

Re: Domain controller name –rename issue

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.active_directory/2008-11/msg00437

- *From:* Meinolf Weber <meiweb(nospam)@gmx.de>
 - *Date:* Mon, 10 Nov 2008 14:28:43 +0000 (UTC)
-

Hello Clay,

Before starting with the renaming make a test in a virtual environment, so you become familiar with the steps and see if it works as expected.

Make sure you have at least a system state backup before starting the rename of the production one.

Well, because you and also nobody else know exactly what was going on before i would do it this way, demote the renamed DC and remove it complete from AD. After check with diagnostic tools and no errors i would start with renaming.

Best regards

Meinolf Weber

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Thanks much Meinolf and ProADGuy. I will check to make sure a botched random was not run. I also am going to decommission this DC before I try random. After I decommission the DC I will only have one domain controller. I plan to build another. I am thinking I will run random while I only have one though to simplify things. Or would there be any advantage to adding a DC back so I will have two before I run random?

"Meinolf Weber" <meiweb(nospam)@gmx.de> wrote in message <news:ff16fb66d5058cb0f43bb67bc90@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Hello ProADGuy,

domainlist.xml and dclist.xml can exist on the DC's if the random tool was used or if renamed other .xml file, maybe check them.

Best regards

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Before running all above mentioned steps by Mr. Weber
make sure that
your predecessor never tried running Rendom...

<http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc738208.aspx>

Note (copied from above link)

The DNS host names of domain controllers in a renamed domain are not changed automatically to use the new domain DNS name as the primary DNS suffix, regardless of the primary DNS suffix configuration. In other words, unlike the names of member computers, the DNS names of domain controllers in a renamed domain will remain unchanged. The domain controllers can be renamed in a separate step, using a special domain controller rename procedure, after the domain rename operation is complete. DCs name suffix to new domain doesn't change automatically you need to change it as different procedure as mentioned below:
257623 The DNS suffix of the computer name of a new domain controller may not match the name of the domain after you upgrade a Windows NT 4.0 primary domain controller to Windows 2000

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb:EN-US:257623>

Regards,
ProADGuy
"Meinolf Weber" wrote:

Hello Clay,

Check with "netdom query fsmo" from the

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command line which DC is the FSMO roles holder. If this is the old DC1, which seems to not longer existing in AD i think you have start with clenaing up your AD.

Because you did not know what your predecessor have done with the DC1 renaming, i would make sure that the correct existing DC2 have all 5 FSMO roles and is GC server and DNS with AD integrated zones only for the correct old named "domain" domain.

Then i would disconnect the renamed DC from the network and demote it with dcpromo /forceremoval to member server.

After that is done run metadata cleanup on DC2's AD database according to this article (<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/555846/en-us>) to remove the DC1, either old or renamed, complete from AD so that only DC2 is listed.

Also delete the zone in DNS where only DC1 is listed and use only the correct zone for DC2.

Then run dcdiag /v, netdiag /v on DC2 to make sure no errors exist. If you have some, post the complete output here.

If DNS, AD users and computers and AD sites and services is cleaned up you can now promote the old DC1 again to domain controller.

Best regards

Meinolf Weber

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The actual server (netbios)
name did not change.

Originally the
server were
named:

dc01.domain

dc02.domain

Now they are named

dc01.domain.local

dc02.domain

I do not know how he
changed the DNS name. It
does not look like

it

is

possible to do this in system
properties. In ADUC the
DNS names

are

:

dc01.domain.local

dc02.domain

So it appears the only
changes that the former
admin made were to
change the name of this
server to dc01.domain.local
and set up the

DNS

zone domain.local.

Any help is much
appreciated.

thanks,

Clay

"Meinolf Weber"

<meiweb(nospam)@gmx.de>

wrote in message

news:ff16fb66d3298cb0eda46c76a20@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hello Clay,

Just to get
you correct,
one DC is
renamed
and has now

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a FQDN of
dc01.domain.local
before you
start the
domain
rename to
domain.local?
Did he just
change it
via System
properties?

Best regards

Meinolf
Weber
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I
have
a
single
label
AD
domain
that
I
need
to
rename
(Win2k3
SP2).
I
recently

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took
a
job
with
a
small
company
that
was
preparing
to
install
exchange.
When
the
previous
admin
realized
that
exch
would
not
install
on
a
single
label
domain
it
appears
that
he
tried
to
rename
one
of
the
domain
controllers.
I
was
preparing
to
run
rendom.exe
when
I
ran
dcdiag
to

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make
sure
all
was
stable.
I
got
the
message
below
on
one
of
the
domain
controllers:

Warning:
could
not
confirm
the
identity
of
this
server
in
the
directory
versus
the
names
returned
by
DNS
servers.
If
there
are
problems
accessing
this
directory
server
then
you
may
need
to
check

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that
this
server
is
correctly
registered
with
DNS
.....
DC01
passed
test
Connectivity
This
domain
controller
that
gives
this
message
is
the
one
that
has
been
renamed.
I
do
not
know
how
the
admin
renamed
it
but
in
the
computer
properties
it
shows
up
as
"domain.local"
instead
of
just
"domain"
(like

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the
other
domain
controller).
DCdiag
expects
this
server
to
be
dc01.domain
but
the
server
is
named
dc01.domain.local.
Both
"domain.local"
and
"domain"
dns
zones
are
created
and
exist
in
DNS.
My
question
is
–
do
i
need
to
fix
this
before
I
run
rendom.exe
and
if
so
where
do
I
change
it

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back.