

Lab - System Utilities

Introduction

In this lab, you will use Windows utilities to configure operating system settings.

Recommended Equipment

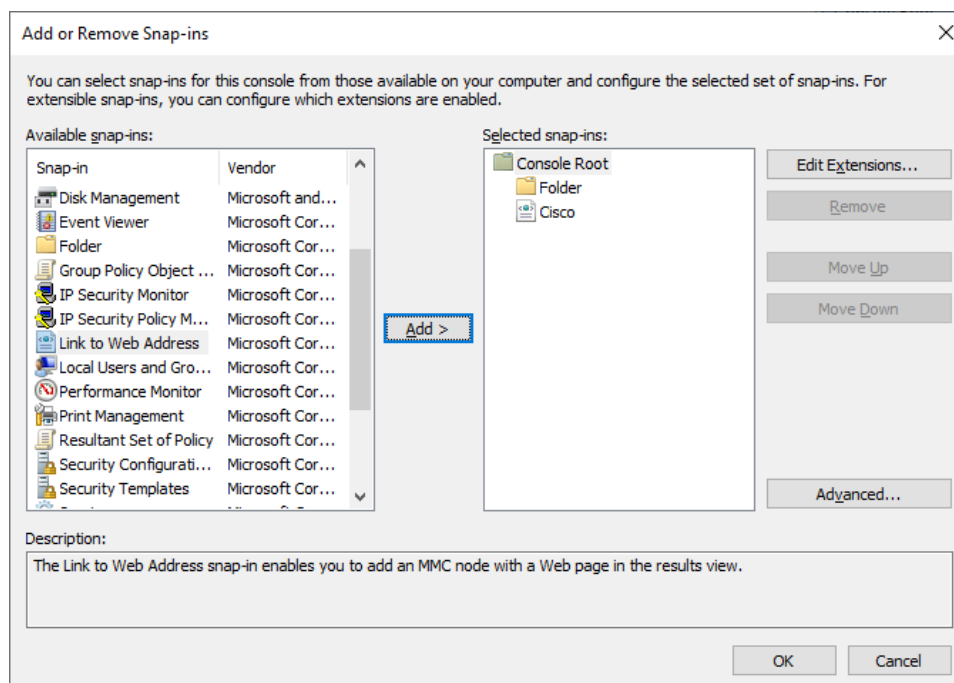
- A computer running Windows

Instructions

Part 1: Custom Management Console

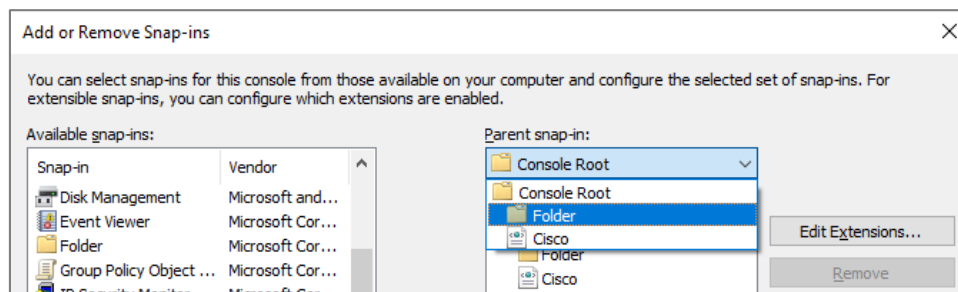
Step 1: Explore the management console.

- To open the Microsoft Management Console, click **Start**, and search for **mmc**. Click **Yes** to allow Microsoft Management Console to make changes to the computer.
- In the **Console1 - [Console Root]** window, you can build a custom console. Click **File > Add/Remove Snap-in**.
- In the **Add or Remove Snap-ins** window, you can add a folder snap-in. Scroll down the Available snap-ins: pane to locate the **Folder** snap-in. Select **Folder** and click **Add>**.
- To add the **Link to Web Address** snap-in, scroll down the Available snap-ins: pane and select **Link to Web Address**. Click **Add>**. In the **Link to Web Address** wizard window, enter <http://www.cisco.com> in the **Path or URL:** field, click **Next>** to continue.
- In the Friendly name for the Link to Web Address snap-in box, enter Cisco and click Finish to continue.



Step 2: Create a custom management console.

- To add snap-ins to the folder snap-in, click **Advanced**.
- The Advanced window opens. Select Allow changing the parent snap-in. Click OK.
- A drop-down menu appears for **Parent snap-in**. In the **Parent snap-in** box, select **Folder**.



- Add the following snap-ins from the Available snap-in: pane: **Computer Management**, **Device Manager**, and **Disk Management**. In each of the snap-in windows, click **Finish** to select to use the snap-in to manage the Local Computer or This computer.
- Click **OK** to continue to exit the Add or Remove Snap-ins window.
- In the **Console1** window, right-click the **Folder** icon and select **Rename**. Change the name of the folder to **Management Tools**.
- To save the custom console, click **File > Save As**. Change the file name to your name. Example: **John's Console**. Change the **Save in** box to **Desktop**. Click **Save**.
- Close all open windows.
- On the desktop, double-click the **Console** icon that contains your name to re-open the console with your snap-ins. Click **Yes** to allow this application to make changes to your device as necessary.
- Review the **Management Tools** folder by double-clicking on the tools.
- Within your custom console, navigate to the Event Viewer.

Question:

What was the path you use to navigate to the Event Viewer?

Management Tools > Computer Management (Local) > System Tools > Event Viewer

- Close the **Console** window when you finish your review. Click **No** when prompted to save the changes.

Part 2: Registry Editor

Step 1: Change your desktop background settings.

- Right-click the Desktop > select **Personalize**.

Question:

What is the background picture?

My Family

- In Windows 10, select **Solid color** in the Background drop-down list. Choose a **blue** background color.
In Windows 8.1 and 7, click **Desktop Background**. Select **Solid Colors** in the Picture Location drop-down list. Choose a **blue** background color.

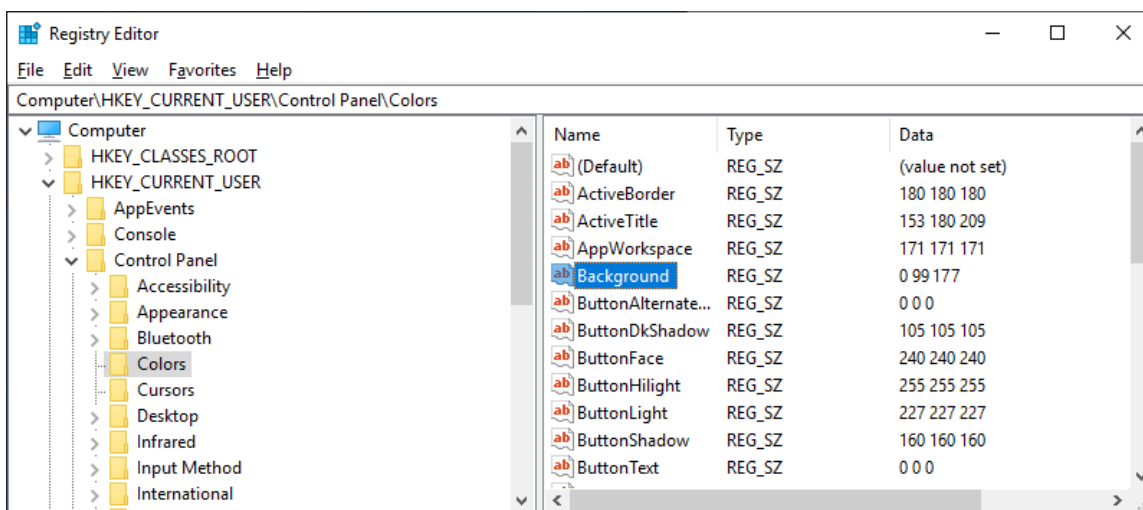
- c. Click **Save changes**. The computer screen should now have a blue background. If not, ask the instructor for assistance.
- d. Close all open windows.

Step 2: Open the registry editor.

- a. To open the **Registry Editor**, click **Start** and type **regedit**. Click **Yes** to allow Registry Editor to make changes to the computer.

Note: Do not make any changes in the Registry Editor without instructor permission.

- b. Select and expand the **HKEY_CURRENT_USER** entry.
- c. Expand **Control Panel**. Click **Colors**. Click **Background** in the right panel.



Question:

What is the data value of the Background (hint – it has three numbers that correspond to red, green, and blue)?

0 99 177

Step 3: Export a registry key.

You will export the **HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\Colors** folder.

- a. In the left pane, select the **Colors** folder and click **File > Export**.
- b. Save the file to the Desktop with the name **BlueBKG**.
- c. At the desktop, right-click the **BlueBKG.reg** icon and select **Edit**.
- d. Notepad opens displaying the contents of **BlueBKG.reg**.

Question:

What is the data value of the **Background**?

"Background"="0 0 0"

- e. Close the **BlueBKG.reg – Notepad** window.
- f. Open the Personalization window by right-clicking the **Desktop > Personalize > Desktop Background**. Select a **red** background color.
- g. Click **Save changes**. Close the **Personalization** window.

- h. The desktop background should be red. Click the **Registry Editor** window.
- i. On your keyboard, press **F5** to refresh the **Registry Editor** window.

Question:

What is the data value of the Background? Compare the new value in the Registry to the value saved in BlueBKG.reg.

The new value (0 0 0) is the same as the value that was saved in the BlueBKG.reg file (0 0 0).

Step 4: Import a registry file.

You will import the **BlueBKG.reg** file to change the Desktop ground back to blue.

- a. Click the **Registry Editor** window.
- b. Click **File > Import**. Locate and click the **BlueBKG.reg** file then click **Open**.
- c. The **Registry Editor** informational message opens letting you know that keys and values have been successfully added to the registry. Click **OK**.
- d. Select the **Registry Editor** window.

Questions:

What is the data value of the Background?

0 0 0

What is the color of the desktop?

Red

- e. Restart the computer.

Question:

What is the color of the desktop?

Black

- f. Reset **Display Properties Background** to the original settings.
- g. Close all open windows.
- h. Delete the custom console and BlueBKG file on the desktop.

Reflection Question

- 1. Why would it be beneficial to add snap-ins to the mmc that are for other computers on the network?

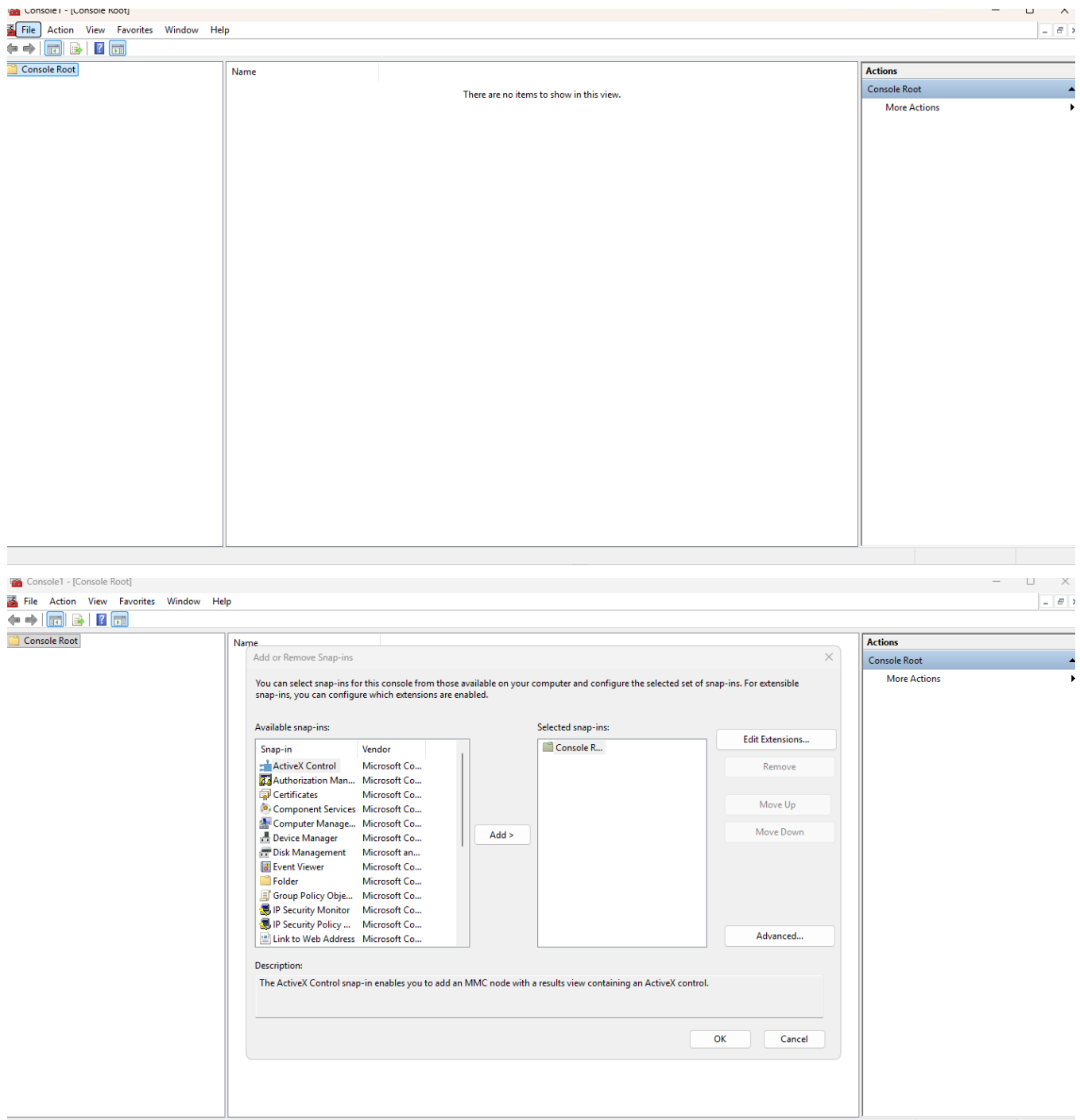
It allows a system administrator to manage multiple computers on the network from a single, centralized console. This saves time and effort, as they don't need to physically access each machine or open separate remote connections for common tasks like checking event logs, managing devices, or disk management

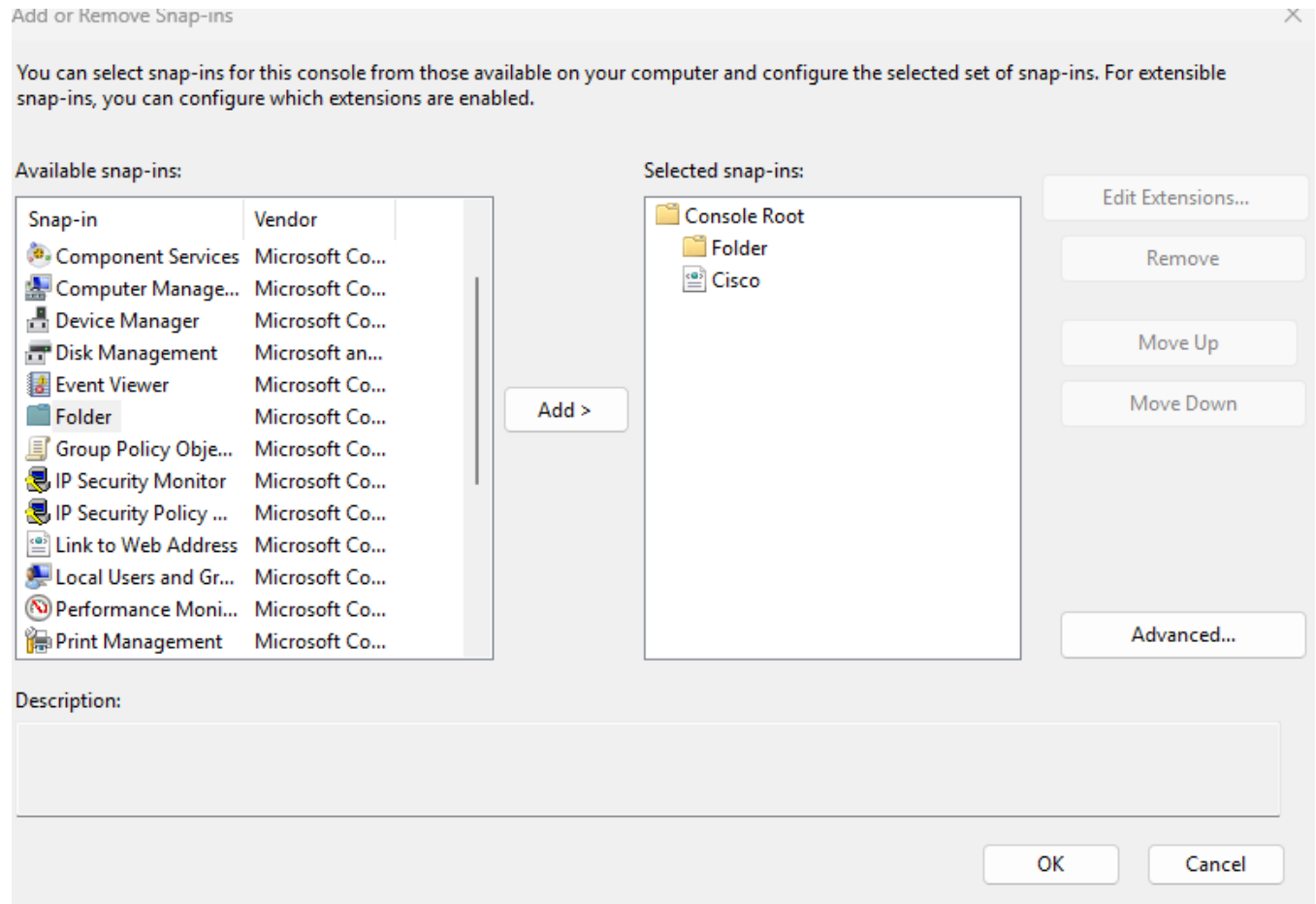
- 2. After restarting the computer, why was the desktop color changed?

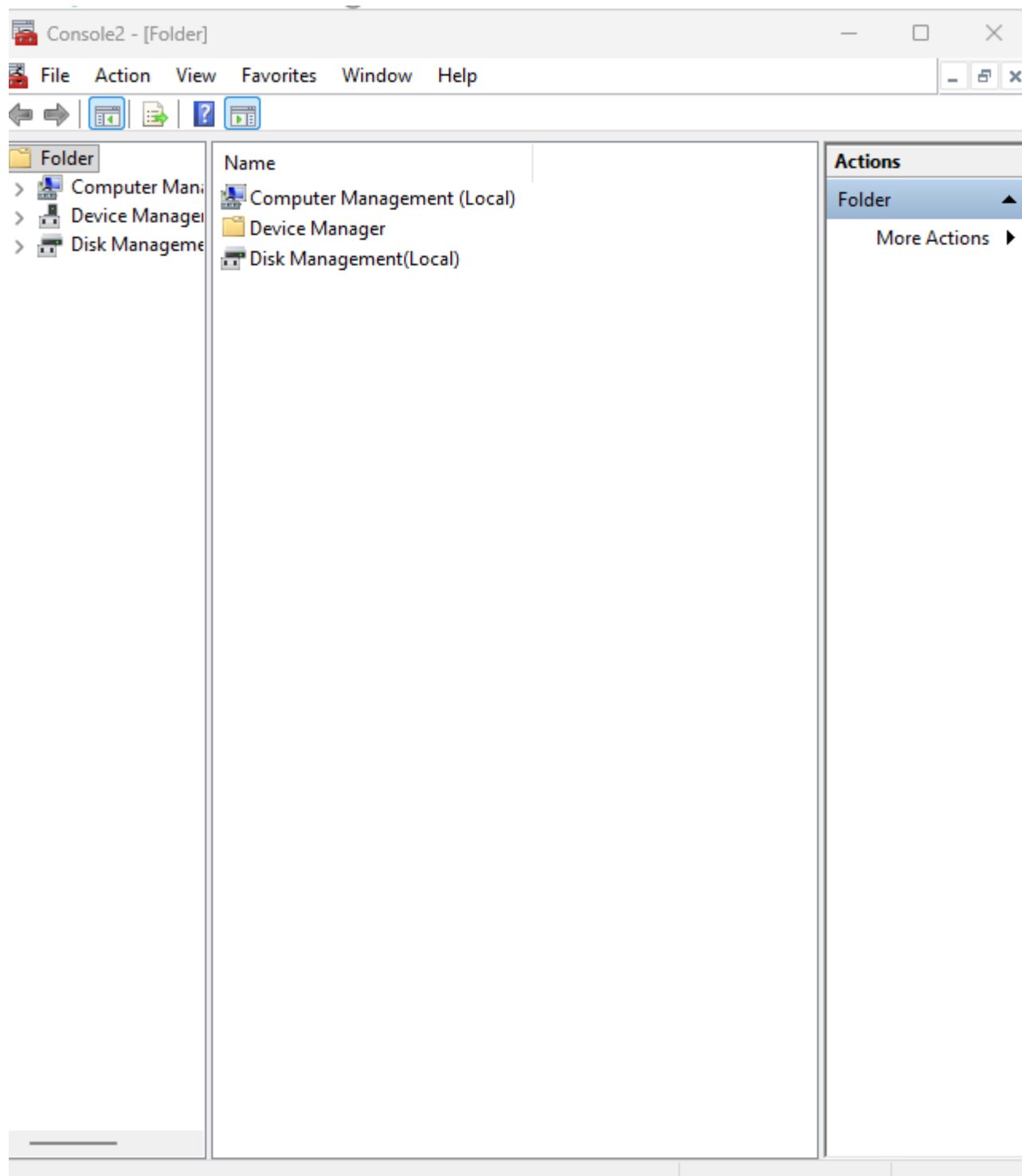
After restarting the computer, why was the desktop color changed? The color changed because importing the BlueBKG.reg file modified the background color value directly in the registry. This specific registry change

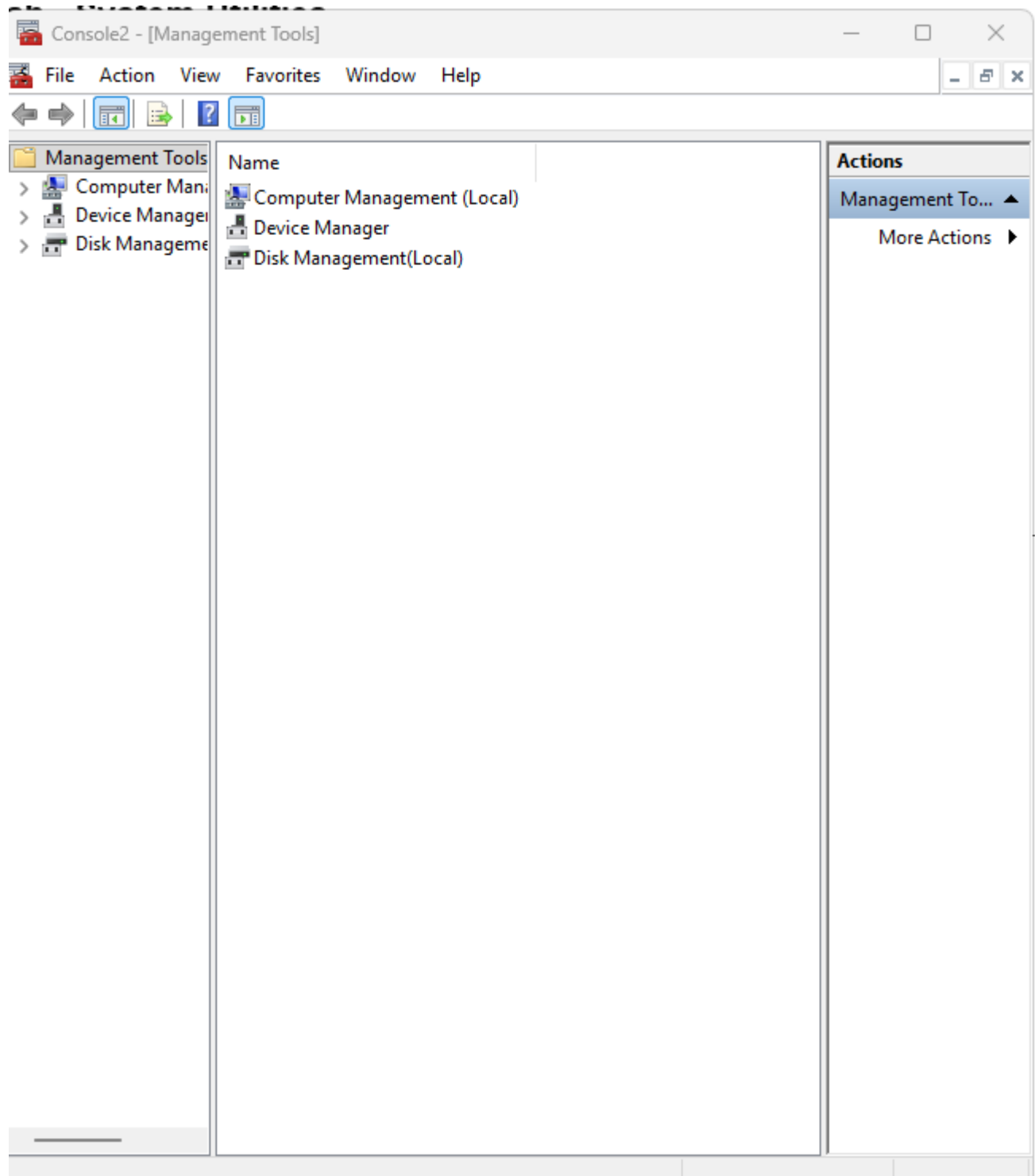
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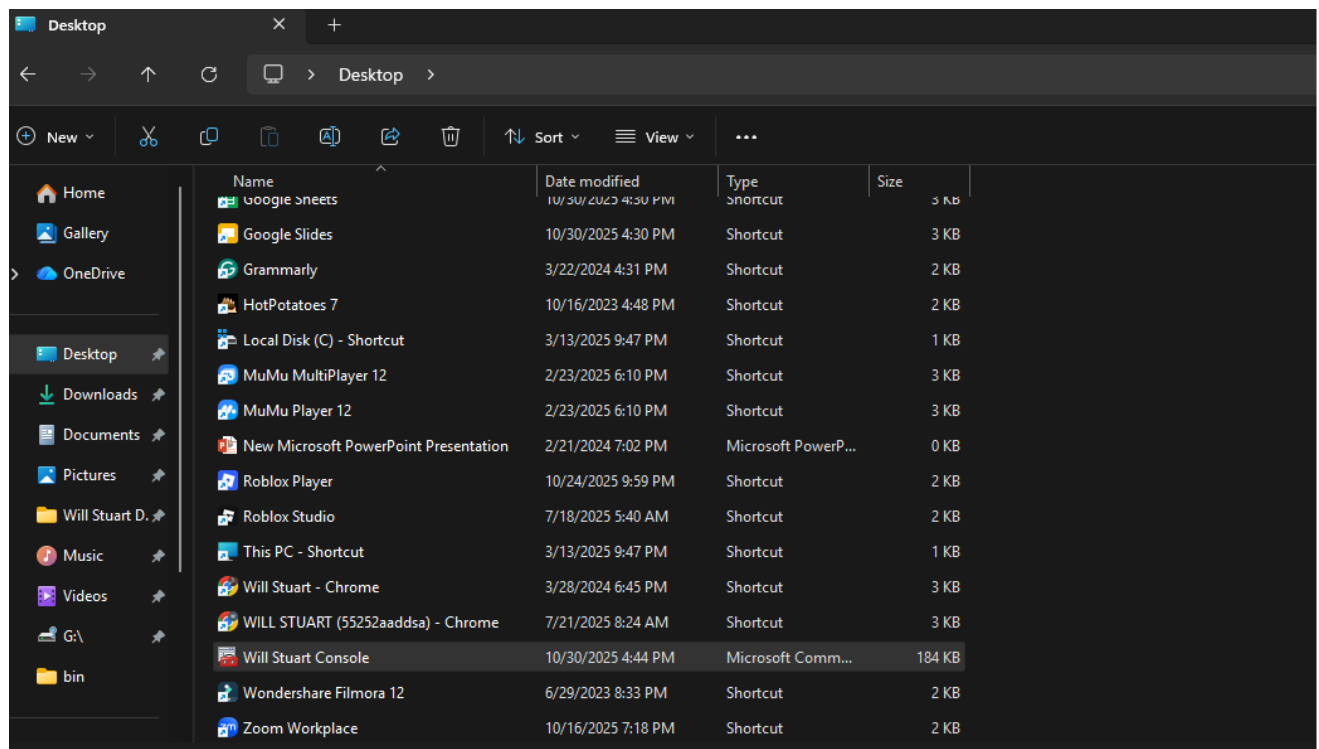
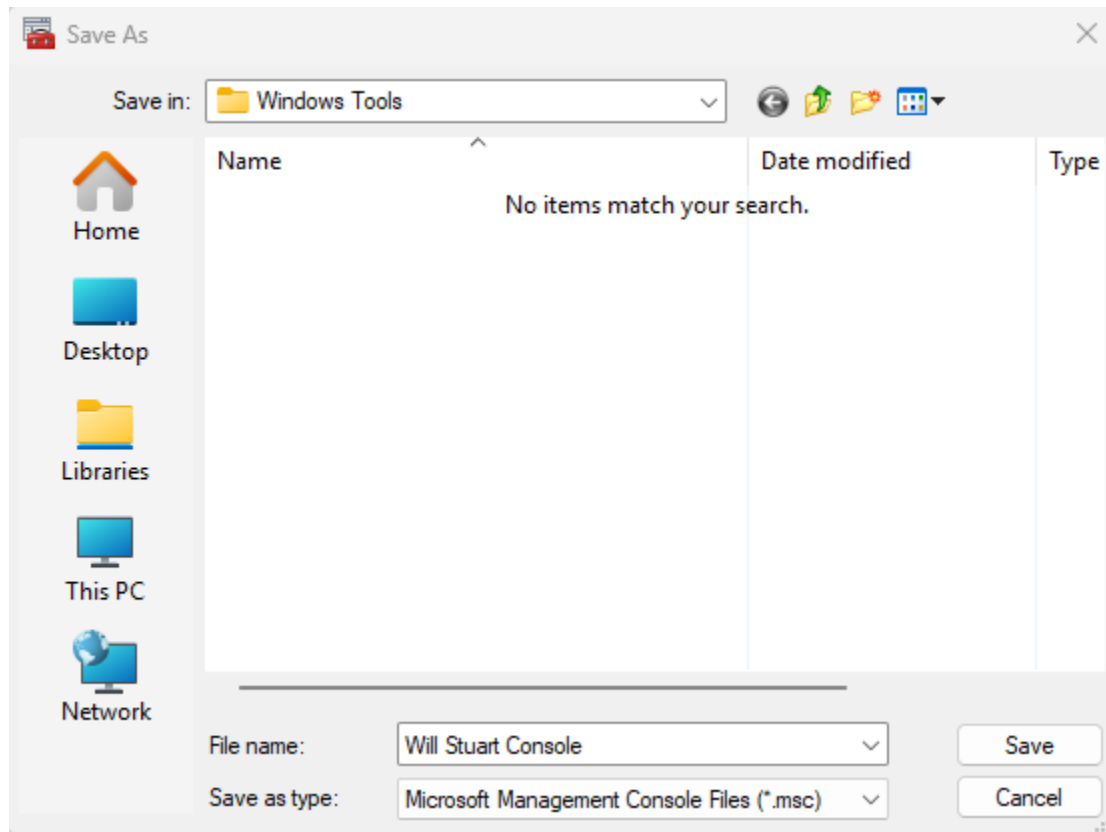
does not always apply immediately; it required a restart for Windows to read the new imported value (0 0 0) and apply it as the desktop background.

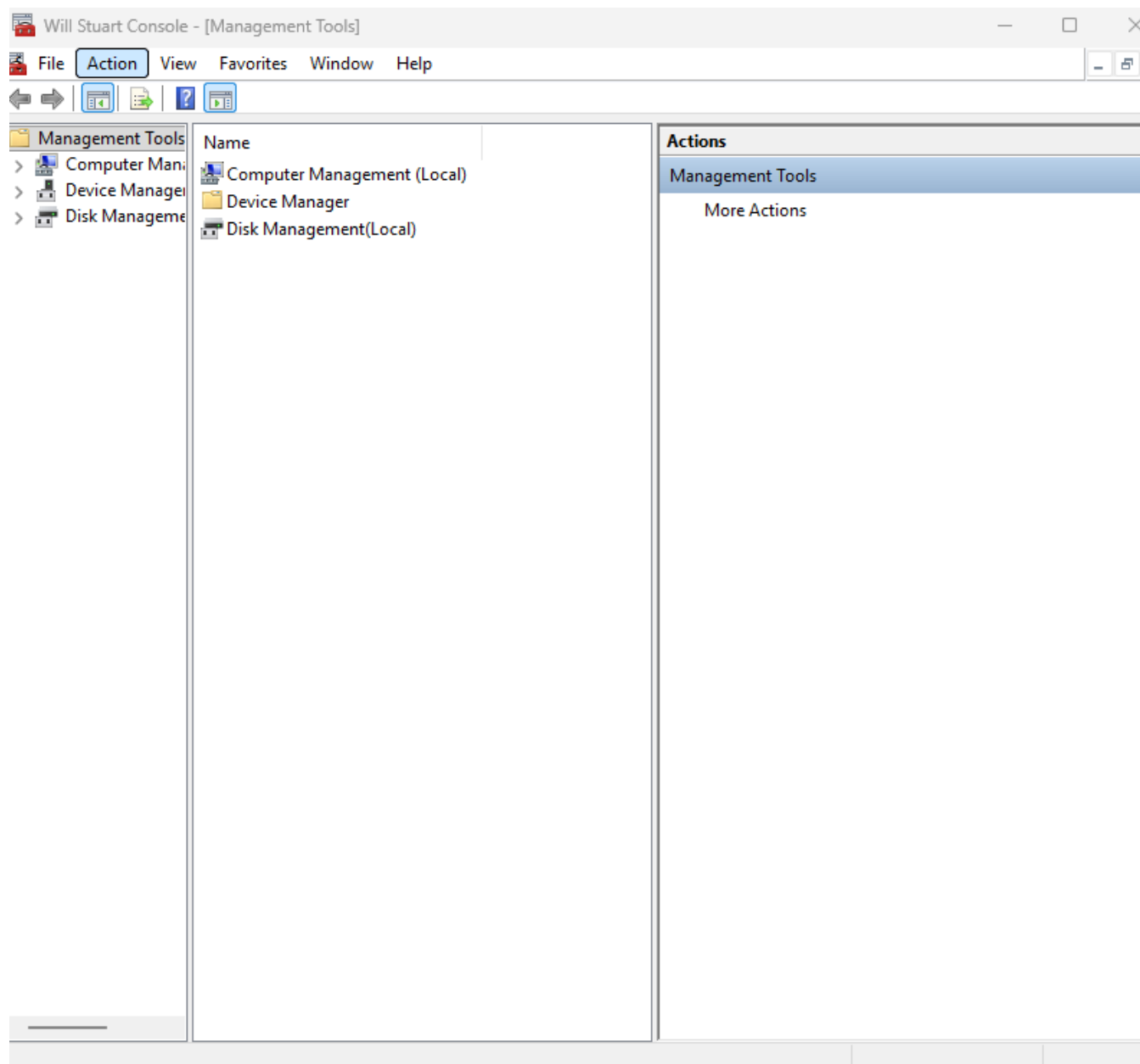




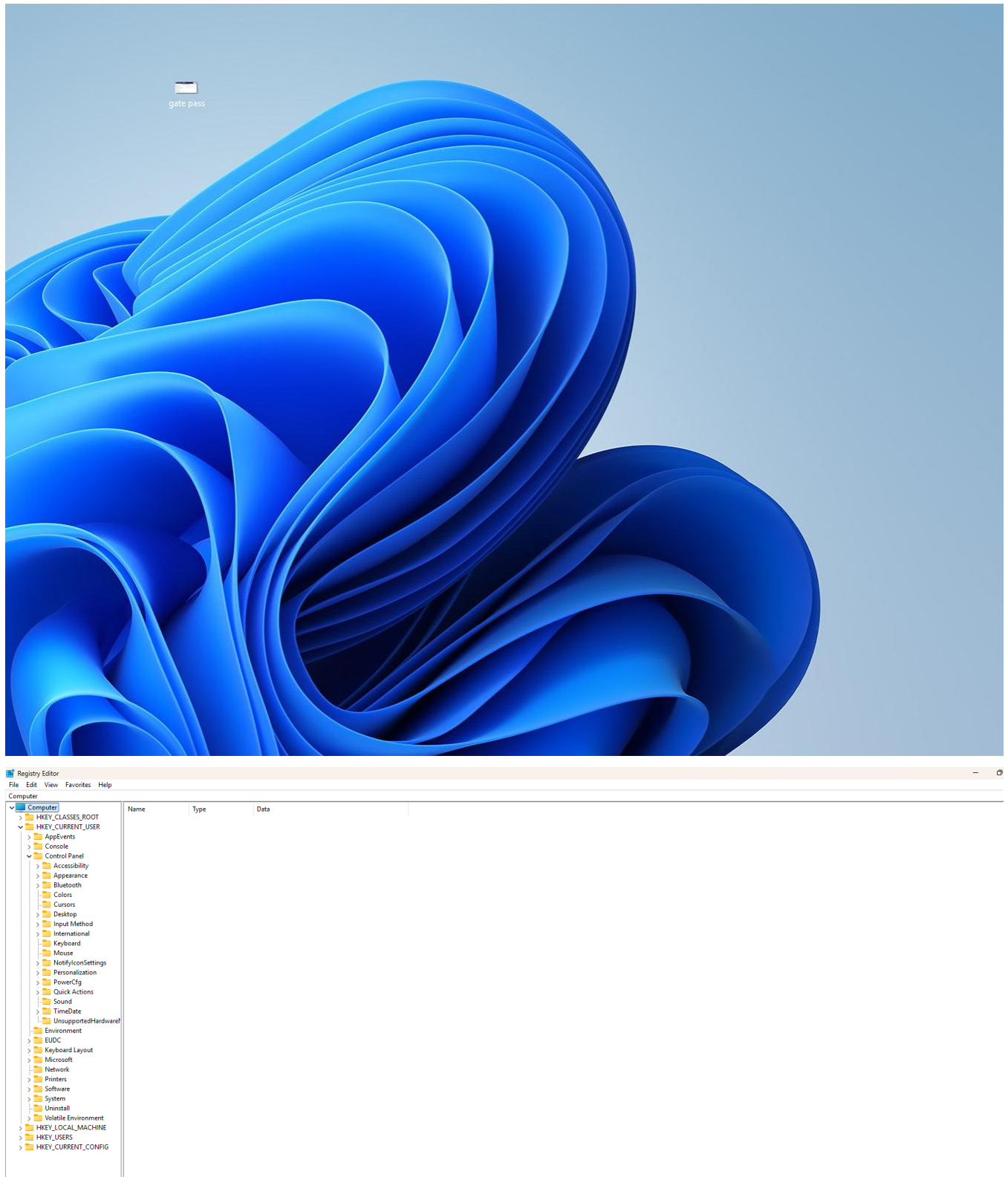












Registry Editor

File Edit View Favorites Help

Computer\HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\Colors

Name	Type	Data
(Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
ActiveBorder	REG_SZ	180 180 180
ActiveTitle	REG_SZ	153 180 209
AppWorkspace	REG_SZ	171 171 171
Background	REG_SZ	0 0 0
ButtonAlternate...	REG_SZ	0 0 0
ButtonDkShadow	REG_SZ	105 105 105
ButtonFace	REG_SZ	240 240 240
ButtonHighlight	REG_SZ	255 255 255
ButtonLight	REG_SZ	227 227 227
ButtonShadow	REG_SZ	160 160 160
ButtonText	REG_SZ	0 0 0
GradientActiveT...	REG_SZ	185 209 234
GradientInactive...	REG_SZ	215 228 242
GrayText	REG_SZ	109 109 109
Highlight	REG_SZ	0 120 212
HighlightText	REG_SZ	255 255 255
HotTrackingColor	REG_SZ	0 102 204
InactiveBorder	REG_SZ	244 247 252
InactiveTitle	REG_SZ	191 205 219
InactiveTitleText	REG_SZ	0 0 0
InfoText	REG_SZ	0 0 0
InfoWindow	REG_SZ	255 255 225
Menu	REG_SZ	240 240 240
MenuBar	REG_SZ	240 240 240
MenuHighlight	REG_SZ	0 120 212
MenuText	REG_SZ	0 0 0
Scrollbar	REG_SZ	200 200 200
TitleText	REG_SZ	0 0 0
Window	REG_SZ	255 255 255
WindowFrame	REG_SZ	100 100 100
WindowText	REG_SZ	0 0 0

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