

## Re: network security suggestions needed

*Source:* <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.win2000.security/2002-10/8962.html>

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*From:* Microsoft Newsgroups ([clarence@lanicu.com](mailto:clarence@lanicu.com))

*Date:* 10/10/02

From: "Microsoft Newsgroups" <[clarence@lanicu.com](mailto:clarence@lanicu.com)>

Date: Wed, 9 Oct 2002 17:15:29 -0700

You could you this tool avoid brute force attacks.

I think we have something you may have interest in seeing. If so, please contact me if this looks like something you want see or you may go to our web site and download this tool:

(Please use 'Clarence' when indicating how you were referred to our site.)

\*\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT USER MANAGER PRO – ADD-ON \*\* RANDOM PASSWORD GENERATOR\*\*\*\*\*

Administrators should change the built-in administrator password on all of their workstations at regular intervals. The common local machine administrator passwords should be changed immediately when there is turnover in the pool of network administrators. The password should also be changed regularly to mitigate the possibility that one or more users may attempt to covertly crack the local administrator password on their machine using tools such as L0phtCrack. If all administrator passwords are the same (this is the common scenario), then a cracked local administrator password allows unrestricted administrator access to all machines using peer-to-peer authentication.

If the local administrator password is common to all machines, but is changed regularly and is cryptographically complex, then brute force password cracking tools will take longer to crack the password than the interval between password changes. In that case, cracking passwords is a useless exercise. If the administrator fails to change the passwords frequently enough, or uses passwords for the common account that are too simple, then it would be possible to successfully crack the password and gain unauthorized access.

The goal of this add-on is to make each machine's administrator password different. By doing so, cracking a single password does not grant access to all other machines. The module allows the password to be made as complex as desired and takes care of the periodic changes without administrator intervention. If it is desired to get the current password for a specific machine, a built-in encrypted password recovery database can be maintained

by the program. Reporting on successful password change date and time is also provided.

## USER MANAGER PRO

What do you do when one of your domain administrators leaves the company (not on the best of terms) and you have to change the local admin passwords on all your machines as quickly as possible? You can open up User Manager Pro, highlight the systems you'd like to change, set the password, hit apply and boom, the change is done to all your systems and now you can move on. Change 500 systems in minutes and move on to other

pressing tasks.

User Manager Pro has other impressive local machine mass management capabilities. Instantly manage groups, memberships, rights, policies, auditing and registry changes in just a few moments. User Manager Pro is easier, faster and more reliable than group policies or script based solutions. User Manager Pro is the perfect addition for administrators using Microsoft SMS. User Manager Pro has extensive local machine reporting, IP subnet scanning and more. Operations can be completed immediately or scheduled to occur at specific times. Off-line machines are automatically retried without operator intervention.

Clarence McDowell

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"Altan" <[nalta27\\_nospam@yahoo.com](mailto:nalta27_nospam@yahoo.com)> wrote in message news:af2d01c26faa\$17b5a960\$35ef2ecf@TKMSFTNGXA11...

- > *My Network:*
- > *2 Windows 2000 DC's, 50 client workstation (40 Win2k, 10 Win98), VelociRaptor Firewall, 3 hubs, CAT 5, DSL connection, Gateway 192.168.1.1 (DSL out), POP3 email server at DSL company, Norton Antivirus Corporate Edition 7.x.*
- >
- > *The 2 DC's are used as File, Print, and Name servers to all departments.*
- >
- > *I need to configure the finance department w/ the most*

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- > *secure configuration that I can. The 10 workstations in*
- > *the finance department are Win2k, TCP/IP.*
- > *The Finance Department requires; internet access, a*
- > *file/print/name server, and connection to the POP 3 email*
- > *server at the DSL company.*
- >
- > *I am open to any suggestions that you may have*
- >