

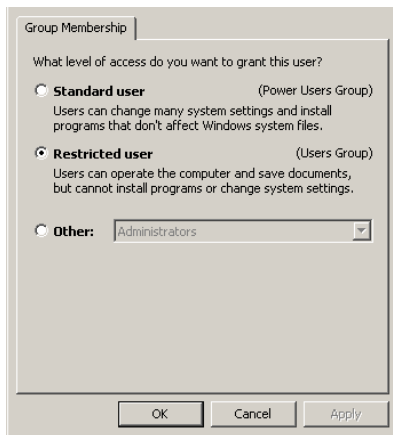
# Deploying Autodesk Inventor in Multi-user PC Environments

IT installation and usage policies differ greatly for multi-user PC environments. To assist in the installation and deployment of Autodesk Inventor® software, this paper addresses installation issues that may arise in such environments.

## Installation/Usage Requirements

The following access rights are needed:

- **Local Administrator** rights are required for the installation of Autodesk Inventor.
- **Restricted User** (normal local user) rights are sufficient for Autodesk Inventor users.



Although other access rights may work, this is the only environment that is officially supported by Autodesk.

**Note:** The exceptions are AutoCAD® Mechanical and Autodesk® Mechanical Desktop® software, which require power user rights to run correctly. Without power user rights, the standard parts libraries in these applications are not populated. However, there is a workaround if you need to run with normal user rights: Change write permissions to the AutoCAD Mechanical/Mechanical Desktop installation directory.

## Domain User Access

If the standard local restricted user access rights requirements listed previously are not suitable for your institution, many domain user configurations are also acceptable. To test Autodesk Inventor under domain user configurations, go through the following steps.

## DEPLOYING AUTODESK INVENTOR IN MULTIUSER PC ENVIRONMENTS

1. Install Autodesk Inventor as a **Local Administrator**.
2. Run Autodesk Inventor as a **Restricted User**. Verify that everything is working properly.
3. Run Autodesk Inventor as a **Domain User**. Verify that everything is working properly. If you encounter a problem, compare the access rights between the **Domain User** and the **Restricted User**. If certain domain user restrictions are necessary, apply them successively to the Domain User account. Always verify whether Autodesk Inventor runs correctly after each setting is applied.

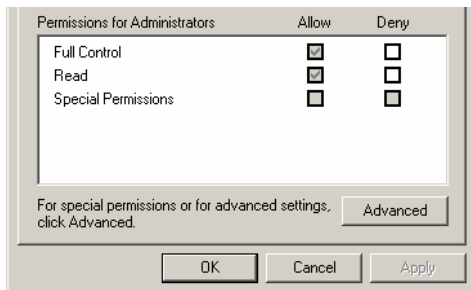
## Group Policies

Because the number of possible Group Policy settings is unlimited, Autodesk does not support any applied Group Policies. The process outlined in the preceding section can be applied to resolve problems with Group Policies.

## Default Installation/Access Rights

Shared files (normally under *C:\Program Files\Common Files*) must be placed on the drive where the operating system is installed (traditionally the C: drive). The user cannot change this location during installation.

The user needs to have write access (Full Control) to the registry key at *HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Software\Autodesk*.



The user needs access to the Autodesk Inventor installation directories (*n* is the version of Autodesk Inventor), as follows:

- ../Autodesk/Autodesk Inventor *n*
- ../Autodesk/Autodesk Inventor Professional *n*
- ../Microsoft SQL Server

**Note:** If you are using SafeCast® licensing, write access is required during installation and license authorization. Read access is needed every time Autodesk Inventor starts.

## Deployment (Multi-PC Installation) Methods

The only deployment that Autodesk supports is deployment from an image created with the Deployment wizard. Scripted installation is common but is not officially supported.

## Roaming Profiles

Many network environments use roaming profiles. With roaming profiles enabled, the user settings (and, in most cases, all created files) are copied back to a central server location upon logout and then downloaded when the user logs in the next time. The user's files and settings are thereby available to the user on any PC. In these situations the default *temp* directory (commonly *C:\Temp*) is sometimes included in the user's roaming profile on a remote server. This configuration is generally not recommended. It can cause severe performance degradation in Autodesk Inventor. If, however, the *temp* directory is kept in a location different from that of the local machine, the following factors apply:

- Autodesk Inventor will not start if space allotted for the *temp* directory is less than 256 MB.
- The Autodesk Inventor undo file is kept in the temp directory and reaches a maximum size of 1 GB. Autodesk Inventor will give an error message and the user will not be able to continue if the undo file cannot grow up to 1 GB.
- With the sum of the Autodesk Inventor undo file, Autodesk Inventor data, and files from other applications, the temp directory can easily exceed 3 GB.

## Parallel Installations

Different versions of Autodesk Inventor software can be installed in parallel. If you start Autodesk Inventor® 9, close it, and then start Autodesk Inventor® 10, the operating system registers the correct version. For this process, the user needs to have local administrator rights. This setting is necessary to allow the operating system to correctly map additional software components.

Because many network environments do not allow the user to have local administrator rights, the easiest solution is to have only one version of Autodesk Inventor installed on a system at any one time. Use concurrent installations of two Autodesk Inventor versions when evaluating a new version of the software or migrating data. Parallel installations should not be considered a suitable candidate for roaming profiles.

## Further Support

For more information, contact your Autodesk Authorized Reseller.

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