



Tech Info Library

A/UX: Hiding CommandShell

Revised: 6/11/92
Security: Everyone

A/UX: Hiding CommandShell

=====
Article Created: 9 March 1992
Article Last Reviewed:
Article Last Updated:

TOPIC -----

We need to transparently prevent the CommandShell from launching when certain users (anyone except root) log in to the system.

To do this, we tried setting CommandShell privilege to "700" with the chmod command, so only root has execute privileges. This seems to work fine for logging in, but when logging out, a white screen displays a text message that says the mac32 process is unable to execute CommandShell, and press the return key to exit to the login prompt.

We need to find a cleaner way to do this. Is the mac32 binary actually looking to close CommandShell, or is there some buried configuration shell script or file that we can alter to make this operation smoother for our future non-technical A/UX users?

DISCUSSION -----

The screen became white when the user logged out because the "screenrestore" wasn't executed in the "/mac/bin/mac32" script file, due to the missing logfiles that the CommandShell program should have created.

Changing the "CommandShell" privilege to "700" isn't a good idea. Here's a better way:

- 1) Login as the "root" superuser.
- 2) Make a copy of /mac/bin/mac32 a temporary file, for example:

```
cp /mac/bin/mac32 /tmp/.mac32
```

..TIL10014-A-UX-Hiding_CommandShell.pdf

- 3) Edit the /tmp/.mac32 file, then comment or remove the line that executes the CommandShell. The line should look like this or be removed from the .mac32 file:

```
# /mac/bin/CommandShell -u > $CSLOGFILE 2>&1 &
```

- 4) Change the permission of the /tmp/.mac32 file into read-execute only:

```
chmod 500 /tmp/.mac32
```

- 5) Copy /tmp/.mac32 onto the home directory of the user who doesn't want to execute CommandShell. For example, jim:

```
cp /tmp/.mac32 /users/jim
chown jim /users/jim/.mac32
chmod 500 /users/jim/.mac32
```

The .mac32 file in the user's home directory can override the global /mac/bin/mac32 shell script.

Note that if you remove the .mac32 from the user's home directory, the global /mac/bin/mac32 script executes.

Copyright 1992 Apple Computer, Inc.

Tech Info Library Article Number:10014