

Re: Domain Controller/Global Catalog Planning

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"Tokoloshe" <Tokoloshe@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message
news:C3B7F474-D0D4-4C79-B12A-1EF869E3F921@microsoft.com...

> *I'm reviewing an AD design which consists of a 'Secure' Forest Root domain
> containing no objects and a single Child domain containing all the
objects.*

>

> *I've been confused by a planning assumption for DCs that implies that all
> DCs will be available for user logon, e.g 3 DCs required = 2 DCs in Child
+ 1*

> *DC in Root.*

>

> *From what I've read I think this assumption is appropriate for GCs, but
not*

> *for DCs, in the context of user logons at least.*

As I understand you, you are correct. If there is
no need to authenticate users in a site then there
is (likely) no need for it to have DCs in that site.

A GC (from ANY domain) of the forest should
generally be available however.

In such forests as your describe (especially if the
user account domain is not large) there is usually
no reason to avoid making ALL DCs into GCs.

> *FYI all DCs are GCs and both domains are in a single site.*

>

> *So, can someone confirm that;*

> *1. Only local domain controllers can be counted for user capacity planning*

> *(2 in this example).*

True unless you need access to resource in
the "other" domain.

> *2. All GCs would be available for an application located in the Child*

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- > *domain, Exchange for example (I'm aware that the initial Exchange schema*
- > *changes would happen at the Root).*

Yes. Since no ordinary resources exist in your parent, there is not need for authentication there for ordinary users (Admins etc are another story.)

Were you to have sibling domains with resources the answer would be different due to the (normal, default) authentication referral paths.