

ReadMe — Windows DCOM Configuration

The ASTRA software package uses Distributed Component Object Model (DCOM) communication over a TCP/IP network to communicate with certain Wyatt Technology instruments.

Important: The ASTRA software package also uses TCP/UDP ports for communication over a TCP/IP network to communicate with Wyatt Technology instruments. If you will collect or monitor data, you also will need firewall exceptions on the computer running ASTRA. Please follow the firewall configuration instructions:

[ReadMe – Windows Firewall Configuration \(M6001\)](#)

Modification of the DCOM configuration is required on computers running ASTRA that will collect or monitor data from any of the following:

- **ViscoStar**
- **ViscoStar-II**
- **Optilab rEX**

The DCOM configuration instructions do not apply to **Optilab T-rEX** instruments or other Wyatt Technology instruments not listed above.

Note: Windows Administrator privileges will be required to complete the DCOM configuration process.

The following instructions detail how to configure the DCOM permissions:

1. Accessing DCOM Security Limits

- **Standard Method** (use alternative method if access is blocked)
 - A. Windows XP SP2Page 2
 - B. Windows VISTA or Windows 7Page 4
- **Alternative Method**
 - C. All Windows versionsPage 6

2. Modifying DCOM Security Limits

- All Windows versionsPage 9

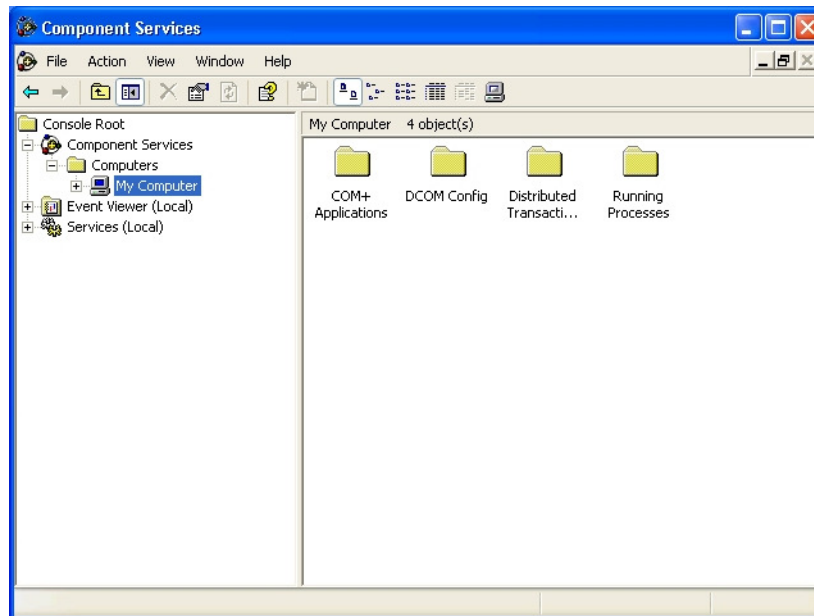
1. Accessing DCOM Security Limits

A. Standard Method for Accessing DCOM Security Limits on Windows XP SP2

1. From the **Start** menu, choose **Control Panel**.

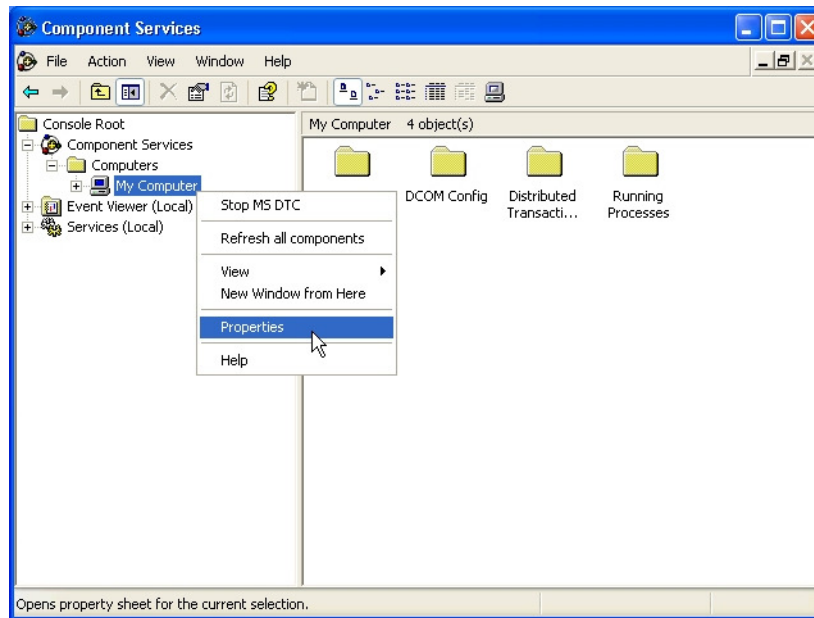


2. From the **Control Panel**, select **Administrative Tools**, then select **Component Services**.

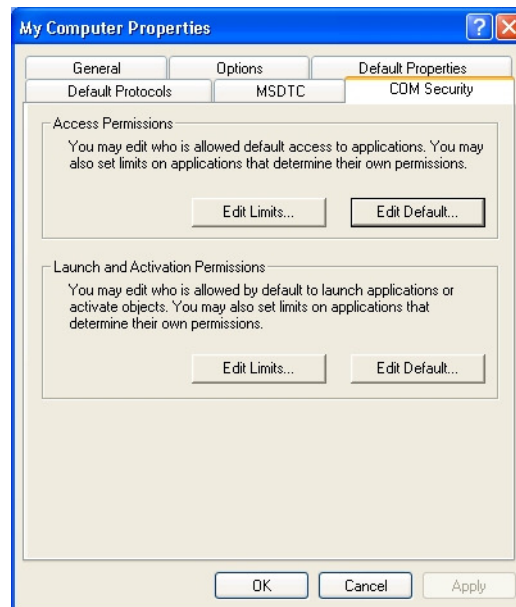


3. Expand the **Component Services** tree on the left pane to display **My Computer** as shown in the image above.

4. Right-click on the **My Computer** entry and select **Properties**.



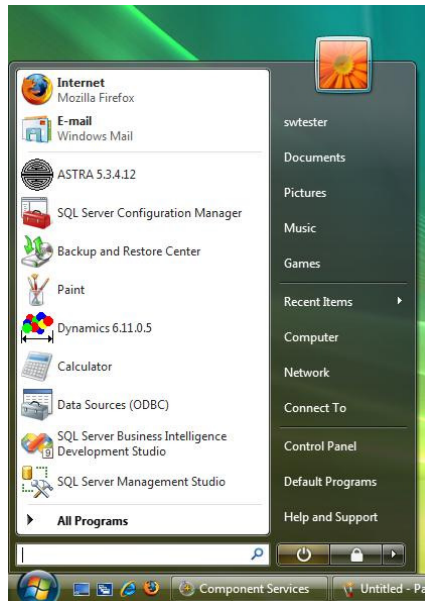
5. The **Edit Limits** buttons displayed on the **COM Security** tab of the **My Computer Properties** dialog can be disabled by the existing Local security policy settings. If they are disabled proceed to page 6, step 2 C **Alternative Method for Accessing DCOM Security Limits**.



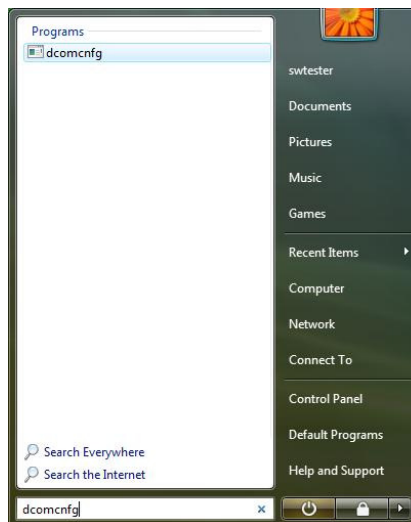
6. Proceed to page 9, step 3 **Modifying DCOM Security Limits**.

B. Standard Method for Accessing DCOM Security Limits on Windows VISTA and Windows 7

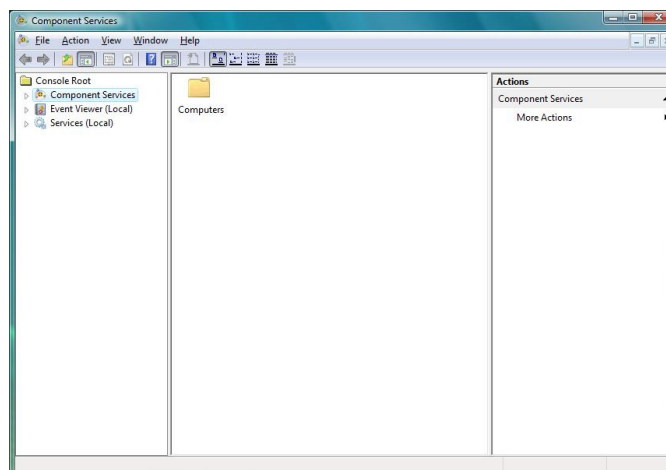
1. Press the **Start** button, typically in lower left corner, to open the **Start Menu**.



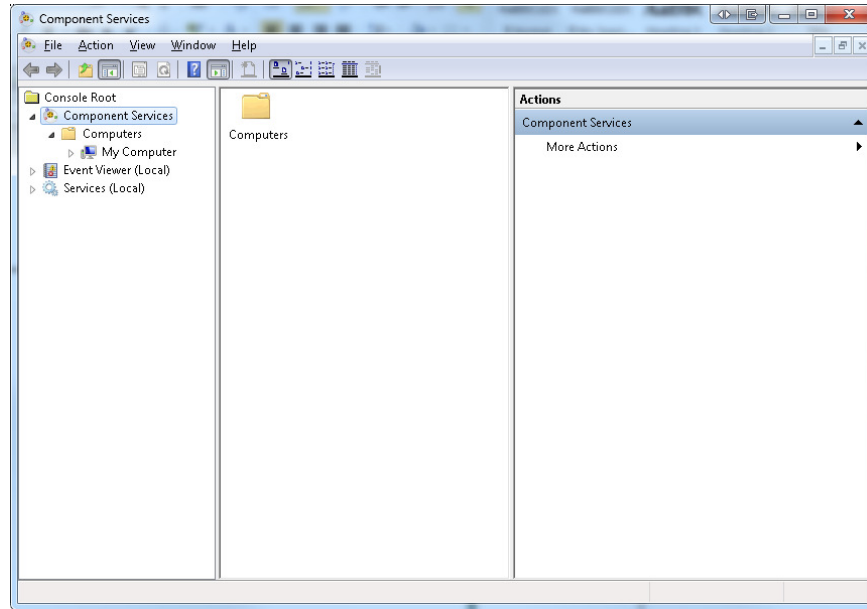
2. In the text box type **dcomcnfg** then press enter.



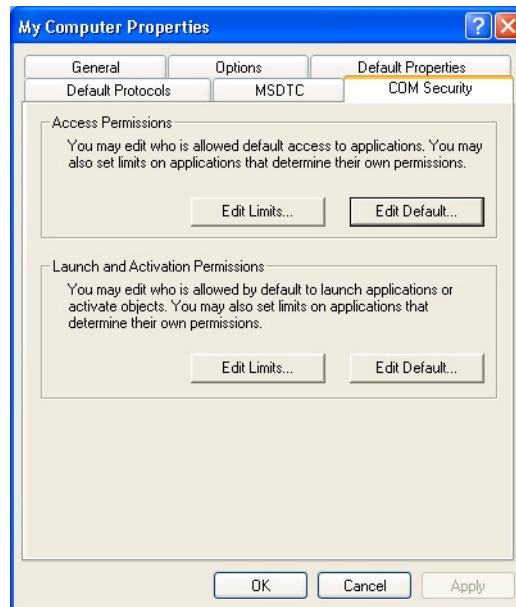
3. The **Component Services** window is displayed.



- Expand the **Component Services** tree on the left pane to display **My Computer** as shown.



- Right-click on the **My Computer** entry and select **Properties**, the **My Computer Properties** dialog is displayed.

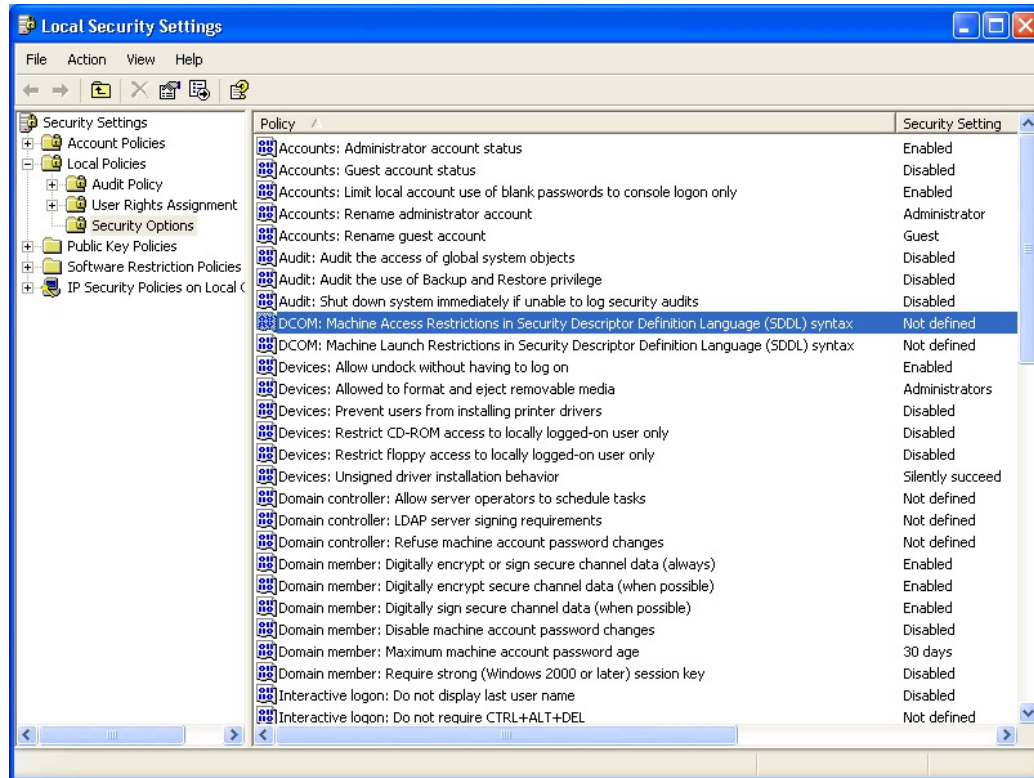


- The **Edit Limits** buttons displayed on the **COM Security** tab of the **My Computer Properties** dialog can be disabled by the existing Local security policy settings. If they are disabled proceed to page 6, step **2 C Alternative Method for Accessing DCOM Security Limits**.
- Proceed to page 9, step **3 Modifying DCOM Security Limits**.

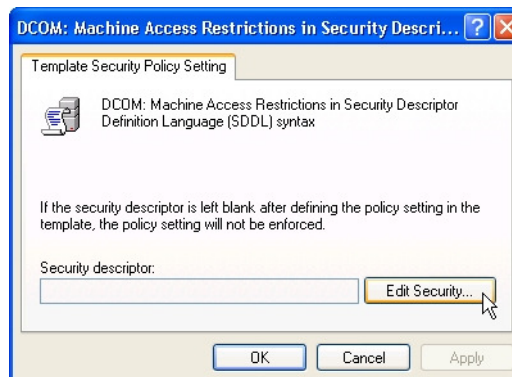
C. Alternative Method for Accessing DCOM Security Limits

If the **Edit Limits** buttons displayed on the **COM Security** tab of the **My Computer Properties** dialog are disabled, their settings can be adjusted via Local Security Policy settings.

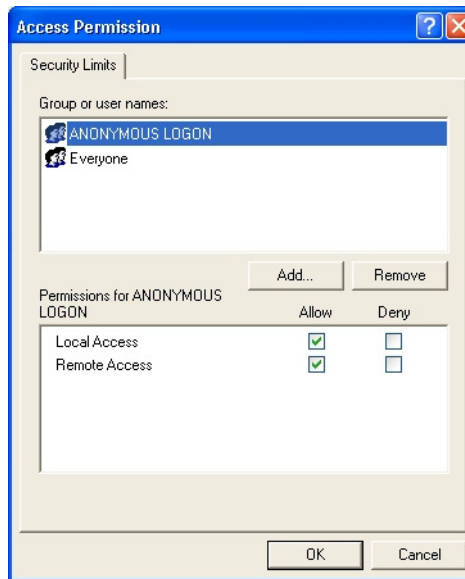
1. From the **Start** menu, choose **Control Panel**, then select **Administrative Tools**, then select **Local Security Policy**.
2. Expand the **Security Settings** tree on the left pane to display **Security Options** as shown.



3. Right-click **DCOM: Machine Access Restrictions in Security Descriptor Definition Language (SDDL) syntax** and select **Properties** to display the **Template Security Policy Setting** for **Access Restrictions**.



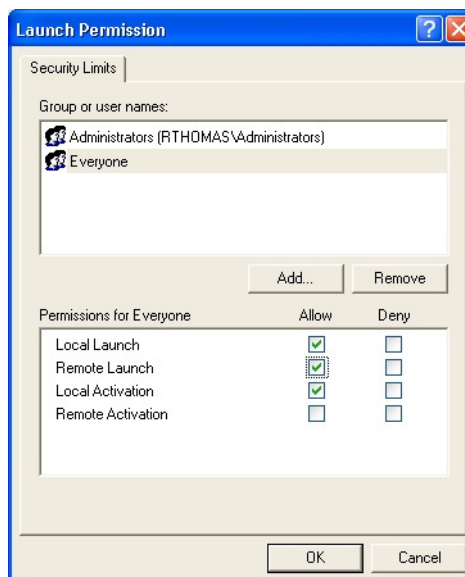
- Press the **Edit Security** button to display the **Access Permission** dialog.



- In the **Access Permission** dialog, select **ANONYMOUS LOGON**, then enable **Allow** for **Remote Access**. Then press **OK** to apply the change and close the **Access Permission** dialog.
- Press **OK** to apply the changes and close the **Template Security Policy Setting for Access Restrictions**.
- Right-click **DCOM: Machine Launch Restrictions in Security Descriptor Definition Language (SDDL) syntax** and select **Properties** to display the **Template Security Policy Setting for Launch Restrictions**.



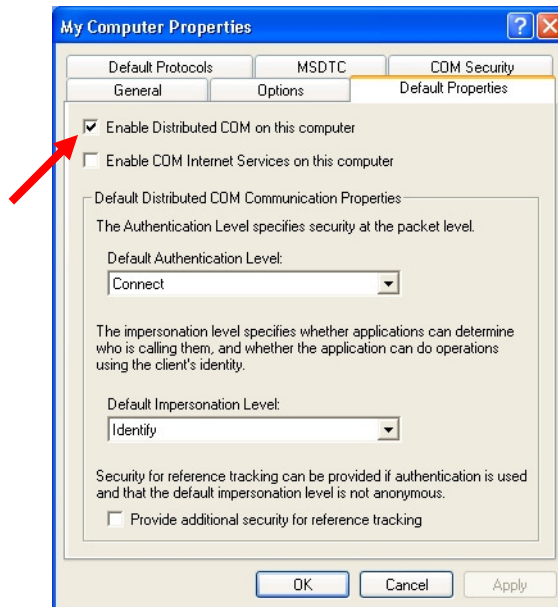
- Press the **Edit Security** button to display the **Launch Permission** dialog.



9. In the **Access Permission** dialog, select **ANONYMOUS LOGON**, then enable **Allow** for **Remote Access**. Then press **OK** to apply the change and close the **Access Permission** dialog.
10. Press **OK** to apply the changes and close the **Template Security Policy Setting** for **Launch Restrictions**.
11. Close the **Local Security Policy** window.
12. Complete step **3 A** to enable Distributed COM.

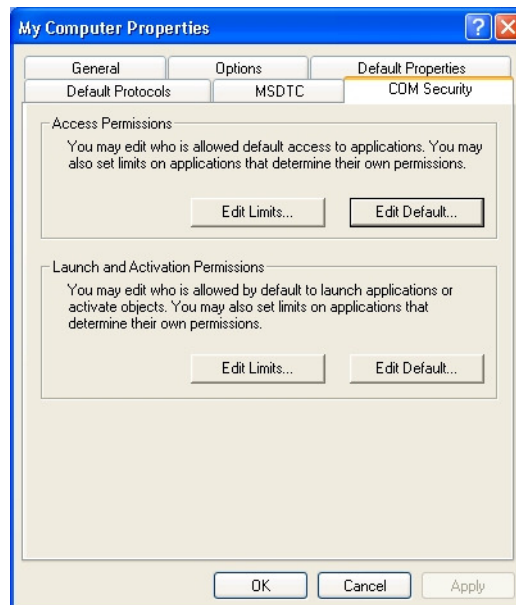
2. Modifying DCOM Security Limits

- A. Enable Distributed COM in the **My Computer Properties** dialog.

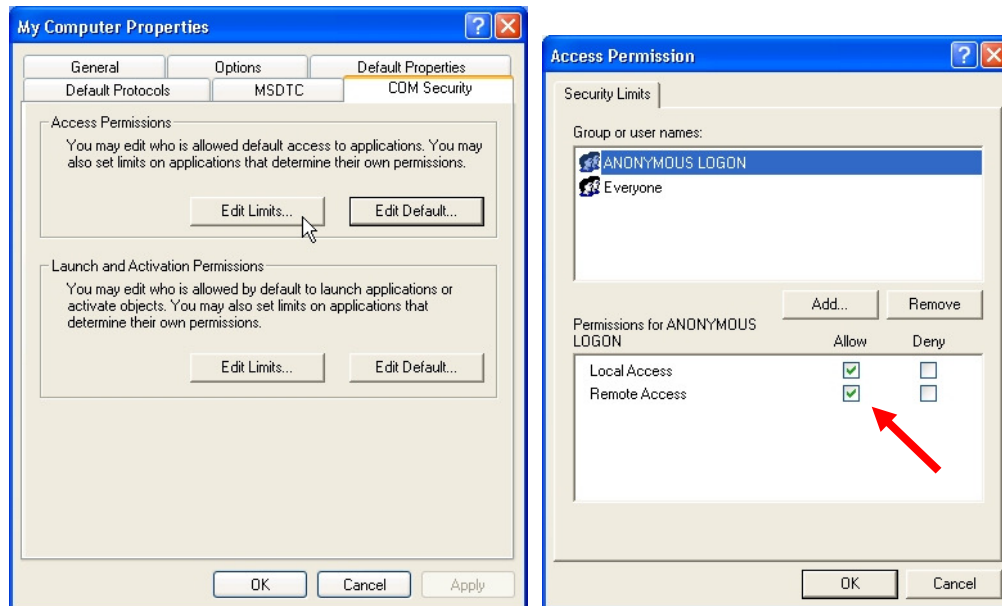


- B. Select the **COM Security Tab** on the **My Computer Properties** dialog.

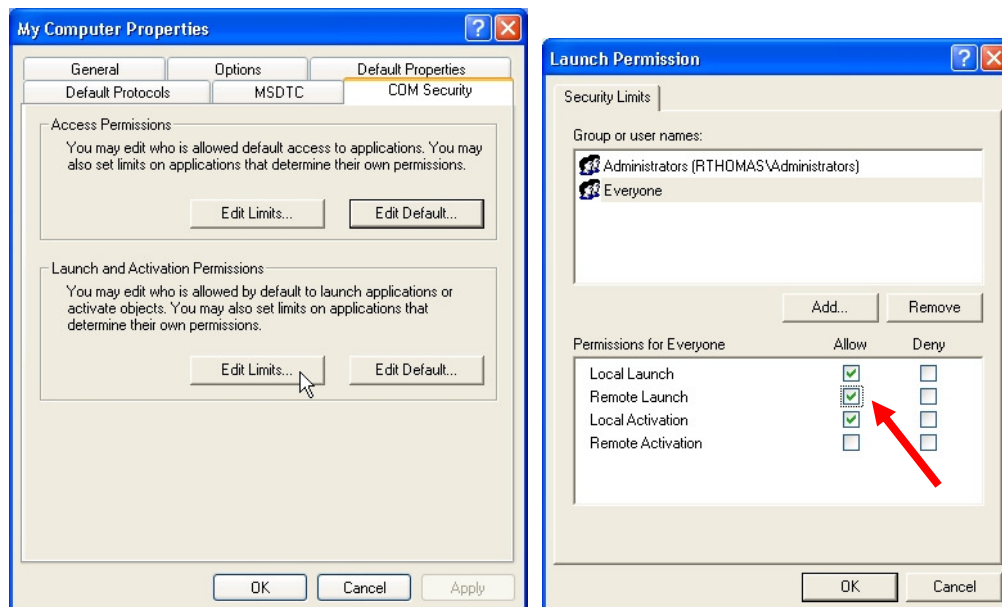
Note: If the **Edit Limits** buttons are disabled see **2 C Alternative Method to Edit COM Security Limits**.



- C. Press **Edit Limits** for **Access Permissions**, to display **Access Permission** dialog.



- D. In the **Access Permission** dialog, select **ANONYMOUS LOGON**, then enable **Allow** for **Remote Access**. Then press **OK** to apply the change and close the **Access Permission** dialog.
- E. Press **Edit Limits** for **Launch Permissions**, to display **Launch Permission** dialog.



- F. In the **Launch Permission** dialog, select **Everyone**, then enable **Allow** for **Remote Launch**. Then press **OK** to apply the change and close the **Launch Permission** dialog.
- G. Press **OK** to apply the changes and close the **My Computer Properties** dialog.
- H. Close the **Component Services** window.