**Notes on Windows 7 workgroup and Home Group permissions.**

**Network group:**

Windows 7 has “HomeGroups” and they are the same as Windows XP “Workgroups” in general but there are a few specific differences.

Lift Complete counts on communication through a few shared files on the LAN.

If you have a mixed network with Win XP and Win7, you will most likely see the network group called Workgroup though that name is often changed in school or corporate environments.

Lift Complete counts on all of the machines being on the same LAN and in the same Homegroup, but it doesn’t matter what the name of the group is as long as all machines share the same homegroup.

Windows 7 also allows the you to join an XP style WorkGroup… Again, as long as they are all in the same network group, Lift Complete will work.

**Permissions:**

Windows 7 also adds layers of security to the homegroup that Win XP did not have. Both Win 7 and Win XP have shared folders on the network generally called “Public” folders. In XP, these just exist and you use them. In Windows7, these folders exist but permissions must be set for sharing and file management across the network. There are at least two steps involved in making this work:

1. The very first time you run almost every module of Lift Complete on a new system, Windows 7 will ask you to “Allow” or “UnBlock” the application from reading and writing to the network. *Lift Complete will not run correctly unless you Allow or Unblock access.* Most likely, after you unblock or allow an application the first time, Windows 7 will remember and allow it to run next time.
2. In Win 7, the folder that Lift Complete uses to communicate is c:\users\public … this folder must have its permissions set that allow the communications to work. At the start menu, open “computer”. Then on the left find “Documents” and then find “Public Documents”. Right click on “Public Documents” and select “sharing” and Advanced sharing options”. Select the following options:
   1. “Turn on Network Discovery”
   2. “Turn on File and Printer Sharing”
   3. “Turn on sharing so anyone with network access can read and write files in the Public Folders”
   4. “Turn Off Password protected sharing”
   5. “Save Changes”

Now the permissions are set so that the Lift Complete system can communicate and all features are enabled. This must be done on all of the systems used for Lift Complete.

NOTE: These actions make the contents of the Public folder available on the network. Lift Complete uses text files denoting the session names you choose in Lift Weigh In and two files for communication called Loaderchart.txt and CurrentLifter.txt. All other files in those folders are not from Lift Complete and you should be careful not to open them unless you know you put them there and what they do.

**Windows 7 Speed Up**

Windows 7 adds many features that consume the CPU’s processing power. Lift Complete runs fine on the simplest version of Windows 7 (Windows 7 Starter) but on the smallest machines, you might see tiny time synchronization issues, even on a “quiet” network. Usually, you don’t have to do anything but you can take a few steps to speed up Win7.

Generally, we find the following three items fix any speed issue that arises when running Lift Complete on underpowered, cheap Windows 7 machines:

1. Turn off Windows search indexing. This is particularly a problem because it fires up every time a file changes. Lift Complete reads and writes files for each lifter… about one per minute on average. If you turn off search indexing, the machine will speed up.
2. Disable the Aero Theme if it exists (most netbooks don’t have it)
3. Disable “Unwanted visual Effects” This is very simple and greatly improves performance.

If this is your favorite work machine for everyday use, you can easily turn these things back on**.**

Here are tips in more detail: <http://www.computingunleashed.com/speed-up-windows-7-ultimate-guide-to.html>

**A Network Identification Problem caused by conversion and support of IPv6:**

Windows 7 supports IPv6… a relatively new standard for internet protocol communications. Fortunately, it still supports IPv4 which is the basis of the vast majority of the internet. Lift Complete runs on Windows 7 machines that support IPv4 and basically ignores IPv6 functionality.

However, Windows 7 “prefers” IPv6 protocol when connecting to other Windows 7 machines. This is no problem for Lift Complete except for one small issue… When using Lift Data to create a website for lifter information, machines on a “private network”, ie: one that is not also connected to the internet, have problems resolving the names of systems when using an internet browser. This very specific case happens only when the network is not connected to an outside ISP through any kind of connection to the internet.

If the LAN is connected to the internet, no changes need be made to have Lift Data work across the LAN. If NOT connected, the names fail to resolve unless you turn off IPv6 in the Computer, Network, Adapter settings controls. This strange behavior is documented at Microsoft and the turning off of IPv6 is the only solution. Turn off IPv6 in the Network-Properties-adapter settings control panel.