

Re: Howto refresh IIS 6 Application pool identity credential info

Source:

<http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.inetservr.iis.security/2008-02/msg00030.html>

- *From:* wjzhang@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx ("WenJun Zhang[msft]")
 - *Date:* Mon, 11 Feb 2008 07:46:14 GMT
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Hi Peter,

What you detected should be an expected behavior. Have you also tried access any resources on the web site after changing application pool's identity and restarting/recycling the pool? If so, you should see a logon event with the changed credential when the new http request is arriving. The fact is:

After we change a pool's identity, the custom user account's username and password is simply encrypted and saved by IIS without any validation or logon attempts. That's why you don't see the credential change immediately. As soon as a new request to the corresponding web site which the AppPool needs to serve comes in, IIS W3SVC service will then start up a new worker process(w3wp.exe – can be viewed in task manager or process explorer, etc) with the new identity. You should see the expected logon attempts at that time.

The difference of IISRESET here is when we restart the whole IIS services, the startup process will try to test logon all the identity accounts to check if all the username and password are valid. If not, IIS will disable that pool.

Furthermore, a main problem of using custom domain account as application pool identity is we must manually setup SPN for Kerberos to work for Integrated Windows authentication. Also only one SPN(of the domain account) can be set for HTTP service on the server. Otherwise, you will need to use NTLM.

871179 You receive an "HTTP Error 401.1 – Unauthorized: Access is denied due to invalid credentials" error message when you try to access a Web site that is part of an IIS 6.0 application pool
<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;EN-US;871179>

I hope the above information helps. Please update here if you have any further question.

Have a nice week.

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Sincerely,

WenJun Zhang

Microsoft Online Community Support

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