

# AD Restore to Different Hardware

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*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.active\\_directory/2006-08/msg00402.html](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.active_directory/2006-08/msg00402.html)

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I am trying to test an AD and Exchange restore in my test environment. The server I am trying to restore is a ML370G2 running Windows 2000 Server Standard and is acting as a domain controller and Exchange server.

I have referenced the following Microsoft articles, but am still running into the same issue (inaccessible boot device):

How to perform a disaster recovery restoration of Active Directory on a computer with a different hardware configuration  
<http://support.microsoft.com/?id=263532>

How to move a Windows installation to different hardware  
<http://support.microsoft.com/?kbid=249694>

How to perform an in-place upgrade of Windows 2000  
<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/292175/>

For my first series of tests I tried restoring into VMWare Server virtual machine. I do a base install of Windows 2000 and then restore my backup using NTBackup. Upon the reboot I receive a Stop error – Inaccessible Boot Device. I go on to try the repair options to no avail. The upgrade in place process also fails on the reboot after it copies files with the inaccessible boot device error. I cannot access the recovery console either, when I choose my installation the machine reboots before even prompting for a password.

I tried this morning to restore to an older Compaq server instead of a VM (an ML530). I have run into the same issues here as well with the inaccessible boot device errors. The repairs and upgrade in place process also fail with inaccessible boot device errors.

In the past I have done test restores of AD and Exchange from one VM to another VM with no issues, but of course in that scenario the hardware matches – so I avoid all the hardware mismatching problems that I am running into now.

I feel like I am getting tunnel vision at this point and am hoping

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someone can point out something I am overlooking. Any thoughts or suggestions?

Thanks!

Jeffrey

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