ArcMap Please wait while Windows installer configures ArcGIS Desktop

Problem:
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Running ArcMap always causes the Windows Installer to launch and reconfigure ArcGIS desktop.

Repeatedly clicking cancel when this comes up will eventually get ArcMap to load.

This happens in ArcGIS 9.2 including SP4.

Solution:
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http://support.esri.com/index.cfm?fa=knowledgebase.techarticles.articleShow&d=33358

Step 1: Verify problem
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1. Click Start > Run.
2. Type 'eventvwr'.
3. Select Applications.
4. Look for entries with 'MsiInstaller' under the Source column.

Double-click on the entry with 'MsiInstaller' and the following error message displays: "Detection of product '{1F34839E-4826-4B64-B1B3-42E5AE8DEC5A}', feature 'MicrosoftMsms', component '{303994BA-6487-47AE-AF1D-7AF6088EEBDB}' failed. The resource 'C:\WINDOWS\WinSxS\x86_Microsoft.MSXML2_6bd6b9abf345378f_4.20.9818.0_x-ww_8ff50c5d\msxml4.dll' does not exist."

This indicates that MSXML4.dll is missing— this file is required by ArcGIS Desktop.

Step 2: Repair
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1. Open Windows Explorer and browse to C:\WINDOWS\WinSxS\x86_Microsoft.MSXML2_6bd6b9abf345378f_4.20.9818.0_x-ww_8ff50c5d.
2. If the directory cannot be found, proceed to the next step. If the directory exists, delete it and proceed to the next step.

3. Open a Web browser and go to the Microsoft link in Related Information below.
4. Download and install MSXML 4 Service Pack 2: download msxml.msi only, if you have already downloaded this, download it again.

MSXML4 SP2 link: http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=3144b72b-b4f2-46da-b4b6-c5d7485f2b42

Step 3: Verify

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Run ArcMap again and verify it works.