"Task Manager has been disabled by your administrator" error message

Author: Yuval Sinay MVP

SUMMARY

Article ID   : 555480
Last Review : October 17, 2005
Revision   : 1.0

The following knowledgebase will help you to resolve the error message "Task Manager has been disabled by your administrator" when you try to use "Task Manager"

SYMPTOMS

When you try to open Windows Task Manger, the following error may appear: "Task Manager has been disabled by your administrator".

CAUSE

There following

1. You use account that was blocked via the "Local Group Policy" or "Domain Group Policy".

2. Some registry settings block you from using "Task Manager".

RESOLUTION

1. Verity that the "Local Group Policy" or "Domain Group Policy" doesn't block you from using

   "Task Manager".

   1.1 "Local Group Policy"

   a. Go to "**Start**" -> "**Run**" -> Write "**Gpedit.msc**" and press on "**Enter**" button.

   b. Navigate to "**User Configuration**" -> "**Administrative Templates**" -> "**System**" -> "**Ctrl+Alt+Del Options**"

   c. In the right side of the screen verity that "**Remove Task Manager**"" option set to "**Disable**" or "**Not Configured**".

   d. Close "**Gpedit.msc**" MMC.

   e. Go to "**Start**" -> "**Run**" -> Write "**gpupdate /force**" and press on "**Enter**" button.

   Note: If you are using Windows 2000, please follow KB q227302 instead stage "e".

      Using SECEDIT to Force a Group Policy Refresh Immediately
      http://support.microsoft.com/kb/q227302/

   1.2 "Domain Group Policy"

   a. Contact you local IT support team.

2. Verity correct registry settings::

    a. Go to "**Start**" -> "**Run**" -> Write "**regedit**" and press on "**Enter**" button.

Warning: Modifying your registry can cause serious problems that may require you to reinstall your operating system.
        Always backup your files before doing this registry hack.

   b. Navigate to the following registry keys and verity that following settings set to default:

Windows Registry Editor Version 5.00

[HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\System]
"DisableTaskMgr"=dword:00000000

[HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Group Policy Objects\LocalUser\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\System]
"DisableTaskMgr"=dword:00000000

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\policies\system\]
"DisableTaskMgr"=dword:00000000

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon]
"DisableCAD"=dword:00000000

   c. Reboot the computer.

MORE INFORMATION

http://www.microsoft.com/security

APPLIES TO

- Microsoft Windows XP Professional
- Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition
- Microsoft Windows XP Tablet PC Edition
- Microsoft Windows 2000 Enterprise Edition
- Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional Edition
- Microsoft Windows 2000 Standard Edition
- Microsoft Small Business Server 2000 Standard Edition
- Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 Standard Edition
- Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 Premium Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Enterprise Edition for Itanium-based Systems
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Datacenter Edition (32-bit x86)
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Enterprise Edition (32-bit x86)
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Web Edition
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Standard Edition (32-bit x86)

Keywords: kbpubtypecca kbpubmvp kbhowto KB555480

INFORMATION AND RELATED GRAPHICS, INCLUDING ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES AND CONDITIONS OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, WORKMANLIKE EFFORT, TITLE AND NON-INFRINGEMENT. YOU SPECIFICALLY AGREE THAT IN NO EVENT SHALL MICROSOFT AND/OR ITS SUPPLIERS BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, PUNITIVE, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OR ANY DAMAGES WHATSOEVER INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, DAMAGES FOR LOSS OF USE, DATA OR PROFITS, ARISING OUT OF OR IN ANY WAY CONNECTED WITH THE USE OF OR INABILITY TO USE THE INFORMATION AND RELATED GRAPHICS CONTAINED HEREIN, WHETHER BASED ON CONTRACT, TORT, NEGLIGENCE, STRICT LIABILITY OR OTHERWISE, EVEN IF MICROSOFT OR ANY OF ITS SUPPLIERS HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF DAMAGES.