the user? Translated....where is this: `ctx.WorkerRequest.GetUserToken()` getting its user token from?...is it stored in a header, an encrypted cookie passed back and forth between client and server?...all this is only in regards to Windows authentication and not ASP.NET forms authentication since I know that is encrypted in a forms cookie...

Thanks and hope this is clear,

Thanks,
Gery

microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet.security: Re: Where is the user impersonation token stored?

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"Dominick Baier [DevelopMentor]" <dbaier@pleasepleasenosspamdevelop.com>
wrote in message news:42565460104b138c79b9ca7e77d13@news.microsoft.com...
> Hello Gery,
>
> 1) The outcome of IIS authentication is stored in a blob called ISAP
> Extension Control Block - the ASPNET_ISAPI extension passes the token to
> ASP.NET (via WorkerRequest). This token is available in ASP.NET 2.0 using
> the Request.LogonUserIdentity
>
> 2) There is some caching involved in IIS - but ASP.NET grabs the
> impersonation token on each request from IIS to populate Context.User.
>
> HTH
> -----
> Dominick Baier - DevelopMentor
> <http://www.leastprivilege.com>
>
>> When a user visits a web site and is authenticated through the popup
>> dialog box (Windows authentication) he enters his username and
>> password. Evidently this creates the users impersonation token that is
>> used on subsequent requests to secured web pages. On subsequent
>> requests the WindowsAuthenticationModule is what authenticates on each
>> request. The code that does this looks like this:
>>
>> WindowsIdentity wi = new
>> WindowsIdentity(ctx.WorkerRequest.GetUserToken(),
>> text2, WindowsAccountType.Normal, true);
>> Context.User = new WindowsPrincipal(wi);
>> The questions are:
>> 1. Where did the initial Windows authentication put the user
>> impersonation
>> token?
>> 2. Where is the user impersonation token stored as the user makes web
>> page
>> requests(or is it generated on each request and if so how?)?
>> Thanks,
>> Gery
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