

## Task Scheduler unreliable in NT/2000/XP

**Source:**

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I have encountered a problem with Windows Task Scheduler at many client sites over the years, where tasks may run flawlessly for days or weeks, then magically – they stop running (listing "Could Not Start" for the task's status). To correct the problem, I simply have to re-enter the task's password – the SAME password that has always been there. The task will then run for several more days/weeks! This has been a problem in Windows NT 4.0(sp6a) SERVERs AND XP Prof workstations. And no surprise, since XP probably uses some of the same underlying code as NT! I have talked with other consultants – and we've all concluded that Microsoft's task scheduler is "unreliable at best". I would love to find out the real cause of the problem and solve this once and for all... More info: generally a single domain exists, YES user account associated with task ALWAYS has/had a password...

SchedLog.txt reports: The attempt to retrieve account information for the specified task failed; therefore, the task did not run. Either an error occurred, or no account information existed for the task. The specific error is: 0x8004130f: No account information could be found in the Task Scheduler security database for the task indicated.

How does Windows lose the "account information"? I can log in as the same user assigned to the task – without a problem!

Thanks to all,

–Mike