

Re: Connection to a SAMBA Active Directory

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- *From:* "Paul Goldman" <paulgoldman1948@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 10 Jun 2006 18:04:37 GMT
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Sorry to sound like such a moron, but I've never heard of this environment. I'm strictly a Windows person.

Are you saying that you don't think I can add into that environment a 2nd domain controller on a real Windows box and have it replicate? And then change the schema via ForestPre and DomainPrep?

Thanks.

"Al Mulnick" <amulnick_No_SPAM@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message <news:egy4eAjGHA.1276@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Wow. Such a contradiction in terms it's really hard to know where to begin. There is no such thing as a SAMBA active directory. SAMBA is an emulator and as such will emulate to the best of its ability. It will be deficient in some areas.

I would not suggest to the client that this is OK. Far from it because if you get it to work (doubtful) you'll leave them in an awkward state where they can't get support. Exchange is only supported on Active Directory. That's it. Nothing else. Not ADAM, not LDAP, but Active Directory.

That said, you *might* have some luck with option 4: create a new AD forest, deploy Exchange into it and allow them to logon by presenting credentials at logon to the mailbox data. RPC/HTTP is a likely protocol to explore.

The reverse could also be done, and by that I mean migrate their workstations, servers, mac's, and nix boxes to the AD and then install Exchange in there.

Al

"Paul Goldman" <paulgoldman1948@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:oIiig.10090\\$Z67.5300@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](news:oIiig.10090$Z67.5300@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Re: Connection to a SAMBA Active Directory

I have a new client who wants me to install an Exchange server in their infrastructure. They currently have a simulated AD using Samba to front end a Linux-based LDAP directory. They have about 50 XP Pro workstations that log into the domain. There are also 2 Windows member servers in the domain. In addition, they have about 5 Macs and 10 Linux desktop machines.

Does anyone have experience in this area. Will I be able to install an Exchange server in the existing infrastructure? I figure I have 3 options.

1. Install Windows 2003 Server. Join the existing domain. Install AD on the new Windows 2003 Server. See if it replicates. Try to install Exchange 2003 Server. If the domainprep and forestprep work, then everything should be OK (theoretically).
2. If the above fails, install Windows 2003 Server, create a new domain. See if I can create a 2-way trust between the SAMBA domain and the new domain. If that works, then proceed with Exchange installation and migrate accounts over via ADMT.
3. If 2 fails, install Windows 2003 Server, create a new domain. Create new accounts on new domain either manually or via LDIF export from existing LDAP. Have users give new domain credentials when they launch Outlook or Outlook Web Access.

Am I on the right track? Does anyone have any different or better ideas?

Thanks.