

Exchange 5.5 to Exchange 2003

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This is my situation:

- 1 NT 4.0 SP6 – PDC
- 1 NT 4.0 SP6 – BDC + File Server + Printer Server
- 1 NT 4.0 SP6 – Exchange 5.5 Server + Proxy Server

I will migrate all to a new Active Directory Domain using the following steps:

1. Install NT 4.0 BDC on the new box.
2. Promote the BDC to the PDC, which demotes the PDC to a BDC.
3. Do a full backup of the former PDC and remove it from the network.
4. Upgrade the new PDC to Windows Server 2003.
5. Promote the Windows Server 2003 to be a DC. The Active Directory service imports the existing user accounts, groups, and other settings from the PDC.
6. Run for a test period.
7. Do a clean installation of Windows Server 2003 on the other new box, and bring it online as an additional DC.
8. Transfer all Flexible Single-Master Operation (FSMO) roles to the new DC.
9. Verify all directory information has replicated.
10. Demote the first DC to a member server, and remove from the domain.

My idea is to:

- a) Make one WIN2003 server the DC + SMTP Gateway (via Symantec prod.) + Proxy (via Symantec prod.)
- b) Make another WIN2003 server the Exchange 2003 server + File Server + Print server.

I was referred to this newsgroup regarding the following:

"I notice you also want to do an Exchange migration. Please post it in the microsoft.public.exchange.setup newsgroup since they are the experts in Exchange and will provide the most accurate information on this issue.

Best regards,

Frances He – Microsoft Online Partner Support"

QUESTION

- 1) Are there any issues using either the "move the mailboxes" or the "swing upgrade" methods when migrating from an Exch. 5.5 to an Exch. 2003 after the above mentioned scenario is fulfilled?
- 2) Any specific I would actually want to do before fulfilling the above mentioned scenario?

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Thanks, in advance!