
Remote font installation procedure

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Revision History

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This step by step procedure installs remotely a set of font on remote computers when they connect the network.

It is based on [this thread](#)¹. I have tested the procedure with Windows 8.1²

1. Create a *Fonts* folder in a shared directory that all of our machines have read access to. Drop all the fonts in that folder.
2. Download the `FontReg.exe` utility <http://code.kliu.org/misc/fontreg/>. Extract the 64-bit binary. Check the hashsum for integrity and do a virus check.
3. Create another folder next to the above *Fonts* folder and name it *FontReg*. Drop the `FontReg.exe` executable in there.
4. Add a line to our startup script to `xcopy` the fonts:

```
.....  
xcopy /D \\ServerName\ShareName\Fonts\*. * c:\Windows\Fonts  
.....
```

The `/D` will cause it to only copy files that don't already exist in `c:\Windows\Fonts` to avoid wasting time re-copying them after each reboot.

5. Add another line to our startup script to execute `FontReg.exe` with no command line switches:

```
.....  
\\ServerName\ShareName\FontReg\FontReg.exe  
.....
```

Executing `FontReg.exe` without any switches will properly register all font files present in the windows fonts directory with the Windows-registry and make them available in any application.³

¹ <https://community.spiceworks.com/topic/416412-how-to-install-fonts-remotely>

² It works with any windows version supported by `FontReg.exe`.

³ There is a `/copy` switch available for `FontReg.exe` which could have reduced this to one line and eliminated the need for the `xcopy` but I had some issues using that switch in a script that lived on a share since I couldn't change the working directory to a UNC path. The `/copy` switch grabs any valid font

6. Instruct the users to reboot their PC.

files from the current working directory and therefore wouldn't copy the desired files. It also had no switch similar to the `/D` xcopy switch so it wouldn't have been quite as efficient.