

Default Registry Permissions

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<http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windows.server.security/2006-10/msg00125.html>

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 - *Date:* 17 Oct 2006 07:58:52 -0700
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Windows 2003 Server R2 SP1 with IIS, ASP .NET 1.1 and .NET 2.0, standalone server, developer machine with Visual Studio 6.0, VS.NET 2003 and 2005 installed.

I'm registering a custom DLL and the resulting keys in HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes\ are assigned permissions different than the container's permissions.

As a container, HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes allows "Everyone – Full Control" – that's the only setting, in addition to "Allow inheritable permissions to propagate to this object"

My class however, after registering my DLL using regsvr32, HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes\myDLL.myClass allows only SYSTEM and the Administrators group "Special Permissions – Full Control"

This prevents an ASP web application to access my DLL – the IUSR_MachineName account is denied access.

Something must have changed recently since this was working fine. I am the only person who has access to that machine. The only changes I've made recently are possibly Windows Update and the addition of Windows Media Services (WMS). I suspect installing WMS tightened the security, but I can't find a security policy regarding the registry. Checked local policies – nothing defined. No domain policy as this is a standalone server.

My question is: What is the mechanism that determines permission levels on registry keys added by running regsvr32 on a DLL?