

# Letters to the Editor

## A Bug's Life

Accurate though you usually are, you fell for an old one (as have many others) with the story about Rear Admiral Grace Hopper and the first bug. (See the "Did You Know?" section in "Novell's New Open-Door Policy," *NetWare Connection*, May 2000, pp. 20-32.) Admiral Hopper did not coin the term *bug* after finding a moth in a computer. In fact, in 1946, *bug* was already in use for a computer or program fault. The episode with the moth that caused problems in the computer's circuits was funny precisely because, for once, an actual bug had caused the problem. This fact is documented at <http://www.whatis.com/bug.htm>.

Andrew Taubman

*You're correct. I fell for the charming story of Admiral Hopper and the first computer bug hook, line, and sinker. Please accept my apology. Interested readers can find a history that dates the term bug—in the sense of a disruptive event—to Shakespearean times at <http://www.tuxedo.org/~esr/jargon/html/entry/bug.html>. Cheryl Walton, author*

*Editor's Note: Andrew Taubman was not the only reader who caught our error. Rick O'Grady at Edison Electric Institute also called to tell us about the problem. In fact, Jacqueline Johnson, the research librarian at Edison, traced the use of bug to mean an unwanted event back to Thomas Edison. Thanks for the research help!*

## A Tip for Network Administrators

Please share the following registry hack, which I find especially useful, with other network administrators: If you have many users logging in to the same Windows NT workstation, or an NT server for that matter, that is running the Novell Client for Windows NT, you know that every time a new user logs in, he or she must replace the previous user's login name with his or her own on both the Novell tab and on the NT tab. One way around this problem is to simply remove the default login names and stop the "save on exit" that occurs when you log out. To remove the default login name, you simply make the following NT registry changes:

1. Set the Save On Exit value to zero (hex), and set the UserName value to null. You can find these fields in the HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\software\novell\locationprofiles\services\hexcode (with folder underneath)\default directory.
2. Set the DefaultUserName value to null. You can find this field in the HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\software\novell\locationprofiles\services\hexcode(with folder underneath)\default\Tab3 directory.
3. Reboot the computer.

Then when a user logs in, all he or she needs to do is type his or her username and password once, and the username and password will both be passed to Windows NT regardless of who has previously logged in. This hack is especially useful when applied to a Windows NT terminal server.

Wayne R. Iskra

*This tip works, but it only configures the Novell half of the solution. You must also configure the Windows NT logon settings to not display the last username:*

*If you are running Windows NT 4.0, you must change the string value of DontDisplayLastUserName in the HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\software\Microsoft\WindowsNT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon directory to "1." This registry value may not, however, be present by default. If it is not present, you must add it by selecting the key (the folder icon HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\software\Microsoft\WindowsNT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon) and then selecting Edit, New, String Value from the main Regedit dropdown menu. Next, enter "DontDisplayLastUserName" to name the value. Finally, double-click the new value and enter "1" in the Value Data field. (String values are also referred to as type REG\_SZ.)*

*If you are running Windows 2000, you must open the Control Panel and double-click Administrative Tools. From the Administrative Tools window, double-click the Local Security Policy icon to launch the Local Security Settings utility. Then select Security Settings, Local Policies, Security Options from the tree in the left-hand pane. In the right-hand pane, double-click "Do not display last name in logon screen" and choose to enable.*

Daniel Newell, Niche Associates

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