eQUEST MSI Package Installation Procedures For Non-Administrator and Windows Home Users

eQUEST must be installed while logged in as the user who is to use the application. The Windows security system prevents non-administrative users from installing applications into the “Program Files” directory [or “Programs Files (x86)” on 64-bit Windows versions] unless an administrator elevates permissions of the installation process. Below is described the process by which the eQUEST 3.65 MSI install process can be given the required elevated permissions.

1. Opening a command prompt window from the start menu:
   AllPrograms\Accessories\CommandPrompt

2. Execute the following command in the command prompt window:
   runas /user:domain\adminUserName "msiexec /i PathAndFilenameOfMSI"

3. You will now be prompted to enter the administrator password and if the password and all the runas command parameters were are valid the installation will proceed.

To find the current domain and username type “whoami” at the command prompt. However this would need to be used by the administrative user logged into their own account to obtain the required information. For Windows Home users this may be their own account.

For example, on Windows 7 computer, while logged in as a non-admin user, opening a command prompt window and typing in the line below will start the installation of the eQUEST (where "W7PC" is the domain name and "JohnDOE2" is the administrator user name).

   runas /user:W7PC\JohnDOE2 "msiexec /i C:\ eQUEST_3_65_b7158_2013-11-03.msi"

Non administrator users who wish to install eQUEST on Windows 8 simply need to double click on the MSI file and then enter the administrator password when prompted by the pop-up dialog window.

Microsoft articles on this issue

For users in a corporate or government environment, there are multiple methods by which IT groups can allow non-admin users to install eQUEST (or any other msi). Here is a link to the MSDN page on the subject, http://support.microsoft.com/kb/259459/en-us. Probably the most common approach is for the IT group to publish a group policy allowing per user installation by non-admin users for specific applications, which allows the msi to for those specific applications to run with elevated permissions without any administrator intervention.

Individual users without support from an IT group, using Windows XP or W7, who still wish to run eQUEST from a non-admin account, there is a simple work-around, as long as the user does have access to an admin account and password. Here is a link describing the process http://serverfault.com/questions/19341/how-do-i-run-a-msi-installer-with-elevated-privilages-on-windows