

detecting when the registry is locked (e.g. limited users with WindowsXP)

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Delphi/borland.public.delphi.nativeapi/2003-12/0210.html>

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Hello-

I have always had my software attempt to create file associations at startup. Using there, a user can simply click on a '*.img' icon and it will load the appropriate software (e.g. my free MRIcro brain viewing software).

However, with WindowsXp, it appears that administrators can severely limit the ability of standard users to access the registry. Instead of simply saying that the system can not generate a new assoication, the application crashes. I know that the code below is the culprit, because if I deactivate this code the program executes normally. Since my software is used in university student labs where all the computers are restricted, is there a way that my software can automatically detect if the current user is an administrator or not? If so, my software could be designed to only update the registry if the user has the appropriate privileges.

Thanks in advance,

-chris

p.s. Here is the offending code, which works on Windows 95+ and is similar to lots of code you can find with Google (a sample call would me "registerfiletype('.img','MRIimg'{key},'MRIimg',Application.ExeName+',1');").

```
procedure registerfiletype(inft,inkey,desc,icon:string);
var myreg : treginfile;
    ct : integer;
    ft,key: string;
begin
    ft := inft;
    key := inkey;
    ct := pos('.',ft);
    while ct > 0 do begin
        delete(ft,ct,1);
        ct := pos('.',ft);
    end;
```

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```
end;
if (ft = "") or (Application.ExeName = "") then exit; //not a valid
file-ext or ass. app
ft := '.'+ft;
myreg := treginfile.create("");
try
  myreg.rootkey := hkey_classes_root; // where all file-types are
described
  if key = "" then key := copy(ft,2,maxint)+'_auto_file'; // if no
key-name is given, create one
  myreg.writestring(ft,"key"); // set a pointer to the
description-key
  myreg.writestring(key,"desc"); // write the description
  myreg.writestring(key+"\DefaultIcon","icon"); // write the
def-icon if given
  //showmessage(key);
  myreg.writestring(key+"\shell\open\command","Application.ExeName+'
%1'); //association
finally
  myreg.free;
end;
end;
```