

integrated authentication not working from redirect

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.inetserver.iis.security/2002-12/7005.html>

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I'm seeing strange auth behavior from the default IE 6, on XP Pro, regarding HTTP redirects.

SITUATION: I configure IIS (5) on a server to require integrated authentication (NTLM auth) for some page. I then try to access the page from IE 6, on XP Pro.

[1] (WORKS OKAY) When the above page is accessed by the browser above, and if the browser is in the same intranet security zone (as defined in Internet options->Security->Local intranet->Sites), then the Windows logon credentials are supplied, and the NTLM Automatic login thing works great, no pop-up. The page is accessed.

[2] (WORKS OKAY) If I access cgi (also hosted in the same security zone as the browser) that redirects (browser receives HTTP 302) to the same site as in [1], again, all works okay. The browser sees the 302, moves on to the NTLM-protected page, and again Automatic logon works just fine.

[3] (FAILS) If the cgi that provides the redirect is considered to NOT be on the same security zone (intranet) as the browser, after moving to the protected page, the browser seems to refuse to participate in the automatic logon process, and pops up the logon dialog.

My question is why would IE care from where it was redirected. Is this some new security behavior? I only see this on XP Pro. IE 6 on NT, W2k, 98 seem to not care, and proceeds with the auto logon. Can anyone add any clarification to what's going on here? Is there some security thing that XP is trying to address. It's not immediately clear how the source of the redirect is of concern. It should be trivial to duplicate this scenario, to convince yourself of the behavior. Any insight is greatly appreciated.

- Danno