

WinXP Australian Locale Bug & MYOB

Business UX Pty Ltd are an Australian company based in Brisbane Queensland specialising in the support of Small to Medium sized Businesses. We use Microsoft products only when necessary, preferring Linux servers and workstations to provide lower cost of ownership and far better reliability for our customers.

Symptoms

The date setting in MYOB is in US American format (month/day/year) although the Regional Settings in Control Panel are set for Australia. The language icon at the bottom right of the screen seems to default to US on login even though it's been set to Australian.

The MYOB date is frustrating because it causes errors in the correct recording of invoices and payments, not to mention the time spent in understanding and fixing the issue.

History

Microsoft have known about the International Registry Keys bug for quite some time.

They published an article last reviewed on 27th January 2007 <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/q250449> where it mentions that this is applicable to Microsoft Windows 98 Second Edition and it's predecessors. Unfortunately they haven't included Windows XP Professional, Vista and Win 7. Perhaps they think the problem has gone away. It hasn't. Poor show Microsoft!

How to Fix

The fixes are twofold:

1) The language icon is repaired as follows:

Run regedit and go to HKEY_Local_Machine\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Keyboard Layout
Add a registry String called IgnoreRemoteKeyboardLayout and set it's value to 1 then reset the Regional Settings and reboot.

2) International Registry Keys

The cause of the problem is the failure of registry settings to be correctly set up on the creation of a user account. To test for this check for the existence of HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\International

If this is not present then some Windows applications like MYOB default to the US American date format even though Australian settings have been set up in the Regional Settings.

The fix is to copy a registry file to your C: drive as International.reg and execute it. Use notepad to do this.

The contents of the registry file are on page 2 for convenience.

Windows Registry Editor Version 5.00

```
[HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\International]
"iCountry"="61"
"iCurrDigits"="2"
"iCurrency"="0"
"iDate"="1"
"iDigits"="2"
"iLZero"="1"
"iMeasure"="0"
"iNegCurr"="1"
"iTime"="0"
"iTlZero"="0"
"Locale"="00000C09"
"s1159"="AM"
"s2359"="PM"
"sCountry"="Australia"
"sCurrency"="$"
"sDate"="/"
"sDecimal"="."
"sLanguage"="ENA"
"sList"=","
"sLongDate"="dddd, d MMMM yyyy"
"sShortDate"="d/MM/yyyy"
"sThousand"=","
"sTime"=":"
"sTimeFormat"="h:mm:ss tt"
"iTimePrefix"="0"
"sMonDecimalSep"="."
"sMonThousandSep"=","
"iNegNumber"="1"
"sNativeDigits"="0123456789"
"NumShape"="1"
"iCalendarType"="1"
"iFirstDayOfWeek"="0"
"iFirstWeekOfYear"="0"
"sGrouping"="3;0"
"sMonGrouping"="3;0"
"sPositiveSign"=""
"sNegativeSign"="-"
```

```
[HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\International\Geo]
"Nation"="12"
```