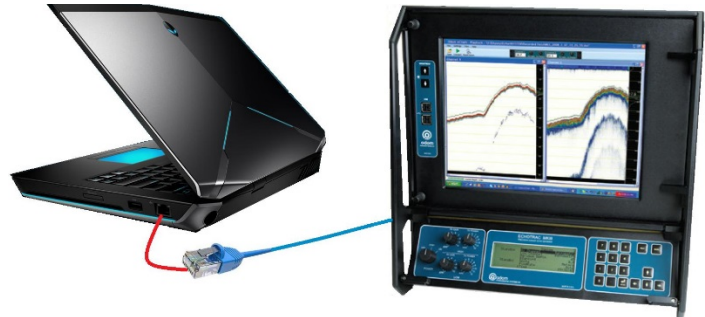




Getting around Windows® Firewall, when you don't have Administrator Rights

By Joe Burnett

As more and more of the equipment being used for hydrographic surveying is going to Ethernet (Network RJ45) connections, we find that your hydrographic survey computer, typically a laptop, has been 'managed' or 'protected', in some fashion, by your company IT department. This is all well-and-good, if the computer is going to be



connected to your company Intranet system and, if some type of virus were to get on the computer, could possibly infect the system. However, this is your hydrographic survey computer, and its sole purpose should *only* be to collect and, possibly, process your collected data. It should not be used to connect to your company's Intranet system, read emails, or surf the Web. It happens, more often than naught, that it is used in both capacities, hence the IT department protection. Often, this protection includes the Windows® Firewall, which cannot be disabled by anyone without administrative rights on the computer.

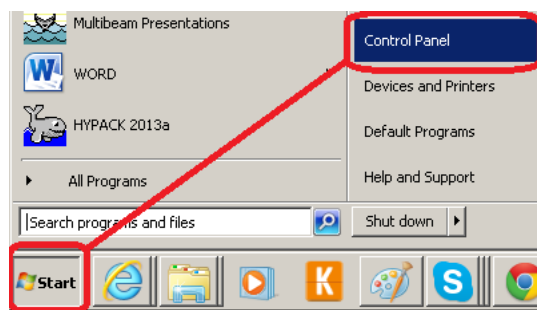
This, in turn, causes Network-connected survey devices to be blocked from allowing the data to come into the SURVEY program for collection.

Recently, an IT department person showed me a workaround for this issue. Please read the following instructions for this workaround and pay close attention to the last statement of this article.

NOTE: This may or may not work, and is dependent upon the level of protection that your IT department has put on your computer.

1. Click on the **Start** button and select the **Control Panel**.

FIGURE 1. Opening the Windows® Control Panel



2. Open the **Administrative Tools**.

FIGURE 2. Opening the Administrative Tools

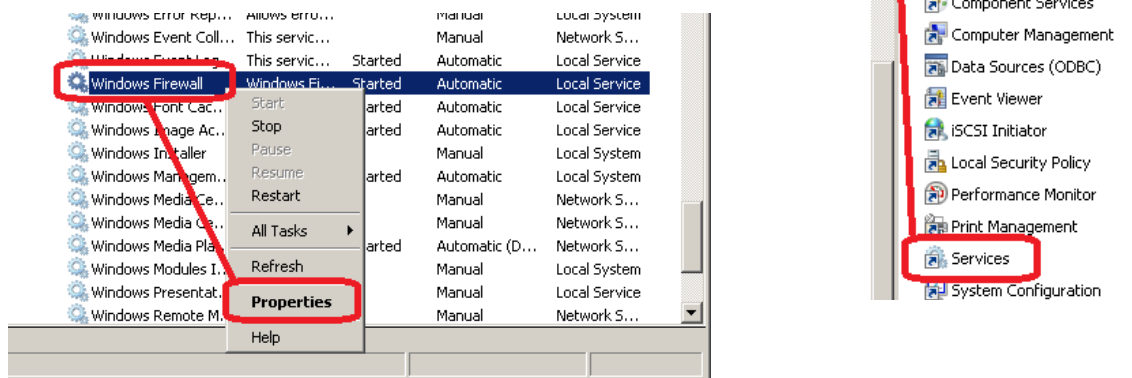


3. Double-click the **Services** Tool.

FIGURE 3. Opening the Services Tool

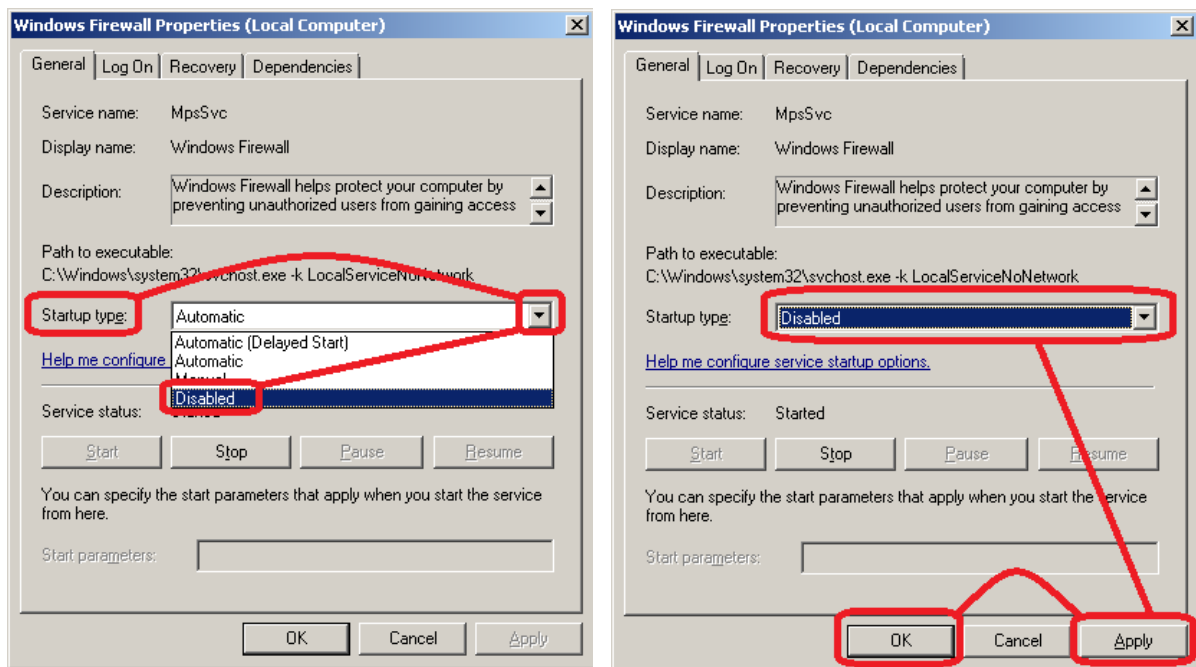
4. Scroll down to where you can see **Windows Firewall**.
5. Right-click on **Windows Firewall** and select **Properties**.

FIGURE 4. Opening the Firewall Properties



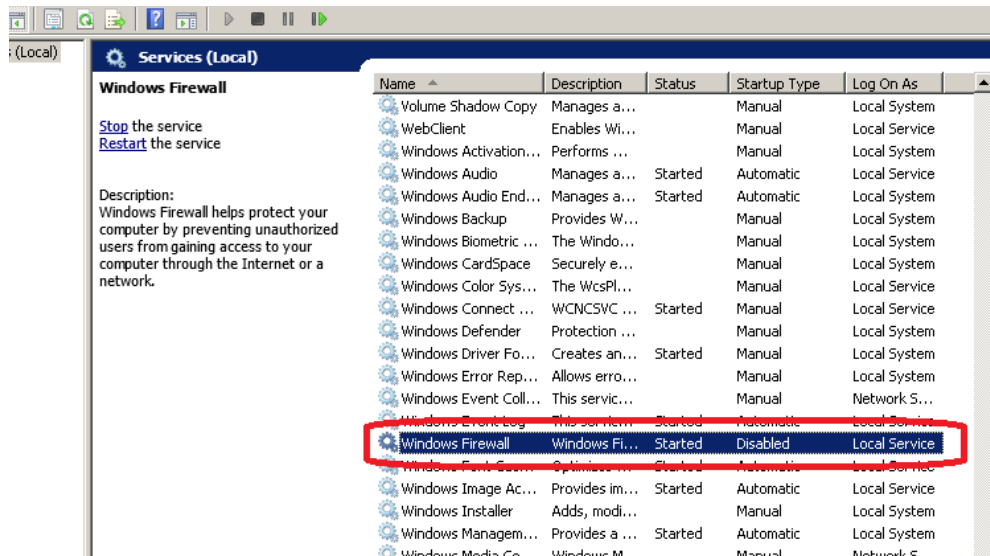
6. Click the down arrow for the **Startup type:** and select **Disabled**.
7. Click [**Apply**], then [**OK**].

FIGURE 5. Disabling the Firewall Startup



8. Verify that the **Startup Type** is **Disabled**.

FIGURE 6. The Firewall is Listed as Disabled



9. **Reboot the computer.**

Beware!

BEWARE!! The Windows® Firewall is now disabled and will remain disabled until you re-do the above steps to reset the startup type back to Automatic and reboot the computer.