

## Re: WinXP Home – All User Accounts Lost

**Source:**

[http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security\\_admin/2003-09/1851.html](http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2003-09/1851.html)

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**From:** larryu (lurban\_at\_cityrider.com)

**Date:** 09/08/03

Date: Sun, 7 Sep 2003 19:13:03 -0700

Any other place/newsgroup where I can raise this question?

>-----Original Message-----

>No information on the invalid handle error :(

>

>--

>Doug Knox, MS-MVP Windows XP/ Windows Smart Display

>Win 95/98/Me/XP Tweaks and Fixes

><http://www.dougknox.com>

>-----

>Associate Expert

>ExpertZone –

><http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/expertzone>

>-----

>Please reply only to the newsgroup so all may benefit.

>Unsolicited e-mail is not answered.

>

>"larryu" <lurban@cityrider.com> wrote in message

>news:39fa01c375a8\$5fd18cf0\$a001280a@phx.gbl...

>> Doug

>>

>> Thanks for the quick reply.

>>

>> Any guesses on 'handle is invalid'? Seems to me like

some

>> link is broken in the security process.

>>

>> BTW, the linux program was able to see his account and

>> the administrator's account. He reset the

administrator's

>> account to a non-blank value but still gets the error.

>>

>> There must be a better fix than to reload/upgrade the  
OS?

>> If the upgrade to Pro does not help, is a clean install

>> the only other option? I did read about a registry

>> *setting that will show/hide a user account on the*  
Welcome  
>> *Page but I don't know how to change the registry if we*  
>> *can't logon.*  
>>  
>> *Thanks for your help*  
>> *larry*  
>>  
>> >-----Original Message-----  
>> >*The upgrade tends to keep user accounts and settings*  
in  
>> *place. I wouldn't*  
>> >*count on it correcting a password issue, but it might.*  
>> >  
>> >--  
>> >*Doug Knox, MS-MVP Windows XP/ Windows Smart Display*  
>> >*Win 95/98/Me/XP Tweaks and Fixes*  
>> ><http://www.dougknox.com>  
>> >-----  
>> >*Associate Expert*  
>> >*ExpertZone -*  
>> ><http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/expertzone>  
>> >-----  
>> >*Please reply only to the newsgroup so all may benefit.*  
>> >*Unsolicited e-mail is not answered.*  
>> >  
>> >*"larryu" <lurban@cityrider.com> wrote in message*  
>> >*news:40f801c375a4\$13354390\$a401280a@phx.gbl...*  
>> >> *Doug*  
>> >>  
>> >> *He did try to login in safe mode with the admin*  
>> *account,*  
>> >> *and tried from the cd to perform a recovery repair.*  
Did  
>> >> *not work with the blank password. But the blank*  
>> *password*  
>> >> *has worked in the past, but he has not used it*  
>> *recently.*  
>> >>  
>> >> *But, I just talked to him again and he reminded me*  
of  
>> >> *something I forgot in my posting. The error he is*  
>> *getting*  
>> >> *when he puts the user name/password in contains the*  
>> >> *phrase "handle is invalid". He gets that error when*  
he  
>> >> *enters his user account name, as well as the*  
>> >> *administrator account.*  
>> >>  
>> >> *One option we are thinking of is to upgrade him to*  
>> *WinXP*

>> >> *Pro. Hopeful that the upgrade will 'fix' the problem*  
>> *and*  
>> >> *not ask him for the admin password. Any*  
>> *thoughts/comments*  
>> >> *on this plan would be appreciated.*  
>> >>  
>> >> *larry*  
>> >>  
>> >> >-----Original Message-----  
>> >> >*XP Home has never supported the CTRL-ALT-DEL trick*  
at  
>> >> *the Welcome Screen for*  
>> >> >*the Administrator account. For XP Home, you must*  
>> *boot*  
>> >> *the computer into*  
>> >> >*Safe Mode to access this account. By default, XP*  
>> *home*  
>> >> *does not prompt you*  
>> >> >*for an Administrator password at setup, so for*  
>> *Recovery*  
>> >> *Console, try leaving*  
>> >> >*it blank. Also, if he has a full version of XP*  
Home,  
>> >> *the CD is bootable as*  
>> >> >*well, and has its own Recovery Console.*  
>> >> >  
>> >> >--  
>> >> >*Doug Knox, MS-MVP Windows XP/ Windows Smart Display*  
>> >> >*Win 95/98/Me/XP Tweaks and Fixes*  
>> >> ><http://www.dougknox.com>  
>> >> >-----  
>> >> >*Associate Expert*  
>> >> >*ExpertZone -*  
>> >> ><http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/expertzone>  
>> >> >-----  
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benefit.  
>> >> >*Unsolicited e-mail is not answered.*  
>> >> >  
>> >> >*"larryU" <lurban@cityrider.com> wrote in message*  
>> >> >  
>> >>  
>> >> >[news:fe7c0fa8.0309071300.67277bda@posting.google.com...](mailto:news:fe7c0fa8.0309071300.67277bda@posting.google.com...)  
>> >> >> *My son called from college, said that after he*  
>> >> >> *rebooted his WinXp Home*  
>> >> >> *machine there were no User Accounts listed on the*  
>> >> >> *Welcome Page.*  
>> >> >> *Usually he gets his account listed because he*  
has a  
>> >> *password. He tried*  
>> >> >> *to use the Administrator's account by ctl-alt-del*

>> *but*  
>> >> *the blank*  
>> >> >> *password is not working today (it did in the*  
*past).*  
>> >> >>  
>> >> >> *He has tried to do a 'repair' installation from*  
*the*  
>> *CD*  
>> >> *but it wants*  
>> >> >> *the Administrator's account and password as well.*  
>> >> >>  
>> >> >> *He is trying to reboot the machine with a Win2000*  
>> *CD,*  
>> >> *hoping the*  
>> >> >> *recovery console will help him.*  
>> >> >>  
>> >> >> *I have found the links to ERD Commander but am*  
>> *looking*  
>> >> *for a less*  
>> >> >> *expense (\$199) solution. Next on the list is the*  
>> *boot*  
>> >> *disk at*  
>> >> >> *<http://home.eunet.no/~pnordahl/ntpasswd/>.*  
>> >> >>  
>> >> >> *Any other solutions that you can suggest will be*  
>> >> *appreciated. Also,*  
>> >> >> *what do you think has happened to his machine? It*  
>> *is a*  
>> >> *year old Dell,*  
>> >> >> *is this a hard drive problem, a virus/worm, or ?*  
>> >> >>  
>> >> >> *thanks*  
>> >> >> *larry*  
>> >> >  
>> >> >  
>> >> >.  
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>> >  
>> >.  
>> >  
>  
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>.  
>