

Re: Failure recovery for ADAM master

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Hi

so if I am understanding this you have created site links between (subnetted) sites to enforce this topology?

On DR I think you have covered the bases although there did not seem to be any mention of (tape/media) backup for your instances in particular the central site instance.

In (1) by "unrecoverable" do you mean finding that your backups are no good? On (2) the ADAM validFSMO roles are just naming context and schema, if you totally lose those roles then you will need to seize them before you can create naming contexts or modify schema. You should be able to bring up a replica by pointing at any reachable instance in the configuration set, have you tried this when FSMO roles are not reachable? However you would need to think about the impact on replication if you lose your hub site as the NTDS settings will be tied to the hub site instance guids as you are forcing all replication through that site (server)? Use repadmin to see what's in place.

On (3) I think most folks would run two instances at the hub site even if one were only a virtual machine.

I guess you need to spend a few days in your test dev environment to simulate your failure scenarios.

HTH

Lee Flight

<compurhythms@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:333f75ec-1957-4cf1-afdd-8be7978a8858@xx>

I'm trying to develop a failure recovery plan for our master ADAM instance. We have 170+ machines running ADAM replicating our partitions with our sites configured in a "hub and spoke" type fashion. For us this means that there is one Site that contains the master instance (I mean 'Site' in AD/ADAM jargon, a logical collection of instances close together on the network) and then there are some number of other sites that contain all the other instances. The replication links only run between each individual Site and the master

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Site, thus the "hub and spoke" analogy. This was not our intent but we must do this because there are different departments that run the networks at each site and they only want replication traffic from the central site.

We now need a failure recovery option for the master instance, e.g.: what happens if it spontaneously combusts? So I have a few questions:

1. If my master is unrecoverable, can I add a new instance to the configuration set in the absence of the master? if I could somehow do this then I could just bring up a new instance at the master site and then assign FSMO roles to it. But I know my replica installs require specifying the name of the computer with the master instance (which is theoretically dead), so I'm assuming adding a new instance without a master may be problematic. That leads me to...

2. Is my only option to switch FSMO roles to another instance, bring up a new central site box initially as a replica and then switch the FSMO roles back to the new box?

Again, the goal here is for the FSMO roles to stay at the central site, but the master is the only instance there and now it's dead (theoretically). And with the replication topology a key, I'm skiddish on even temporarily assigning master roles to a machine not at the central site, but if that is my only option I can try to swing that. I suppose option 3 is to have one machine dedicated as a replica at the central site and switch FSMO roles to that machine, but getting customer to accept ew hardware at this point may be a problem.

Thanks in advance