

Administrator account disabled in SBS 2008 but password is now kn

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2009-06/msg01024.html>

- *From:* MWACSNY <MWACSNY@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 10 Jun 2009 19:30:14 -0700
-

I have a 240 day evaluation set for Small Business Server 2008 meant for demonstrating to a very high value customer. First installed in late December 2008 but then this customer was not ready. Did not try to log in again until mid March when the customer showed some interest but I had forgotten the passwords for both my user account and the Administrator account. Did not realize that excessive failed attempts to log in could cause accounts to be disabled. I believe both accounts were disabled then but as the customer quickly put this project on the back burner again I did not worry too much. Now that the customer is hot on this I have made a very serious attempt to log back in and finish up the server installation and to install Exchange, etc.

I finally figured out the password for the Administrator account and used it to get into Safe mode with networking through which I am submitting this post now. However, I can now see that this is a catastrophe- I can not get a successful log into normal mode with the same password that worked in safe mode but instead I get an account disabled message. I have tried everything I can think of to reenable the Administrator account when I am in safe mode. I get messages to the effect that the domain controller can not be located and there are no users defined. The Server service is disabled. I can not create a new user account either. I am debating whether my real problem is a disabled Administrator account or an expired evaluation period. I get access denied when I try to run the VB script to extend the evaluation period. Is there any way to log into normal mode so I can get this install of SBS 2008 working again at least through the July 4th weekend after which the client wants to make a decision on a new Server that would be his inhouse mail server or will I need to reinstall from the beginning? If I start all over it may lessen the likelihood that I will meet his time requirements. First his foot dragging precipitated my forgetting the passwords and now when I'm stuck he wants to move fast.

.