



**TRADING
TECHNOLOGIES®**

Optimizing Windows 7 Client Workstations

Quick Reference

Overview

This quick reference describes the basic settings that TT recommends for computers running TT client applications on the Windows 7 operating system. For additional Windows 7 recommendations, refer to the *TT Trading Systems – Hardware and Software Optimizations and Recommendations Reference Guide*.

Prerequisites

Minimum Supported Versions

To run on Windows 7, the TT client applications (X_TRADER®, X_RISK®, X_STUDY®, TT User Setup) must be at least the following version: X_TRADER® 7.8.0, TT_TRADER® 7.8.0, X_RISK® 7.4.4, X_STUDY® 7.5.0, or TT User Setup 7.3.0

Hardware and Software Requirements

For hardware and software requirements, please refer to the *TT Trading Systems – Hardware and Software Requirements* document. This document is available on the TT Customer Portal.


Additional Resources

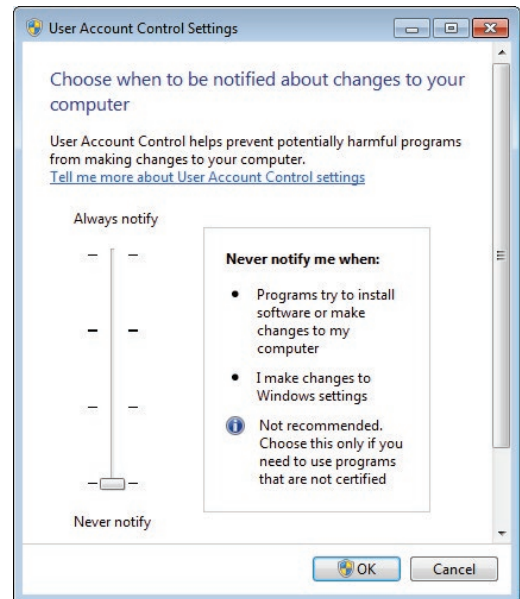
Refer to the *TT Trading Systems – Hardware and Software Optimizations and Recommendations Reference Guide* for additional details about settings listed in this quick reference, additional settings for Windows 7 systems, and recommended settings for other operating systems. This document is available on the TT Customer Portal.

Windows 7 Settings

OS and Hotfixes

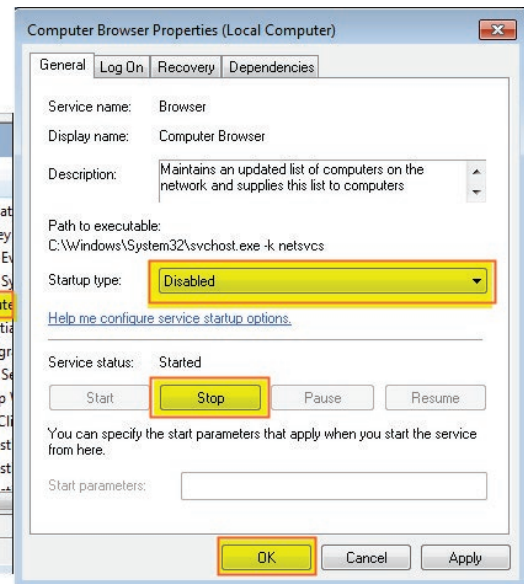
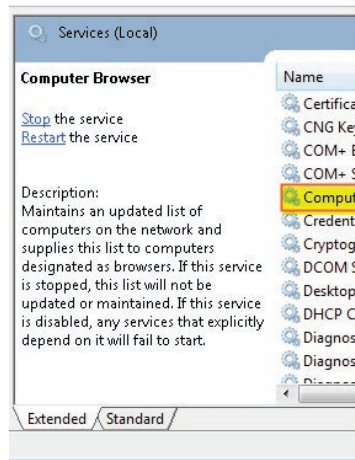
□ Disable User Account Control (UAC)

1. Select the **Start globe**  and then enter "**UAC**" into the **Search programs and files** field.
2. Select the **Change User Account Control settings** link.
3. Move the slider to **Never Notify**.
4. Click **OK** to change the settings.



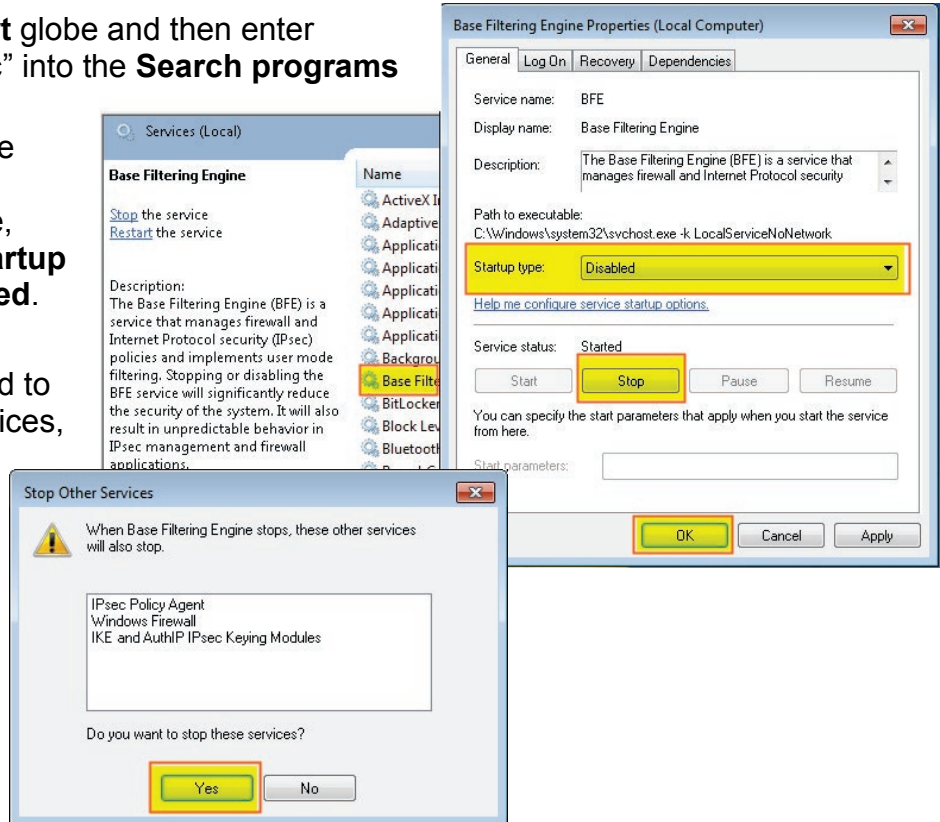
□ Disable the Computer Browser Windows Service

1. Select the **Start globe** and then enter "**Services.msc**" into the **Search programs and files** field.
2. Double-click
3. the **Computer Browser** service, and set the Startup type to **Disabled**.
4. Click **Stop**.
5. Click **OK**.



□ Stop and disable the Base Filtering Engine (BFE) Windows Service


1. Select the **Start** globe and then enter “**Services.msc**” into the **Search programs and files** field.
2. Double-click the **Base Filtering Engine** service, and set the **Startup type** to **Disabled**.
3. Click **Stop**.
4. When prompted to stop other services, click **Yes**.
5. Click **OK**.

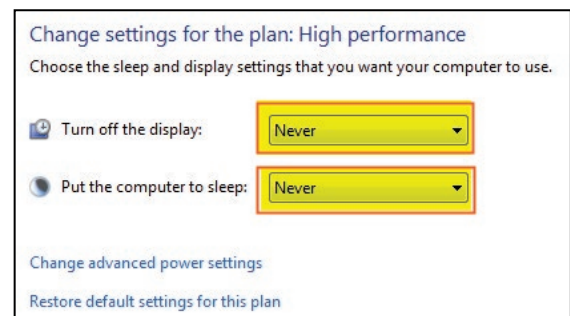
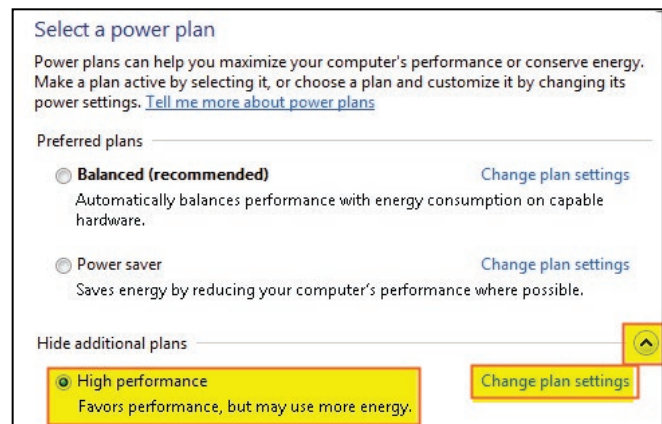
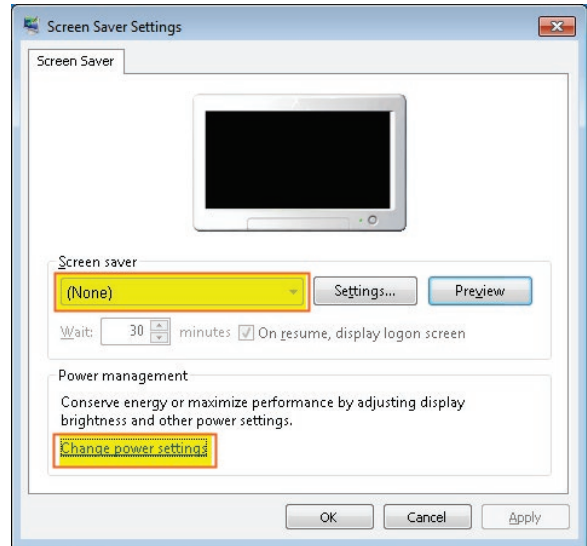


Power Save Settings

To avoid unexpected disconnects and to help ensure proper TT application functionality, turn off any power save or hibernation functionality on machines that host TT software.

□ Disable screen savers and set the Power Settings

1. Select the **Start** globe and then enter “**screen saver**” into the **Search programs and files** field.
2. Select **Adjust screen resolution**.
3. Click the **Screen saver** drop-down and select **None**.
4. On this same window, click **Change power settings**.
5. On the **Select a power plan** screen, select **High Performance**. This option is sometimes hidden in the **additional plans** section. Click the  to show the additional plans.
6. Click **Change plan settings** next to the High Performance plan.
7. Ensure **Turn of the display** and **Put the computer to sleep** are both set to Never.
8. Click **Save changes**.
9. Click **OK**.

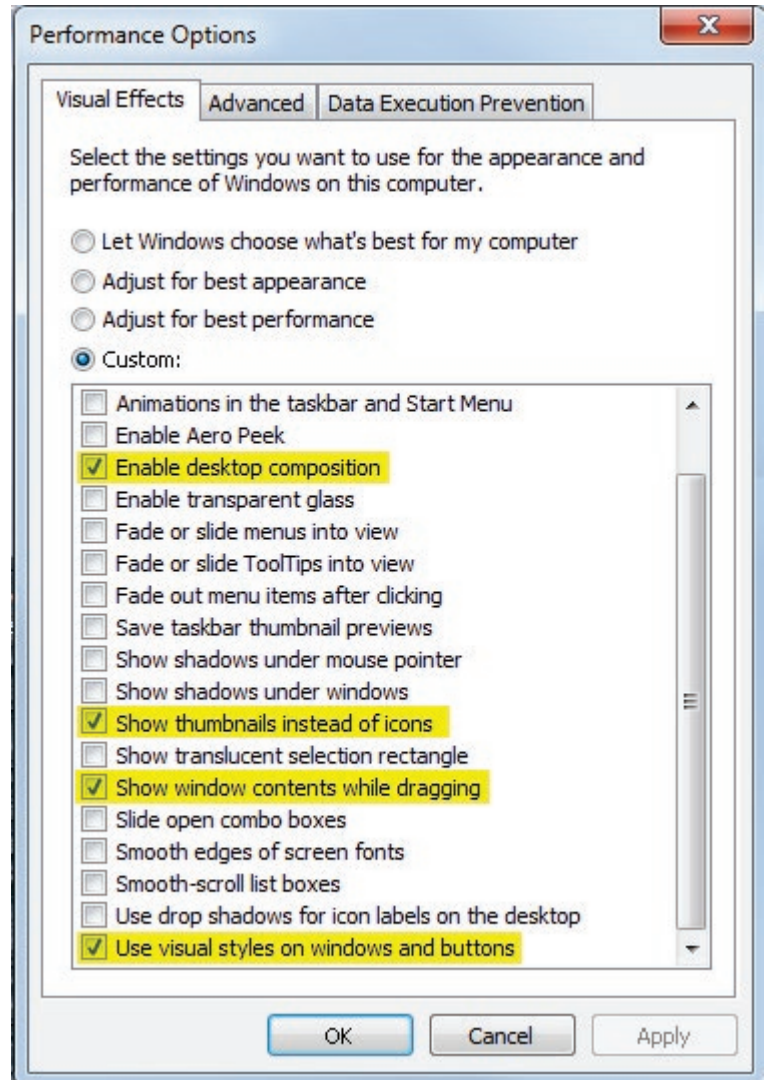


Visual Effects and Appearance Options

Traders that prefer the visual appearance (“look and feel”) of Windows XP over the visual appearance of Windows 7, often select a “Windows Classic” based theme. While this theme does provide the familiar legacy appearance of XP, it introduces an issue where windows and or cells within windows will “Flicker”. This is a problem with other “Basic and High Contrast” themes as well. To avoid the flickering, follow the Visual Effects and Appearance Options optimizations listed below:

□ Set the Visual Effects Options

1. Select the **Start** globe and then enter “**adjust appearance**” into the **Search programs and files** field.
2. Select **Adjust the appearance and performance of windows**.
3. On the **Visual Effects** tab, click **Custom** and then **deselect all items** with the exception of the following. (As shown in the screen shot).
 - **Enable desktop composition** (required to avoid screen flickering)
 - **Show thumbnails instead of icons** (optional – many users prefer to leave this enabled)
 - **Show windows contents while dragging** (optional – many users prefer to leave this enabled)
 - **Use visual styles on windows and buttons** (required to avoid screen flickering)
4. When finished, click **OK**.



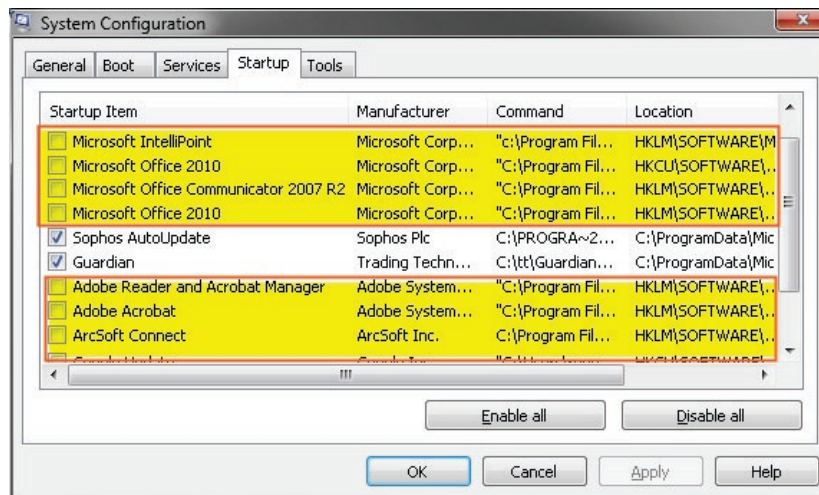
Other Windows Performance Settings

□ Disable all unnecessary Startup items.

Programs listed in the **Startup** tab are automatically started when Windows starts. Although TT recommends automatic startup for Guardian, trading applications, and your antivirus software, disabling unnecessary start up items will reduce the number of running processes and will help to increase overall system performance.

Note: Disabling a startup item does not remove the application from your system. You can start it as usual.

1. Select the **Start** globe and then enter “**system configuration**” into the **Search programs and files** field.
2. Select **System configuration**.
3. Select the **Startup** tab and deselect all items that are not necessary as startup items.



Note: In the above example, *Sophos AutoUpdate* is antivirus software. Your system may have another vendor's software.

Additional Best Practices

- Do not run TT applications in tandem with non-TT programs.
- Keep hardware drivers up-to-date. If you have a choice between using Microsoft® drivers and vendor drivers, always use vendor drivers.
- Check System Maintenance:
 - Schedule regular reboots of workstations (i.e., daily) to allow the cached data to be cleared, resources to be freed up and the page file to return to its original size.
 - Check disk space.
 - Use the following System Tools once a month, while X_Trader is NOT in use.
 - Disk Cleanup
 - Disk Defragmenter
- If you use USB mice and keyboards, you must use USB 2.0 ports and devices. TT does not recommend using wireless mice/keyboards.
- TT software is extremely sensitive to time changes; ensure time settings are changed only when TT Gateways are down. Reboot the workstation after you re-synchronize clock settings.
- Do not run MP3 or Streaming Video on the same machine when using client GUIs.
- For third-party applications, disable Keyboard Hotkeys software.
- Uninstall all Instant Messenger software.
- Uninstall any other communications software (e.g., Skype).
- Uninstall any application that connects to the Internet to receive updates (e.g., Google taskbar, Quicktime, Realplayer, etc.).
- Virus Protect Software
- TT recommends not enabling real-time virus scanning on the TT directory and its subdirectories.
- Any virus scanning on the TT directory should be performed during non-trading hours.