Multi-State Advanced Manufacturing Consortium

US DOL SPONSORED TAACCCT GRANT: TC23767

PRIMARY DEVELOPER: Reggie Fluker – Henry Ford College

RELEASE DATE 12/21/2015

VERSION v 001

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Digital Literacy I: Fundamentals

Unit 6 Computer Maintenance and Security

LAB 2 User Account Security (Instructor)

Explanation

In this lab, students will demonstrate an understanding of user account security by devising a strong password, creating, modifying, and deleting user accounts as well as adjusting User Account Control.

The lab Procedure instructs students to devise a password and test its strength using Microsoft's password checker at https://www.microsoft.com/security/pc-security/password-checker.aspx. The student should be allowed to devise several passwords on paper then choose one of the passwords to test and assess their score; only one attempt is allowed.

Prompts

1. Do you prefer to use a local account or Microsoft account for your notebook-pc? Explain why.

2. How do you currently keep track or remember various account passwords?

3. What can you do to improve your current practices for protecting your passwords and accounts?

4. List one advantage of creating a Microsoft account instead of a local account

    a. Use the same login on any PC

    b. Synchronize settings to any computer

    c. Access files on any PC (via OneDrive)

5. List one disadvantage of creating a Microsoft account instead of a local account

    a. Need Internet connection to change password

    b. Increases potential for privacy invasion

    c. Cannot utilize PC without a password

    d. Cannot reset the password locally

6. Which account type is the best safeguard against malware? Explain why.

    a. A standard account because malware can act on behalf of the user. Since a standard account has fewer privileges and less access to system settings versus an administrator, the effects of the malware are limited

7. As a security measure, a PC should have no administrator accounts (TRUE or FALSE). Explain why.

    a. FALSE. The PC must have at least one administrator account to change system settings, create users, and perform other actions that require administrator privileges

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Assessment Rubric

CRITERIA	FAIL 0	POOR 1	FAIR 2	GOOD 3	Score
Strong Password	Password is "Weak"	Password is "Medium"	Password is "Strong"	Password is "Very Strong"	
User Account Control	Unaware that UAC settings should be adjusted	Is aware of UAC, but unable to launch the settings window	Access UAC settings, but doesn't know which setting to select	Access UAC and configures settings to the appropriate level	
Managing User Accounts	Unable to create a local user account	Creates a new account but unable to switch and login to the account	Creates and switches to a new user account, and changes the account type	Creates and switches accounts, changes account type, and deletes user account	

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