

Re: policy confusement

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From: Richard G. Harper (rgharper_at_email.com)

Date: 10/06/04

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1. All three sets of GPOs get applied to a domain controller, in the order I listed them. The local GPO exists on every domain member (Windows 2000 and up) and is applied when the computer starts. When the computer logs into the domain the default domain policy is applied next (unless it is disabled). Then any OU policies that may apply are loaded after the default domain policy is loaded.

So, keeping this in mind, if you have settings that must apply to the DCs and must not be overridden by any other settings, they belong in the DC OU.

2. There are two components to every GPO – Computer settings and User settings. Both are always applied in every GPO applied unless specifically overridden and told not to be applied.

3. The only OU that exists by default on AD is the DC OU. Any further OUs will be created by you.

For more information on GPO, OUs and policies I would strongly suggest spending some time at <http://msdn.microsoft.com/> and <http://www.microsoft.com/technet> where you can study up on the subject. Check into the many recorded Webcasts – in fact, last week was "Active Directory Week" with about fifteen to twenty Webcasts on AD, GPO and policies that can be played back for your enjoyment.

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Richard G. Harper [MVP Win9x] rgharper@gmail.com
* PLEASE post all messages and replies in the newsgroups
* for the benefit of all. Private mail is usually not replied to.
* My website, such as it is ... http://rgharper.mvps.org/
* HELP us help YOU ... http://www.dts-1.org/goodpost.htm
"VW" <vw@nospam.net> wrote in message
news:kTQ8d.267538$912.14093357@phobos.telenet-ops.be...
>
> "Richard G. Harper" <rgharper@email.com> wrote in message
> news:%23GBAbR5qEHA.3416@TK2MSFTNGP15.phx.gbl...
>> The precedence of policies is as follows:
>>
>> 1. Local machine policies are loaded first, and if no other policy
>> overrides these policies take control for only the local computer.
>
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microsoft.public.win2000.networking: Re: policy confusement

> But in case the local machine is the DC, these policies have the same
> effect
> as domain controller policy, right ?? Do I have to set local policies and
> DC policies to the exact same things in order not to mess things up ?
>
>>
>> 2. Next, any domain policies will load on all computers in the domain.
>
> Only computers, or also users (e.g. user rights assignments are only
> applicable to users) ??
>
>>
>> 3. Finally, any policies in OUs (the Domain Controllers policy is an
>> example of this) will load on OU members.
>
> Are there other examples besides the DC policy ?? The only other thing I
> could think of are group policies, but these I understand.
>
> The only OU member in the DC OU is the machine that has run dcpromo. I
> don't
> see the need to add anything else manually into this OU. So it is an OU
> with
> only 1 member, i.e. the DC. This way the policies set in DC policies are
> only applicable on the machine itself, and not in the entire domain, right
> ??
>
>>
>> The last-loaded policy normally gets precedence - but there are
>> exceptions
>> to this rule.
>
> Could you point me to documentation concerning these exceptions ??
>
> Also, what is the time it takes for policies to become "active" ??
> Sometimes
> I change a policy, but it does not seem to take effect right away. I do
> perform the secedit command, but even then, I sometimes have to wait quite
> a
> while and reboot the system to activate the policies.
>
> thx
>
>>
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