

RE: GPO to encrypt offline files greys but doesn't set the client

Source:

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 - *Date:* Mon, 17 Apr 2006 18:33:02 -0700
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That is exactly where I am looking. Without the GPO (greying out the option), I can check and uncheck the box. When checked, if I look at the advanced attributes of a file in a CSC folder, I see the "encrypt" check box checked (in Windows explorer). If I go to a command prompt and type to TYPE a file, I get "access denied". When the control panel option is unchecked, I can see the contents of a file (for my testing, I have but one file so even though the file name under CSC is some random file name in some meaningless subfolder name, I know what the contents should be) and the file properties show that it is NOT encrypted.

When I have the GPO on, the control panel option is grey but not checked and the files under CSC are NOT encrypted.

Thanks.

"Pat Hoffer [MSFT]" wrote:

Offline files are stored and encrypted locally in the %SystemRoot%\CSC (hidden)directory. Is that where you are looking to confirm whether the files are encrypted?

Thanks.

Pat

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"ajfried" wrote:

Clearly the GPO is disabling the user's ability to change the on/off setting. However it DOES NOT seem to be turning on encryption.

The checkbox is greyed out (evidence that the user can no longer change the setting) but it IS NOT CHECKED.

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I have verified that that when it is in this state, the files are NOT encrypted. That is, the GPO IS applied, the check box IS greyed out, the user CANNOT change the setting but the box is NOT checked and the files are NOT encrypted.

Am I missing something?

Thanks.

"Pat Hoffer [MSFT]" wrote:

The GPO is both enforcing encryption and disabling the user's ability to change that enforcement. Leaving the option not checked does not mean that the files are not encrypted. If you configure offline file encryption through group policy, then group policy is controlling the on/off setting—not the Control Panel UI.

More details are under "Using Offline Files" on this page:

<http://www.microsoft.com/technet/prodtechnol/winxpro/reskit/c06621675.msp#EFG>

Thanks.

Pat

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"ajfried" wrote:

In the description for the the GPO called "Encrypt the Offline Files cache" it says "If you enable this setting, all files in the Offline Files cache are encrypted."

When I apply this GPO, the corresponding option on the workstation (Control Panel | Folder Options | Offline files | encrypt offline files to secure data) DOES get greyed out – so that the client cannot change the setting. HOWEVER, the option does NOT get checked. (If it was ALREADY checked it

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remains checked). Having the option NOT checked leaves the offline files UNencrypted.

The intent of the GPO seems to be to enforce encryption, but it seems to merely disable a user's ability to change it.

Am I missing something? I am pretty sure I have verified that my assessment above is accurate.

Thanks.