

RE: fallback solution for NT 4.0 upgrade

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Date: 08/16/04

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Hi Dave,

Thank you for posting!

Regarding the backup of SAM database, I would like to suggest some utilities REGBACK and REGREST from Windows NT Resource Kit.

Using REGBACK will copy the records from the SAM into a new file. Restoring the SAM copies this new file over the old SAM. You must reboot the computer after using REGREST to have the restore take effect.

As an example, the following command lines could be used. These assume the BACKUP directory already exists on drive C, and Windows NT is also installed on drive C (Windows NT and the BACKUP directory must reside on the same logical disk):

```
C:\>regback c:\backup\sam.bak machine sam
```

–or–

```
C:\>regrest c:\backup\sam.bak c:\backup\sam.old machine sam
```

For the detailed information on how to upgrade a Windows NT 4 PDC to Windows 2000 Domain Controller, visit the below article in the Microsoft knowledge base:

296480 HOW TO: Upgrade a Windows NT 4.0–Based PDC to a Windows 2000–Based
<http://support.microsoft.com/?id=296480>

Have a good day!

Thanks & Regards,

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| From: David K <noemail@nospam.com>
| Newsgroups: microsoft.public.windows.server.migration
| Subject: fallback solution for NT 4.0 upgrade
| Message-ID: <hoe0i0likkmfhik260te125cspsu7fhi2l@4ax.com>
| X-Newsreader: Forte Free Agent 2.0/32.652
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| Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
| Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
| Lines: 45
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| X-Complaints-To: abuse@earthlink.net
| X-Trace: newsread2.news.atl.earthlink.net 1092633251 69.3.28.145 (Sun, 15
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| X-Tomcat-NG: microsoft.public.windows.server.migration

| I have an NT 4.0 server I'd like to upgrade to 2000. I also have an
| existing 2000 server as the only other server, which is annoying,
| since if it were an NT 4.0 server it could hold a replicated copy of
| the SAM.

| Some relevant elements of the servers are listed further below.

| I want to be able to restore my NT server if the upgrade should blow
| up in my face. Since I only have 1 working copy of the SAM database, I
| need to back it up somehow before the upgrade. I could back up the
| entire RAID volume on the NT server to tape, but I don't think I can
| do that with this setup because the DLT drive is on the 2000 server. I
| do have specific directories on the NT server that BackupExec accesses
| via shares, and it also backs up Exchange via the Exchange Agent, but
| the SAM database isn't backed up, and I don't even know if that would
| do any good if I had to reinstall NT.

| Any suggestions? I will consider purchasing a third server if
| necessary, to use as an NT BDC in the interim, but that might be
| overkill to have three servers after the upgrade, since the only

| significant stressors are Exchange and one other enterprise software
| package.

|
| 2000 Server--

|-----
| 9GB & 35GB RAID-5 volume, on one set of 3 hdds
| Veritas BackupExec
| DLT drive, 20/40GB tapes
| self-contained enterprise software
| shared folders

|
| NT 4.0 Server:

|-----
| PDC
| 30GB RAID-5 volume, 1 logical drive
| TCP/IP services
| Exchange 5.5

|
| RAID volumes are handled via a hardware RAID controller, not via the
| OS.

|
| Thanks,
| Dave