

Re: Books/References new to scripting in AD/2003

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.scripting/2008-05/msg00127.html>

- *From:* "Wiseman82" <nospam@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 15 May 2008 20:56:33 +0100
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Oops – It is sorry.

I also bought the hard copy of the book before they posted in online. I'm not complaining though – it was worth the money!

Excellent advice by Richard as always. :-)

"Timothy Parker" <timparker@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:482c93ba\\$0\\$31762\\$4c368faf@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](news:482c93ba$0$31762$4c368faf@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Thanks. I will check out your site also. I think that is the same book that Richard mentioned earlier that I am going to go out and get.

Tim

"Wiseman82" <nospam@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message <news:C70E8FB8-8384-417B-A1D7-B53996315B09@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

You might find this book useful – Windows 2000 Scripting Guide:
<http://www.microsoft.com/technet/scriptcenter/guide/default.aspx?mfr=true>

Also, my own website has lots of script samples you might find useful:
<http://www.wisesoft.co.uk>
(If you make any cool scripts you can also upload them and share with the rest of the internet community!)

Good luck with your scripting – It's a worthwhile pursuit and the time you spend learning to script can easily be re-paid. :-)

Hope this helps,

David
<http://www.wisesoft.co.uk>
(My personal website and a free information resource for IT professionals)

"Richard Mueller [MVP]" <rlmueller-nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message <news:OPkokprtIHA.4260@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

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The filter I gave earlier (for enabled users) is for LDAP syntax (4 clauses separated by semicolons). You use SQL syntax below, which is more familiar to many people. However, I don't believe there is any way to test bits of flag attributes like userAccountControl using SQL syntax. Even if you use SQL syntax, the provider converts it to LDAP syntax since that is all AD understands.

The telephoneNumber attribute is string syntax (technically called DirectoryString). Any value is allowed, but needs to be enclosed in quotes in a query. The correct SQL syntax would be:

```
" WHERE objectCategory='person' AND objectClass='user' AND telephoneNumber = '*"
```

where * is the wildcard character. To restrict the query to an OU, modify the base of the query. For example:

```
objCommand.CommandText = _  
"SELECT givenName, SN, description, telephoneNumber  
FROM " _  
& "LDAP://ou=Sales,ou=West,dc=mops-ohio,dc=local  
WHERE " _  
& "objectCategory='person' AND objectClass='user' AND  
telephonenumber='*'"
```

The equivalent LDAP syntax query would be (one line):

```
objCommand.CommandText =  
"<LDAP://ou=Sales,ou=West,dc=mops-ohio,dc=local>;(&(objectCategory=person)(objectCl
```

Only LDAP syntax can check userAccountControl to see if the disabled bit is set or not. For example (again one line):

```
objCommand.CommandText =  
"<LDAP://ou=Sales,ou=West,dc=mops-ohio,dc=local>;(&(objectCategory=person)(objectCl
```

There is no way to search several OU's or to exclude OU's from the search, except to use a separate query for each OU. You can specify a base of the search and then specify that the query includes all children of the base (subtree). Or you can specify that only the base OU is to be searched and not any children by specifying oneLevel instead of subtree. An alternative is to query the entire domain and then when the resulting recordset is enumerated parsing for the OU and only outputting when the parent OU of the record meets your conditions.

I don't use (objectCategory=user) mostly because there is no such objectCategory. The ADSI provider must convert this to

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(objectCategory=person). In any case, it returns both user and contact object, which may be what you want. If you want only user objects use the filter:

```
(&(objectCategory=person)(objectClass=user))
```

If you want both user and contact objects use the filter:

```
(objectCategory=person)
```

The differences between SQL and LDAP syntax are explained in my earlier link. For example in LDAP syntax the constant "user" is not quoted, but in SQL syntax such constants are in single quotes.

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Richard Mueller
MVP Directory Services
Hilltop Lab – <http://www.rlmuller.net>
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"Timothy Parker" <timparker@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:482c5385\\$0\\$31751\\$4c368faf@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:482c5385$0$31751$4c368faf@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Thanks Richard. I will check out that book and the links.

Here is the part of the script where it is pulling the info from AD.

```
Set objConnection =  
CreateObject("ADODB.Connection")  
Set objCommand =  
CreateObject("ADODB.Command")  
objConnection.Provider = "ADsDSOObject"  
objConnection.Open "Active Directory  
Provider"
```

```
Set objCommand.ActiveConnection =  
objConnection  
objCommand.Properties("Page Size") = 100  
objCommand.Properties("Searchscope") =  
ADS_SCOPE_SUBTREE  
objCommand.CommandText = _  
"SELECT givenName, SN, description,  
telephoneNumber FROM " _  
& "'LDAP://dc=mops-ohio.dc=local'  
WHERE " _  
& "objectCategory='user' and  
telephonenumber > 1"
```

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Set objRecordSet = objCommand.Execute

I will read up on your site to change things around as needed. I just want/need something that for now I can create and pretty up to be printed out and left in our mail room. Eventually I will have this online for users to view and print if they want based on sorting criteria.

Thanks.

Tim

"Richard Mueller [MVP]"

<rlmueller-nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote in message

news:uwDzBsptIHA.2292@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Timothy Parker wrote:

Hello, I am new to the scripting world in an AD environment. I have done some stuff relating to web servers/e-commerce. I am now in charge of a 50+ user network and all its components. I am working on cleaning/updating and organizing AD a bit and am looking to be able to pull some reports out

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of this data
for the
office users
(i.e.:
telephone
directory,
etc) I am
looking for
recommendations
for good
books/whitepapers,
websites,
etc to help
get me up to
speed.

I have
looked at
the
Scripting
repository
and have
started to
toy a bit
with some
stuff there
(script to
pull AD
users into
an excel
Spreadsheet
for one) but
can't seem
to figure out
how to get
only active
(non-disabled
users).

Thanks for
any help
and
guidance
you can
offer.

Besides the Technet Script
Center, the best resource is
"Microsoft Windows 2000
Scripting Guide –

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Automating System Administration". I like the hard copy text, but it is also available online at:

http://www.microsoft.com/technet/scriptcenter/guide/sagsas_overview.mspx?

For tips on using ADO to search AD in scripts see this link:

<http://www.rlmueLLer.net/ADOSearchTips.htm>

For example, to filter on all non-disabled users:

```
strFilter =  
"(&(objectCategory=person)(objectClass=user)"  
-  
&  
"(!userAccountControl:1.2.840.113556.1.4.803:=2))"
```

For documentation on Active Directory attributes see this link:

<http://www.rlmueLLer.net/UserAttributes.htm>

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Richard Mueller
MVP Directory Services
Hilltop Lab -
<http://www.rlmueLLer.net>

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