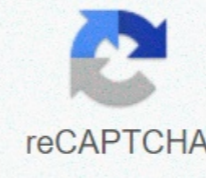




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You may be a victim of software counterfeiting

The message You may be a victim of software forgery is a Windows Server authentication error that occurs if a Windows license is marked as untamed. In Windows 7, this can also happen because of a missing registry key or because of a lack of permissions associated with the network service account. If you are struggling with this particular problem, the first thing you need to do is make sure that your Windows installation is not counterfeited. If you purchased a used computer with an already enabled Windows version, check it to find the activation key. If it's a laptop, you'll probably find the product key on the glued somewhere at the bottom. On desktops, it's usually placed somewhere on the chassis. Even if you have a valid license key, make sure it is not used on more than one computer. Unless you purchased a Windows license for a family package (which allows 3 simultaneous installations), you can use only a single license key on one computer. If Windows Activation Server manages two, it identifies that a license key is installed on more computers than it should, marking the most recent installation as unread. How to reactivate your Windows 7 license if you're sure you own a legitimate Windows license, try re-entering your product key or even try other ways to reactivate Windows. Let's start by going to the Windows Activation screen. To do this, open the Run window (Windows key + R), type slui.exe and press Enter. When you're on the Windows Activation menu, click Retype the product key and re-enter it. If this does not resolve the issue, return to the Windows Activation screen and click Enable Windows online now. Then follow the on-screen instructions to see if you can reactivate your license. If the online activation method fails, click See other ways to enable and follow the on-screen instructions to get in touch with a Microsoft Answer technology. As long as your product key checks out, he is required to solve your problem — either by activating your Windows with the current product key or by giving you another. Important: If you cannot access the windows activation screen and perform the steps above, your computer may be missing some registry keys that prevent you from accessing the activation screen. There are two possible fixes that could fix this issue and allow you to reactivate Windows with your product key. However, before you go through with them, you must perform the checks listed below to find out if they apply to your situation. There is a way to determine whether the two fixes below will be effective. To do this, open the Run window (Windows key + R), type slui.exe and press Enter. If you are able to enter the Windows activation menu, there is no point in trying the fixes below as they will not be. However, if you receive a 0x80070005 Access error message denied, you are encouraged to review the two fixes below because the problem is likely due to a missing registry key or permission problem. Method 1: Disable plug and play Group Policy This Windows activation error is often caused by a registry key called HKUIS-1-5-20. For the validation process to occur, the network service account must have full control and read permissions over the previously specified key. As pointed out by some users encountering this particular problem, this problem is often the result of applying the Plug and Play Group Policy object (GPO) on a Windows machine. Because the license service uses Plug and Play to retrieve hardware information, this setting can confuse the activation service into thinking that an enabled service is out of tolerance. Follow the instructions to disable the Plug and Play policy to see if it is responsible for the error. You may be a victim of software counterfeiting. Press the Windows key + R to open a runtime window. Type rsop.msc and press Enter to open the Crucial policy set. In the Policy Setting window, go to the following location: Computer Configuration >> Policies >> Windows >> i >> System Services. Then scroll through the left pane and find Plug and Play. If the startup and permission values associated with Plug and Play are different than not defined, continue with the steps below. Note: If you see the two values specified as Undefined, go directly to Method 2. Right-click Plug and Play, select Properties, then change group policy for start and permission to Not Defined. Close the Policy Setting Window and restart your computer. When your system starts up again, see if you are able to activate your Windows. If you still get the same 0x80070005 Access is denied, go down to Method 2. Method 2: Change network service permissions If the Plug and Play service was not responsible for your issue, check to see if the problem is caused by a failure to allow the registry key. This may turn out to be what causes your computer to be out of tolerance. Follow the step-by-step instructions below add the necessary network service permissions through Registry Editor: Press the Windows key + R to open a runtime window. Type regedit and press Enter to open Registry Editor. In Registry Editor, navigate HKey_Users, right-click S-1-5-10, and select Permissions. On the Permissions screen for S-1-5-20, see if network service is in the Group or User Names column. Note: If you see a network service entry, go to step 5. Click the Add button and wait for the Select Users or Groups window to appear. Then, under Set to select it, and click select names. Finally, click the OK button and create the permission. Once you have managed to identify (or create) the network service permission, click it once to select it. Then check the Allow for Full Control and Reading boxes. Finally, click Apply to save your changes. After the necessary permissions are granted, restart your computer and try activating Windows again. You should be able to handle it this time. Sysprep before you made the picture? I've never processed the new 8 OEM keys, but they are stored on the motherboard somewhere. Won't try to pick it up if it wasn't sysprep'd you. Not sure about the process of capturing OEM images as we use VL media here. You can also look at MDT 2012 to take and install your photos. According to this you need at least one VL license and VL media to get reimagining rights to Windows 8: try to run a microsoft genuine benefit verification tool In order to be able to use image processing you not only need volume licenses, but you need software security, this may be where you get caught in the system. Try the sysprep route first and see if it helps. Hopefully you haven't fully deployed all these systems and have some time to muck around with them. MBrownPEG wrote: To use imaging you not only need volume licenses, but you need software security, this may be where you get caught in the system. You do not need software protection to re-release using the same operating system as the OEM operating system. Now you do if you install an Enterprise version or a newer version of the operating system. Its lenovo, I just had this problem with a lot of machines we bought. This may be a gray answer, but it works... We called Lenovo, went over all the details, and their solution was to wipe it and start over. Well, we wiped one and re-installed with their \$30.00 disk, again, we got the same message it's fake. So what have I done? I used a key from the last batch of lenovo workstations we got. It worked well and the message hasn't resurfaced. (without re-imaging or installing - I just plugged in the new key in the activation wizard) Only after looking at all the keys from the last batch of machines, I realized that they all had the same key, from the factory. So it looks like they sold us a volume license key. Now, maybe the right way to go from here is to mention it to Microsoft and get them to investigate lenovo.? (if they really want to). Sidenote: I like Lenovo, but issues like this could be handled a little better than wiping it and starting over, I mean, if they plotted the machines properly before we would not have had this problem. I would send them all back and have them re-image them, but you know, time is money, money, we really need these machines ASAP. Ali Javaid wrote: ... Edit: Message box says I won't be able to update until the key is validated and genuine, but I can install updates without any problems. I think there's a 30-day grace period. After which, it will start limiting things like updates. Windows 8 pro is on bios now, not Windows 7. All Windows 7 is, is a downgrade and Lenovo should have used their volume license for it. In fact, if you were to find the product key for a Windows 7 machine and compared it to the license number listed inside the OS they would most likely be different. Think about it all they do is picture their machine, they don't have someone turn on the computer, loading into windows, entering the product key that is unique. It should allow you to activate online and allow you to enter a new product key. For Windows 7 pro license, you should be able to use a 7 pro key that is no longer used by a system on its own for downgrade. You'll have to call it in on windows after going even into the license, but that's what we had to do with XP license and Windows 7. We were told this per Microsoft support. cdulf wrote: Did you sysprep before you made the picture? I've never processed the new 8 OEM keys, but they are stored on the motherboard somewhere. Won't try to pick it up if it wasn't sysprep'd you. Not sure about the process of capturing OEM images as we use VL media here. You can also look at MDT 2012 to take and install your photos. No, I didn't sysprep. I made this image by going to the control panel and creating the image in backup and restore options. At the end of the backup it asked me to do a recovery disk for recovery. As I used to install pictures on the computer. cdulf wrote: According to this you need at least one VL license and VL media to have reimagining rights to Windows 8: Does this apply to Win 7 too? Galen in Laguna wrote: try to run a microsoft genuine benefit verification tool Tool fails and says the process was interrupted. Try again later! Moore wrote: Its lenovo, I just had this problem with a lot of machines we bought. This may be a gray answer, but it works... We called Lenovo, went over all the details, and their solution was to wipe it and start over. Well, we wiped one and re-installed with their \$30.00 disk, again, we got the same message it's fake. So what have I done? I used a key from the last batch of lenovo workstations we got. It worked well and the message hasn't resurfaced. (without re-imaging or installing - I just plugged in the new key in the activation wizard) Only after looking at all the keys from the last batch of machines, I realized that they all had the same key, from the factory. So it looks like they sold us a volume license key. Now, maybe the right way to go from here is to mention it to Microsoft and get them to investigate lenovo.? (if they really want to). Sidenote: I like Lenovo, but issues like this could be handled a little better than wipe it and start over, I mean, if they plotted the machines properly before shipping, we wouldn't have had this problem. I really wanted to send them all back and make them re-image them, but you know, time is money and we really need these machines ASAP. At no point was I asked for a product key, even when I recover from Recovery Drive. cdulf wrote: Ali Javaid wrote: ... Edit: Message box says I won't be able to update until the key is validated and genuine, but I can install updates without any problems. I think there's a 30-day grace period. After which, it will start limiting things like updates. It's already been three months. I saw this message pop up on one of the computer while I was walking past and the user said they just ignore this message... all 20 of them ... Always SYSPREP when imaging! Ali Javaid wrote: According to this you need at least one VL license and VL media to have reimagining rights to Windows 8: Does this apply to Win 7 too? Galen in Laguna wrote: This also applies to Windows 7 too, but you are exercising your downgrade rights to use Windows 7 anyway. Ali Javaid wrote: ... Edit: Message box says I won't be able to update until the key is validated and genuine, but I can install updates without any problems. I think there's a 30-day grace period. After which, it will start limiting things like updates. It's already been three months. I saw this message pop up on one of the computer while I was walking past and the user said they just ignore this message... all 20 of them ... Made me stumble on that one, then. In any case, this is an unsupported method, and apparently against the license agreement. So I would suggest that you buy a license for Windows 8/7 Pro and reimage from VL media. You will not be prompted to enter a key. You have to bring up the activation wizard, which will lead you through the process. Press Win-key and enter enable to find the Activation Wizard. cdulf wrote: Ali Javaid wrote: According to this you need at least one VL license and VL media to have reimagining rights to Windows 8: Does this apply to Win 7 too? Galen in Laguna wrote: This also applies to Windows 7 too, but you are exercising your downgrade rights to use Windows 7 anyway. Ali Javaid wrote: ... Edit: Message box that I won't be able to update until the key is validated and genuine, but I can install updates without any problems. I think there's a one deadline. After which, it will start limiting things like updates. It's already been three months. I saw this message pop up on one of the computer while I was walking past and the user said they just ignore this message... all 20 of them ... Made me stumble on that one, then. In any case, this is an unsupported method, and apparently against the license agreement. So I would suggest that you buy a license for Windows 8/7 Pro and reimage from VL media. Ah! It's going to be a headache. Would I still have to buy a license if I use Windows Deployment Services or make a custom image then install it via server? Yep, as I understand it, you have to image from VL media that you get (legally) by having at least one appropriate license. Well then it will be re-imaging week for me. Thank you for your help! What software do you make the picture from. I don't think this VL thing is correct at all unless it was the Enterprise edition. If I have ghost and I have 10 lenovo's same specs and model, I can take a clean it up to my business specifications and image it on a hard drive with say Ghost or Acronis and picture the other 9 with what I just made. Now if these are all Windows 8 pro machines and you use downgrade rights to go to Windows 7 pro there should be no problems the reasons are: 1. Let you say that you did not downgrade and you ran windows 7 with Windows 7 license at the bottom, you can use a software as prokey and compare the license that is active on the image of Windows 7 to the number on the bottom and it will not match. This means that you should be able to image all day long and hardware matches what the image recognized, Windows will not know which computer is which computer 2. If you have 10 windows 8 pro computers delivered to you and you are tasked with downgrading to Windows 7 pro you do not need VL you need a window 7 pro key, that is no longer used by an active computer, which means that the sticker is for a desktop or laptop that is not functional, then you can put that a key on all 10 laptops with the sole purpose of downgrading, again, if this is all on the same does and model of computer it will not know the difference when it is activated. I have run into the situation after so many activations online it tells me I have to call the number to check the process. I've never ever had a problem where I couldn't get a downgraded computer to activate. Our company was told this by our Microsoft rep that this is the process of manual downgrade. 3. The only variable that I'm not sure is Windows 8 and how it works considering it's built into hardware not a sticker, but it's not where you're stuck on. Like I said 7 is not. 4. Finally it's really stupid, but make sure the time is right on the computers this causes the same problem, I feded the statement of downgrade downgrade you can read more in the link PER microsoft, VL is only necessary for VL not as a requirement to downgrade. MMGZ9DruDBS To downgrade Microsoft Windows 8 or Windows 7 software, customers must: Purchase a PC that is preinstalled with Windows software. Accept the license terms for the end-user software. Perform the downgrade or allow a third party to perform it on their behalf. Behalf.

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