

Re: Recovering from a domain server crash without a backup.

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- *From:* "Danny Sanders" <DSanders@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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1) Is there ANY way to put a new domain server into an existing domain, replacing the previous unit that crashed, without unjoining then rejoining each and every client on the network?

When a domain is created it has a unique SID. The only way to carry that unique SID to another DC is to install the new DC into the same domain while it has a connection to the original DC and the unique SID will get replicated from the original DC to the new DC. Installing a DC without it having contact with the original DC will create a NEW SID. New SID = new domain to your clients.

2) Same basic scenario as above only this time the server has not yet crashed. Is there a way to export the various settings/credentials/etc so that the newly created instance of the domain controller can simply import them and have all the client PCs sign on like nothing has changed?

Easiest way is to have a second DC on the domain to hold the SID while you reinstall the failed DC. If you have a server to use in the above example, you would be better off setting it up in the domain before anything happened to the original DC.

This article details how to move a DC installation. It's just plain simpler and easier to have a second DC on the domain instead of trying to move the install to another server.

hth
DDS

"Noctaire" <noctaire@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:uxbys01FIHA.4308@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Re: Recovering from a domain server crash without a backup.

1) Is there ANY way to put a new domain server into an existing domain, replacing the previous unit that crashed, without unjoining then rejoining each and every client on the network?

Scenario: A small company with 30–50 client PCs has a single Win2K3 domain server. All client PCs are members of the domain. The server crashes and it is found that backups were not being performed. A new instance, with the same domain name, is created from a fresh install. Naturally, the existing client PCs will not be able to access the domain. The basic solution is to remove the client PCs from the domain then join them into the new domain to build the trust relationship with the new domain controller. The problem though is that this means a new profile has to be built on the client PC as well, including porting over e-mail and the such.

2) Same basic scenario as above only this time the server has not yet crashed. Is there a way to export the various settings/credentials/etc so that the newly created instance of the domain controller can simply import them and have all the client PCs sign on like nothing has changed?