

Problem with EFS...

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Hi,

I was having a problem with decrypting files using EFS on Windows XP that I was hoping someone may be able to help me with. Specifically, I cannot use a DRA to decrypt them. These are the steps I followed (all on a stand-alone, non networked PC):

1. Created the user account that I wanted to be the DRA (& added them to the Administrators group)
 2. Logged on as that user
 3. Opened up a command prompt, & typed "cipher /r:efscert"
 4. This created the efscert.cer & efscert.pfx files
 5. I logged out of this user, & logged back in as my account (with Admin rights)
 6. I then went into MMC & opened up Certificates (My User Account). I then opened up the Certificates – Current User–Personal–Certificates folder
 7. I then imported the .pfx file that I created for the DRA account
 8. I then went into MMC & opened up Local Computer Policy–Computer Configuration–Windows Settings–Security Settings–Public Key Policies–Encrypting File System
 9. I then added the .cer I created for the DRA account
 10. I exited from MMC & encrypted a plain text file as a test
 11. I logged out of my account, & logged back in as the DRA account
 12. When I tried to open the encrypted file, the message given was "Cannot open the {location & filename} file. Make sure a disk is in the drive you specified" (the file was on the hard drive, not a floppy disk), & when I right clicked on it & tried to remove the tick specifying that it was encrypted, I got "An error occurred applying attributes to the file {location & filename}. Access is denied")
 13. I then logged out of the DRA account & logged back in as myself. I was able to access the text file fine, & to remove the encryption (& I checked the details tab – the DRA account was listed as the "Data Recovery Agents for this file as defined by Recovery Policy")
- Can anyone tell me what I've missed? The strange thing is that before I had to format my drive & reinstall XP from scratch. I had EFS & the

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DRA working fine, & as far as I can remember, I used the exact same steps.

Thanks,

CM