

Re: use of application roles

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.sqlserver.security/2003-06/0363.html>

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"Sandy" <sandra.carr1@jsc.nasa.gov> wrote in message
news:615901c33c1f\$b6fc32e0\$3101280a@phx.gbl...

>
> *Question 1: If I use SQL Server 2000's 'application role'*
> *to let my users enter data via a custom application, am I*
> *creating a security hole because of the hardcoded username*
> *& password?*
>
> *Background: The application allows users to logon via*
> *passthrough Windows authentication. The users enter data*
> *into the application and have no reason to directly access*
> *the database. The application puts the data into the*
> *correct tables and keeps an audit trail.*

AFAIK, the only security vulnerability in this scenario is if you store the application role password in clear text. You can encrypt the app role password if you are concerned with this,

> *Question 2: Do the users need any rights to the database*
> *if the 'application role' is used?*

Users need to be valid users in the application role database so that `sp_setapprole` can be executed. However, no permissions need be granted to users; permissions need only be granted to the app role.

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Hope this helps.
Dan Guzman
SQL Server MVP

SQL FAQ links (courtesy Neil Pike):
<http://www.ntfaq.com/Articles/Index.cfm?DepartmentID=800>
<http://www.sqlserverfaq.com>
<http://www.mssqlserver.com/faq>

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