

SCADAGURAD ALARM DIALER - Security Issues in Windows 7

Foreword

Some of this discussion involves or applies to Windows Vista, but since we do not recommend Vista we will not make any statements applying regarding it.

Run In Admin Mode - VERY IMPORTANT

Because we cannot guarantee that Windows will allow all normal activities relating to the successful operation of the ScadaGuard Dialer, such as hardware access and unaltered file access, our software must be run in administrator (highest privilege) mode.

First, make sure the program compatibility privilege level checkbox is set to "Run this program as an administrator":

Right-click the ScadaGuard Dialer shortcut icon on the desktop, select the "Compatibility" tab, click the button "Change settings for all users", then click the checkbox "Run this program as an administrator". Repeat for any/all other ScadaGuard program shortcuts.

Choices For Launching The Program In Admin Mode

The program must be allowed to run with the administrator privileges. There are 3 ways to accomplish this:

For manual operation :

I) When the program is launched, a prompt asking "*Do you want to allow the following program to make changes to this computer?*" will show. You can select "Change when these notifications appear", then move the slider to "Never notify". This is the easiest, but will increase risks to you computer from unwanted programs or viruses. **(not recommended)**

*** OR ***

II) When the program is launched, a prompt asking "*Do you want to allow the following program to make changes to this computer?*" will show. Just select "Yes", and the dialer will run; however, you will need to click "Yes" each time the program is launched, even if it is launched from the startup folder. In other words, if you are not in front of the computer at startup, such as after power failure or the like, it will not run.

*** OR ***

III) In order to prevent the security warning each time a program runs, the task scheduler must be used.

For automatic operation or manual without prompts - Short Procedure Using Task Importer and templates:

If you are familiar with the MS Task Scheduler, an .xml template is included in this distribution to make it easier automate starting of the dialer. The file is dialer.xml. In addition, a sample shortcut is provided.

If you made any changes to the installer defaults when installing, you will need to adjust these templates accordingly. Likewise, you will need to select files marked as 64 bit versions if applicable.

- 1.) Start Task Scheduler.
- 2.) Select "Action", then "Import Task", and select the included file "Dialer Task.xml"
- 3.) Under the "General" tab, enter the admin user account to use. You will be prompted for the corresponding password. Select *OK*.
- 4.) There is a pre-created task shortcut that you may copy to the desktop and use it. Again, you may need to make minor modifications to match your installation.

*** OR ***

For automatic operation or manual without prompts - Full Setup Procedure:

- 1.) From the desktop, click the *Start* icon, then in the search box, start typing "task scheduler", when you see the application under the programs heading, select it.
- 2.) Under "Action", select "Create Task"
- 3.) Select the "General" tab, Give your task a name, such as "Dialer Task", tick "Run whether logged on or not", tick "**Run with highest priveleges**". then select configure for: "server 2003, XP, 2000".
- 4.) Under the "Actions" tab, click "New...", for "Action" select "Start a program". Browse to the directory where the dialer executable is stored ie, "C:\Program Files (x86)\ScadaGuard\Dialer\Dialer.exe". Under "Start in", copy the string from the box you just entered, without the "dialer.exe" part and **without quotes**.
- 4a.) If you want the dialer to start when the computer starts, go to "Triggers", click the "New" button, from the "Begin the task" selector, pick "At startup" and click the "OK" button.
- 4b.) (optional) Configure the "Conditions" and "Settings" tabs as you need.

Shortcut to the task

To manually launch the program using the task manager, create a shortcut on your desktop:

- 1) Right click on your desktop, and select "New -> shortcut", For "location of the item", enter C:\Windows\System32\schtasks.exe /run /tn "<your task name>", replacing <your task name> with the name you gave your task.