

Critical SBS ActiveDirectory Problem

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I recently deployed SBS 2003 premium in a small office and everything was pretty much working: client PCs are deployed, users created, people using sharepoint (w/ SQL Server), remote access humming.

Occasionally there was a problem on reboot which I found was a RAID driver problem. I have updated this and the problem is gone, but a new problem arose!!

When the machine boots it gives error:

"LSASS.EXE – System Error, security accounts manager initialization failed because of the following error: Directory Services cannot start. Error status 0xc00002e1.

Please click OK to shutdown this system and reboot into directory services restore mode, check the event log for more detailed information."

I did what article 258062 said and the ntds.dit file appears corrupt. It looks like the header is completely missing. Probably related to the resynch that was done after the RAID driver was updated. Not a huge deal when you have backups, but this is critical because I do not have backups anymore -- backups are gone! I only have the SQL Server Sharepoint backups left!!!!

I tried to do a lossy repair of ntds (see article # above) and that did not work.

The error on checking the integrity is Jet Error -501 on DBInitializeJetDatabase

How do I rebuild the active directory?

What will happen to my user mail files?

If I have to rebuild the system then fine. I can handle that. It only takes a day. I've documented all my configurations But I must not lose the user's mail files and data. How can I prevent that. But if I do not have to then I do not want to rebuild.

I have tried the following since...I tried to run the windows 2003 SBS

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config in the Add/Remove programs and it automatically started with the ActiveDirectory installation, but it never completed so I had to kill it. Perhaps because I was running it in Directory Services Restore mode? --> But I cannot boot into any other mode so am I screwed here?

/G

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