

Re: Printer disaster recovery dilemma

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.printing/2006-03/msg00018.html>

- *From:* "Alan Morris [MSFT]" <alanmo@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 7 Mar 2006 09:46:07 -0800
-

Scenario at Microsoft:

Print server has crashed (or in some alternate state that has been an intermittent pain in the side and we need to understand the issue fully) so we want the development group to investigate.

Using a backup printmig cab we restore the printers to another server (usually a machine that is due for retirement). While this is occurring, the network cable from the primary machine is unplugged if the machine is still on the network. The domain machine account and DNS entry get deleted for the primary machine.

Printmig restore completes, the machine gets renamed to the primary machine name, and the clients automatically reconnect when the server comes back on the network after the machine name reboot.

After the investigation has completed, we schedule an off peak time to bring the primary server back into it's original role. I also like to make sure any jobs that are pending on the backup server due to a printer offline state get copied to the spool directory on the primary machine so the jobs will print the next day when the printer returns to service.

Either delete all the printers on your backup or use Windows Resource Kit tool setprinter to unpublish the printers.

Your scenario:

Renaming a machine with printers already installed would be the fastest recovery until the primary system is once again available. If you do keep a backup server make sure you unpublish the printers or stop the server service when not in use. You will get people connecting to this server.

publish or unpublish all the printers on a server with the reskit tool setprinter.

```
setprinter \\servername 7 dwAction="unpublish"
```

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setprinter \\servername 7 dwAction="publish"

—

Alan Morris

Windows Printing Team

Search the Microsoft Knowledge Base here:

[http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=fh:\[ln\];kbhowto](http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=fh:[ln];kbhowto)

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"Matthew Clark" <MD-Clark@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:440D9240.7000903@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Thank you for your response. My original e-mail says we use the Print Migrator tool to backup our printers currently. My question is there a failover method that does NOT require clustering? If not, how are most people doing disaster recovery for printers in their environment? Are you just down for X amount of minutes or hours while you restore? Are you doing a second print server with the printers on them already?

Matthew

Kenxl Zou (MSFT) wrote:

Hello Matthew,

Thank you for posting.

From your post, my understanding on this issue is: You want to know how to backup and restore printers except MS printer clustering. If I'm off base, please feel free to let me know.

Based on my research, Print Migrator 3.1 is the tool that can meet your requirements.

You can refer to the KB article below to find the detailed steps for performing the restoration:

214795 How to Back Up and Restore a Print Server Configuration
<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;EN-US;214795>

Please let me know if you have any other concerns, or need anything else.

Sincerely,
Kenxl Zou
Microsoft Online Partner Support

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Message-ID: <440C971A.6050202@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
Date: Mon, 06 Mar 2006 14:10:02 -0600
From: Matthew Clark <MD-Clark@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
User-Agent: Thunderbird 1.5 (Windows/20051201)
MIME-Version: 1.0
Subject: Printer disaster recovery dilemma
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Newsgroups: microsoft.public.win2000.printing
NNTP-Posting-Host: matt.wiu.edu 143.43.192.31
Lines: 1 Path:
TK2MSFTNGXA03.phx.gbl!TK2MSFTNGP08.phx.gbl!TK2MSFTNGP14.phx.gbl
Xref: TK2MSFTNGXA03.phx.gbl microsoft.public.win2000.printing:17092
X-Tomcat-NG: microsoft.public.win2000.printing

We currently have many printers on 1 server, and are looking for a good
method of backup and recovery of printers in AD. I am currently using
PrintMig.exe to do a weekly backup of all our printers. Our question is
, is there some type of DFSish utility that would allow fault tolerance
for printers but not use Microsoft's printer clustering? If this is not
possible, how could we restore the printers from the PrintMig tool, but
quickly and easily get those printers back out to the users without much
or no user interaction?

Matthew