

Re: Cluster SAN disk timeout value

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There are a couple of things to consider here

First of all your storage vendor will determine what value this should be for your configuration. So if your storage admin is giving you that value, than yes, it should be 60.

Second, in Windows 2003-RTM (no SP), if you have configured 60 second time out prior to installing cluster service, then yes, your storage admin is right, the non-Service-Pack installer of cluster service will change the value back to 20 (hex 0x14) and will not retain a previous configured value, this is a bug in W2K3-RTM and was corrected in SP1. So, in short, it is wise to install SP1 (or SP2) prior to clustering. Further more; develop a best practice checklist, which you can check after fully installing your cluster, and ensure this value is on your checklist to be checked.

Thirdly, certain installers of HBA-drivers will be "OEM installers" and are capable of setting this value while installing or upgrading your drivers. In regards to EMC storage, you should download the EMC driver package to ensure you have the correct (approved) driver. However a driver installer will change it to the right value, so you just need to check afterwards.

A checklist as mentioned above should cover cluster functionality and custom settings for your cluster, and should be checked everytime you make a change to your cluster which can influence functionality and or settings.

Obviously, hotfixes, patches, service packs and driver upgrades all fall into that category of being able to influence functionality or capable of changing settings, so when any of those are installed on your cluster, you should run through your checklist.

HTH,
Edwin.

"Bazooka-Joe" <bazooka-joe@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
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SAN admins in my company are telling me that to do online firmware

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updates of the SAN all the nodes connected have to have the following registry value:

HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Disk\TimeOutValue = 60

By default all systems have a value of 60. According our SAN admin when you install clustering, it changes the nodes of the cluster to a value of 20. There asking about changing it back to 60. What would that do to me? Any negative impacts? Should I change it back when the firmware code update is done?

Thoughts? Opinions? Couldn't find anything in TechNet specificall about this except a KB article relating to EMC storage, non-clustered, and NT4/2000 (KB #248191).

Thanks in Advance.

:Bazooka-Joe