

RE: Win2k3 installation on Win2k domain steps ?

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.migration/2004-09/0573.html>

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Date: 09/23/04

Date: Thu, 23 Sep 2004 11:15:57 GMT

Hi Roy,

Please see my inline:

1. Thanks for your response and the info. It helps a lot. I'm not planning on migrating the Win2000 domain over to Win2k3. My reason for doing this is that I think the Win2000 domain has some problems with it. There are some things that just didn't upgrade well when I went from WinNT to Win2000 -- so I don't trust it's integrity. It has worked well enough up until now to live with, though. Some of the problems may be due to my inexperience in setting up domain controllers. It was a lot simpler back in the WinNT days to do this. With the advent of AD, etc. and the increased awareness about security, Windows became (as it should have) more complex in the area of security. So, my inclination is to start clean and build a new domain controller from scratch. I have a small enough network to do that without too many disruptions. I am in the process of reading a number of the articles you referenced, if, for anything, just to get more background information about this before I proceed. If you know of a good article or white paper on Windows Domains in general which covers the concepts of forests and domains that you could point me to, that would help too.

- Me too, I like clean install. :-)

- You can refer to the following articles for the concept of the domain and the forest in Windows 2003:

Domain and forest functionality

http://www.microsoft.com/resources/documentation/WindowsServ/2003/standard/proddocs/en-us/Default.asp?url=/resources/documentation/windowsserv/2003/standard/proddocs/en-us/sag_levels.asp

Active Directory Services and Windows 2000 or Windows Server 2003 Domains (Part 1)

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb:en-us:310996>

Creating a new forest

http://www.microsoft.com/resources/documentation/WindowsServ/2003/standard/proddocs/en-us/Default.asp?url=/resources/documentation/windowsserv/2003/standard/proddocs/en-us/promoting_newforest.asp

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Creating a new domain tree

http://www.microsoft.com/resources/documentation/WindowsServ/2003/standard/proddocs/en-us/Default.asp?url=/resources/documentation/windowsserv/2003/standard/proddocs/en-us/promoting_newtree.asp

http://www.computerperformance.co.uk/w2k3/W2K3_AD3.htm

2. I was not planning on installing Win2k3 as a domain controller on my standalone machine. I am assuming that Windows Server (2003) still has an option to install as a standalone server, like it always had in previous versions (WinNT, Win2000). Is that true?

– Yes, if you just install Windows 2003 and join it to the domain, it is the member server by default. If you use dcpromo to promote it, it then becomes the DC.

If so, then I should not have to do all of the transferring of FSMO roles, etc. that you mention below, correct?

– Correct

3. I literally want to have this standalone development machine just be a member machine in the domain (Win2000 for now). At some later time, I will wipe clean and rebuild the Win2000 domain controller to a Win2003 domain controller and have all of my client machines join that new domain. Yes, it means that I have to recreate all of the user information, etc., but outside of what I use for development purposes, it only includes my immediate family, which is a short list and easy to recreate.

4. Also, I have to shuffle some hardware around between machines, which also is governing the order in which I do things.

Thanks again for the article pointers. If there are any other good intro articles about domains, forests, and Win2k3 domain controllers in general, please feel free to point them out. I know my way around MSKB fairly well (would be lost without it!), but it is always easy to miss something.

– The best resource is the Windows 2003 Home

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsserver2003/techinfo/overview/default.mspx>

HTH!

Best regards,

Rebecca Chen

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