

## Re: Help – need to change an attribute value

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*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.active\\_directory/2006-07/msg00499](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.active_directory/2006-07/msg00499)

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- *From:* Sabo, Eric <[sabo\\_e@xxxxxxx](mailto:sabo_e@xxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 10 Jul 2006 18:41:01 -0700
- 

Thanks for the post.

So there is no way to delete the attribute and start from scratch. We removed it from the user class.

How can one create the same attribute? ADSI keeps saying that it already exist?

"Richard Mueller" wrote:

I think you are right. I'd forgotten there were case sensitive attributes. I believe syntax 2.5.5.3 and 2.5.5.5 are case sensitive strings and 2.5.5.12 is case insensitive. I see a few 2.5.5.5 but none with 2.5.5.3.

Richard

"Joe Kaplan (MVP – ADSI)" <[joseph.e.kaplan@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:joseph.e.kaplan@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:uC%23dyqGpGHA.4424@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:uC%23dyqGpGHA.4424@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

I think he's trying to change the schema for an attribute's syntax, not change the values. His subject on his post is misleading.

I'm pretty sure you can't change the syntax after creation though. The attribute would need to be defuncted and a new attribute would need to be created. This is why you always try to practice on an ADAM instance if possible.

The vendor is probably making a good suggestion though. Case-sensitive string syntaxes are the devil. They make all your queries case sensitive and cause many head-scratching moments. They are best avoided unless absolutely required. If you poke around in the AD schema, very few attributes use case sensitive syntaxes.

Joe K.

Re: Help – need to change an attribute value

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Joe Kaplan–MS MVP Directory Services Programming  
Co–author of "The .NET Developer's Guide to Directory Services  
Programming"  
<http://www.directoryprogramming.net>

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"Richard Mueller" <rlmueller–NOSPAM@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote  
in message  
<news:%23DeFfdFpGHA.4408@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Sabo, Eric wrote:

Is there any way to change an attribute  
value?

All I need to change is the syntax – we have  
it set at "Case Sensitive  
String" and the vendor is saying it needs to  
be "Case Insensitive  
String".

What tool could I use to accomplish this?

If all users have the same value for the attribute, it can be  
done in  
ADUC. Otherwise, if everyone has a different value, you  
need to use a  
script. If by case insensitive you mean all lower case, you  
can use the  
LCase function in VBScript. If the attribute is a single valued  
string, a  
script can modify the attribute value for all users in the  
domain (or in  
an Organizational Unit) to make it lower case.

What is the attribute?  
Does everyone have the same value assigned?  
Do you want the existing value made lower case?  
Should this be done to all users in the domain, all in an OU?

A quick example for all users in an OU:  
=====  
' Bind to OU.  
Set objOU =  
GetObject("LDAP://ou=Sales,dc=MyDomain,dc=com")  
' Filter on user objects.  
objOU.Filter = Array("user")  
' Enumerate users in the OU.

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```
For Each objUser In objOU  
' Retrieve attribute value.  
strDepartment = objUser.department  
' Make lower case.  
strDepartment = LCase(strDepartment)  
' Assign new value.  
objUser.department = strDepartment  
' Save changes.  
objUser.SetInfo  
Next
```

=====  
=====

To modify users in many OU/Containers throughout, you  
would use ADO to  
retrieve all user distinguishedNames and the value of the  
attribute. ADO  
would return recordset with one row for each user. You  
would loop  
through the recordset, bind to each user with the  
distinguishedName.  
retrieve the attribute value, modify it, and update the attribute  
value  
of the user object.

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Richard  
Microsoft MVP Scripting and ADSI  
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